

## **Minutes of Kenepuru and Central Sounds Residents' Association Annual General Meeting at Portage Resort Hotel on 31 March 2018**

The meeting opened at 2.30pm.

**Present:** Ross Withell (Chair), Andrew Caddie, Stefan Schulz, Jan Kerr, Trevor Hook, Sylvia Withell, Joop Jansen, Hanneke Kroon, Sue Walker, Godfrey Walker, Don Kerr, Tom Wright, Alistair Cameron, Lorraine Rolston, Ron Rolston, Ralph Jones, Cynthia Jones, Howard Croucher, Tania Croucher, Jim Campbell, Helen Campbell, Tim Easterbrook, Murray Robson, Mary Powlesland, Ralph Powlesland, Don McClatchy, David Miller, Robin Bowron, Christine Martin.

**Apologies:** Alastair MacKenzie, Horst Simcic, Allison Cusiell, Brett Cusiell, John Ahern, Allison Bowron, Jane Kaywood, Jackie Kaywood, Ian Hamlin, Trevor Offen Linley Offen, Barbara Easterbrook, Fay McCaw, Graham McCaw, Rose Beauchamp, David McIntyre, Cheryl McIntyre, Wendy Lerner, Helen Williams, Pat Williams, Val Mann, Ron Mann, Alan Campbell, Erika Lottermoser, Eugen Lottermoser, Gerry Gregg, Bruce Withell.

The apologies were accepted.

**Minutes of AGM 2017:** These had been available on the website and were confirmed as a true and correct record – moved Christine Martin/seconded Helen Campbell.

**Matters Arising:** There were no matters arising.

**President's Report:** The President's report had been circulated prior to the meeting, placed on the website, and was taken as read. Ross Withell confirmed that he would be standing down as President. His report detailed the frustrations he had experienced in that things took a long time to come to fruition and particularly attempting to influence the Council to keep Kenepuru Road in reasonable condition. The report was moved as accepted (Ross Withell), seconded Alistair Cameron. **Carried.**

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's report had been placed on the website in advance and copies were also available at the meeting. Stefan Schulz asked if there were any questions relating to his report. Andrew Caddie commented that the finances were in a healthy state. Stefan noted that the item "AGM Expenses" and "Meeting Expenses" had been combined under the heading "AGM Expenses". In response to a query from the floor about whether the 2018 operating deficit of around \$4,000 was a concern, Stefan replied that it was merely a matter of timing where monies had been received in the 2017 year and spent in the 2018 year. Ron Rolston commented on the income from boat fees being down on the previous year and wondered whether a lot of people didn't pay for the facility. After some discussion it was agreed that the incoming committee would look at possibly getting a bigger sign making it clear that donations were expected from users of the boat ramp. Stefan moved that his report be accepted, seconded Andrew Caddie. **Carried.**

**Roading Report:** Robin's report had been placed on the website and was available at the meeting. Robin Bowron spoke to his report saying while he was aware there were a lot of roading issues at the top of the South Island, the lack of basic maintenance of

the roads in the Kenepuru area was taking its toll. Despite his reminders to the Council about the significant deterioration in the roading infrastructure, nothing had been done about it. Culverts weren't being cleared, maintenance wasn't being done and the roads were getting worse and worse. There was widespread agreement by members at the meeting that the roads were deteriorating.

Councillor Trevor Hook tabled an email from Steve Murrin of Marlborough Roads containing details of road works that are programmed:

- Kenepuru Road from Linkwater to the Heads – just under \$400,000 of seal repairs signed off should be getting underway in the week of 16 April;
- Heads to Hopewell - \$500,000 worth of repairs to dropouts, culvert replacements, filling slumps etc programmed for May/June;
- Grader is programmed for late April in conjunction with metalling prior to winter;
- The cyclic crew clearing water tables, culvert entries etc start on 16 April;
- Stormwater work at the Portage will be starting on site on 5 April and take about 3 weeks to complete;
- Seal extension from Heads to Waitaria programmed for next summer.

Trevor also talked about a dedicated roading crew for more minor repairs and maintenance being established which would start work on 16 April. This was to be an MDC funded trial for 1 year. Sue Walker said the crew needed to be in contact with the community so they could get feedback that would be helpful in determining where they needed to concentrate their efforts. The meeting agreed this was a very positive development.

There was detailed discussion about the state of the roads including the condition of Titirangi Road with urgent work needing to be done. Trevor acknowledged that the budget for unsealed roads had been inadequate but significantly more funding had been allocated by Council in the longterm plan. Trevor indicated that a submission should be made by KCSRA reiterating the necessity for maintenance on unsealed roads such as Titirangi being increased. A comment was made that the crew coming from Blenheim every day meant a lot of time was spent on travelling. Also there was criticism of the way gravel was brought in but the creeks were filling up with rocks leading to road damage in a storm, which also washed the gravel away. Road cones left in perpetuity themselves became a hazard.

Robin was thanked for his report and his contribution over the years. He was retiring from the position of convenor of the Roding Committee.

**Marine Sub-Committee:** Andrew Caddie started by thanking the members of the Marine Sub Committee for their work during the year. Andrew's report had been placed on the website prior to the meeting and was also available at the meeting.

**Scallops:** Andrew reported on the background to the recent initiatives undertaken by the Committee on the Marlborough scallop fishery. In the past 3 weeks there had been 3 significant meetings which KCSRA and its alliance partners (Pelorus Boating Club and Marlborough Recreational Fishers Association) had participated in. The first of these was the presentation of the latest biomass survey commissioned by MPI and carried out by NIWA. The second was a meeting with MPI and industry

representatives from Challenger Scallop Enhancement Company to progress a more collaborative governance arrangement and the third was a meeting with the Minister of Fisheries Hon Stuart Nash to advance the new governance structure suggested by KCSRA and its alliance partners (the Ministerial Briefing Paper prepared by KCSRA will be available on the website in due course). In brief, it seems that at long last MPI, industry and the new Minister seriously acknowledged the need for a new governance structure to ensure equal say from the likes of non-commercial stakeholders (eg KCSRA and customary Iwi interests) should the Sounds scallop resource recover. The biomass survey was encouraging in this respect although any recovery is coming off a low base. The Minister indicated that he had seen nothing to suggest the resource had recovered to the extent that scallop fishing could be allowed this year.

**Marlborough Environment Plan:** KCSRA was heavily involved in submissions to the MEP and Committee members had attended the Hearings to present their submissions. Andrew gave some examples of issues raised by KCSRA eg sedimentation – rather than making an effort looking at what was causing it, there should be a general policy requiring sedimentation to be mitigated; climate change – Council had no policy about doing an inventory relating to the impact of climate change on roading; notable trees (the Norfolk Pines on the foreshore at Portage) and the Torea War Memorial needing to be added to the heritage site list.

**Marlborough Marine Futures:** In response to a question from the floor, Ross indicated he thought it would be impossible to get agreement on a recreational fin-fish park because of the commercial interests involved. Ron Rolston and Joop Jansen agreed saying the Council should stop funding the Trust. With the long timeframe between meetings, the large group involved and new people coming each time, they would achieve nothing.

Andrew moved that his report be accepted, seconded Tom Wright. **Carried.**

**Sounds Advisory Group:** Ross reported on the meetings he had attended. Major items of discussion eg sedimentation and moorings had been deferred due to lack of time and only 3 meetings being held. Ross thanked Kristen Gerrard who had resigned from SAG and Lynley Perkins was appointed. The next meeting will be held in Kenepuru and Ross had proposed it be held at Waitaria on 25 June and be open to the public. Trevor said SAG was highly regarded by Council. Tom Wright said it was important that the meeting be well advertised to members.

**Infrastructure:** Ron reported that good progress had been made on the log barge sites. At KCSRA's request, the Council had done a lot of work, surveying forest yields, checking log barge sites, and consulting with landowners and produced a good update report.

**Torea Bay Toilet:** Andrew reported that it had been agreed by Council that Council would maintain the facility once it was in place. However, the Council was proposing to apply for funding from central government and the project was dependent on funding being forthcoming. KCSRA had written to the Minister of Tourism on this matter. KCSRA had been in discussion with Council for 4 years to date about this and was keen to see a result.

**Helicopter Pad:** Ron reported that an application had been made to Council for funding to seal an area for a helicopter pad. If funding for sealing the area was not available due to cost then it was suggested a fall-back position eg a grassed area with a smaller concrete pad be recommended. It is up to the incoming Committee to advance this.

**Councillor's Report:** Trevor Hook reported to the meeting that the Council was very busy with the MEP hearings which were expected to take 8-10 months and the long term annual plan cycle. Trevor noted that in the longterm plan items of interest to the meeting were the increased funding for unsealed roads and money for a land scientist. He indicated KCSRA should make submissions on these items. In response to a question from the floor, Trevor explained the unique model for roading in Marlborough ie NZTA funded national roads and MDC funded Marlborough Roads who did the roading by contracting HEBs. Opus was involved in overarching design through a contract with Marlborough Roads. Other Councils were interested in trying the same approach.

Hanneke Kroon queried what progress had been made on the aquaculture chapter of the notified plan. Trevor indicated that further work was being done on it and he was hopeful that it would be bolted onto the notified plan and looked at by the same panel that was hearing the current plan. Sue Walker asked about the role of commercial fishing. Andrew replied that while there was a tentative Council policy in the MEP to try to work towards fishing in a more sustainable manner, the Council Planner had rejected that saying all fishing policy was under central government via the Fisheries Act. However, Andrew was working on a response to that.

**Election of Officers and Committee:** Trevor Hook took the chair to conduct the election. As Ross was stepping down as President, nominations were called for the position. There was 1 nomination – Andrew Caddie - who was declared elected. There was 1 nomination for Treasurer – Stefan Schulz - who was declared elected. There was 1 nomination for Vice President – Tom Wright – who was declared elected. Existing Committee members willing to stand again were Ross Withell, Robin Bowron, Adrian Harvey, Ron Rolston, Trevor Offen, Hanneke Kroon, Alistair Cameron. It was moved that the above people be elected to the Committee – moved Helen Campbell, seconded Christine Martin. **Carried.** A further nomination for Tania Croucher was moved by Alistair Cameron and seconded Lorraine Rolston. **Carried.** It was noted that a secretary was needed and this person could be co-opted.

The Committee for 2018 therefore is:

President – Andrew Caddie

Vice President – Tom Wright

Treasurer – Stefan Schulz

Other members – Ross Withell, Adrian Harvey, Robin Bowron, Trevor Offen, Ron Rolston, Hanneke Kroon, Alistair Cameron, Tania Croucher.

## **General Business:**

**Jetskis:** A question was asked about regulations about jetskis eg relating to speed and noise. It was noted that there was a speed limit of 5 knots within 200m of the shore. Trevor indicated any complaints should go to the harbourmaster.

**Anzac service:** Dr Alastair MacKenzie had indicated he was happy to organize the Anzac service if he was well enough and Ron Rolston would step up if this was not the case. The incoming Committee would oversee the organisation including a wreath hopefully at lower cost than last year.

**Te Mahia Jetty:** Tom thanked Ross for the outstanding job he had done as President. He then spoke on the subject of upgrading the existing very busy Te Mahia jetty with a floating wharf. After some discussion he moved that KCSRA investigate the possibility of an upgrade of Te Mahia jetty to a floating jetty, seconded Jim Campbell.

**Promotional Pamphlet:** It was noted that an updated pamphlet had been produced and circulated around the area. It was a very good idea to let people know the positive things the Committee had achieved. There were currently 216 members paid up. There was no reason why individuals in families could not subscribe on their own behalf as the subscription was so reasonable.

**Salmon Farming:** Joop Jansen asked as to when KCSRA might point out in public the unsuitability of the Sounds for salmon farming, given the high water temperatures being experienced. Joop also suggested it was time for KCSRA to formulate a response and strategy to the Salmon Advisory Panel report. It was agreed to do something on this.

**Defibrillator:** A question was asked about the availability of the Portage defibrillator outside business hours especially as the hotel might be closing for the winter. Ross indicated that he would ask the Portage about the possibility of placing it in a box outside the hotel as per the Willow Bay set up, although it was noted that the defibrillator was actually owned by the Portage.

The meeting concluded at 4.28pm with thanks to everyone who had helped the Association achieve so much during the year.