

# Western Bay of Plenty District Council

## Minutes of Meeting No. WB20 of the Waihi Beach Community Board held on 6 May 2019 at the Waihi Beach Community Centre commencing at 6.30pm

### Present

Members A Sole (Chairperson), M Roberts (Deputy Chairperson), B Hepenstall and Councillor D Marshall

### In Attendance

G Allis (Deputy Chief Executive Officer), A Hall (Roading Engineer West),  
A Alty (Senior Governance Advisor)

### Others

Esther Aitken (Operations Service Manager/Vegetation Manager WestLink Bay of Plenty)  
6 Members of the public

### Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Williams.

**Resolved:** Member Hepenstall / Councillor Marshall

*THAT the apology for absence from Councillor Williams be accepted.*

### Public Forum

**Resolved:** Members Roberts / Hepenstall

*THAT the meeting adjourn for the purpose of holding a public forum.*

### Athenree Historic Homestead

Peter Robertson, the Deputy Chairperson of the Athenree Homestead Trust spoke to the Board in regard to a request for funding support for a sprinkler system for the Athenree Homestead building extension. He advised:

- The homestead was constructed in 1878 and was one of the original significant buildings in the Katikati /Waihi Beach District.
- The homestead had fallen into disrepair and was due to be demolished and in 1990 partial reconstruction was achieved, with the remaining building being reconstructed in line with the original plans.
- The purpose of the Trust was to bring and maintain the Athenree Homestead back to its original state and size, replacing five missing rooms.
- The cost of the new extension build was \$375,000.
- Funding for the new building had been partially assisted by TECT.

The Homestead Trust had been advised that under building regulations, a sprinkler system was required to be installed in the new building extension and this had not been budgeted for. It was practical to install the sprinkler system as the building renovations progressed. Two quotes had been sought for the required work and the most favoured was from a proven supplier who had installed a similar system in the older part of the building.

Mr Robertson thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak in support of the request for funding from the Athenree Homestead Trust.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Robertson for his presentation and acknowledged the work of The Athenree Homestead Trust volunteers.

### **Waihi Beach Residents and Ratepayers**

Don Oliver spoke to the Board about the following:

- KiwiCamp Survey/Petition undertaken at Waihi Beach during Easter weekend.
- Speed limit along Seaforth Road at Bowentown entrance needed to be reduced. There were a lot of pedestrians in the immediate vicinity and vehicles travelled through the roundabout area at dangerously high speeds.

Members of the public were advised that the national speed limit guidelines were yet to be advised by the New Zealand Transport Agency.

### **Waihi Beach Environment Society**

The local Environment Society continued to undertake trapping throughout the Waihi Beach area. To-date in excess of 933 pests had been trapped.

### **Dumping of Rubbish and Vehicle Damage to DOC Parking Area**

Concerns were noted about the continuous dumping of rubbish at the Department of Conservation Reserve off Steele Road. Vehicles had also scoured out and damaged the surface of the parking area of the reserve.

### **Long Opening Hours for the Waihi Beach Recycling Centre**

It was suggested that if the Waihi Beach Recycling Centre had more frequent and longer opening hours some of the illegal dumping in the area may be reduced.

### **Reinstatement Work after Fibre Optic Cable Laying**

Numerous comments were noted that the reinstatement work to property berms after contractors had laid the fibre optic cable currently being installed throughout Waihi Beach had not been undertaken to the required standard. It was advised that the state of the berm remediation along Citrus Avenue after the fibre optic cable laying was not acceptable.

The Roding Engineer (West) advised that the cable laying contractors were required to restore any disturbed areas to the state in which they were before work was undertaken. The Roding Engineer (West) would inspect the areas advised and contact the fibre optic contractors if any reinstatement work was not up to the required standard.

Members of the public were advised that they should register a Service Request directly with Council when any specific items needed attention by Council staff.

### **Re-Development of Waihi Beach Road Entrance**

Esther Aitken (Operations Service Manager/Vegetation Manager WestLink Bay of Plenty) spoke to the Board about suggestions for the enhancement of Waihi Beach Road at the entrance to Waihi Beach. The Board had been asking for clean-up work to be undertaken on the northern entry into Waihi Beach for some time. It was clear that the first attempt at beautification of the entranceway had been unsuccessful and the area from the first sight of the sea to the roundabout needed urgent attention.

Ms Aitken identified that there were a number of trees, flaxes and shrubs that needed to be removed. She proposed the following actions:

- Clear the area from the roadside back to the fence line on both sides of the roadway.
- Create an open area to take advantage of the sea views and give a better visual effect at the entranceway.
- An open park like entrance was in keeping with other reserve areas throughout Waihi Beach
- Clear away all the rubbish that currently accumulates in the area.

Once the entranceway overgrown vegetation and been cleared it was envisaged that there would likely be less random littering as the area would look clean and professionally managed to an urban standard of maintenance.

The Board advised that they would further discuss the conceptual plans for the entranceway at their next workshop and the Roding Engineer (West) would advise any increase to service level costs and the initial cost of the suggested renovation work to the entranceway.

The Board thanked Ms Aitken for her presentation.

### **Sand Pillows**

It was suggested that ground cover weeds should be left to grow over the sand pillows as the growth offers additional protection from erosion and targeted vandalism.

### **Speed Restriction at the North End of Waihi Beach**

It was again requested that there needed to be a speed restriction put in place at the northern end of Waihi Beach as it was very dangerous for pedestrians in the vicinity of the Top Ten Motor Camp to cross the roadway to get to and from the beach.

### **Large Pohutukawa Trees on Ocean View Road**

A resident complained that the Pohutukawa trees along Ocean View Road were now as high as a 4 storied building. The problems resulting from the overgrown trees of shading in the winter, leaves, seed and flower debris clogging drains and guttering needed to be realistically looked at as the problems would only increase over time.

**Proliferation of Signage at the Entrance to Waihi Beach**

It was commented that the proliferation of signs along the entrance into Waihi Beach made the area look very untidy. The Chairperson advised that the policy for placement of signage along this area would be looked at by the Board.

**Resolved:** Members Sole / Roberts

*THAT the meeting be re-convened in formal session at 7.13 pm*

**WB20.1 Minutes of Meeting No. WB19 of the Waihi Beach Community Board Held on 25 March 2019**

The Board considered the minutes no. WB19 of the Waihi Beach Community Board Meeting held on 25 March 2019 as circulated with the agenda.

**Resolved:** Councillor Marshall / Member Hepenstall

*THAT the minutes of meeting no. WB19 of the Waihi Beach Community Board held on 25 March 2019 as circulated with the agenda be confirmed as a true and accurate record.*

**WB20.2 Chairperson's Report**

The Board considered a report from the Chairperson dated 23 April 2019 as circulated with the agenda.

**WB20.2.1 Waihi Beach Road Entrance**

The Board appreciated the attendance and presentation from Operations Service Manager/Vegetation Manager from Westlink and looked forward to progressing the clean-up and overall enhancement of the northern entrance to Waihi Beach.

**WB20.2.2 Dillon Street Car Park**

The Roading Engineer (West) advised that the Dillon Street carpark area would be re-seeded and closed off over the winter months. The carpark would be re-opened for use in the spring after the grass had time to establish.

**WB20.2.3 Footpath Crossing 25 Wilson Rd**

The proposed footpath crossing project outside 25 Wilson Road had been delayed due to a stormwater drainage issue. The Roading Engineer (West)

advised that plans were being redrawn and costings undertaken to accommodate the change required to complete the proposed crossing.

#### WB20.2.4 **Broadlands Block**

The Board was advised that a date had been scheduled for an on-site meeting with Council staff and Board Members and any other interested members of the community to look at future proposals and planting plans for the Broadlands Block.

The Chairperson advised that he had sent out a Facebook message asking for anyone interested to join the Board to form a volunteer group to assist with the future planting, development and maintenance of the Broadlands Block as a community project.

#### WB20.2.5 **Men's Shed**

Interest in establishing a Men's Shed at the back of the Waihi Beach Community Centre has been advised. This type of project was important to the community and such an organisation would help enhance and develop other groups.

The Reserves and Facilities Manager had advised the Chairman of the recently formed Waihi Beach Residents and Ratepayers Association to consider ideas for the facility, with the area behind the Community Centre at Waihi Beach being one option. The Waihi Beach Residents and Ratepayers Association had been sent an email outlining the statutory process for establishing a building on a reserve.

The Chairperson advised the Board that the Waihi Beach Medical Centre would not be requiring any future space at the Waihi Beach Community Centre Reserve site.

The Board were supportive of the establishment of a Men's Shed facility at Waihi Beach. The Chairperson would liaise with members of the Waihi Beach Community Centre, the Waihi Beach Skate Park Group and the Men's Shed adjunct of the Waihi Beach Residents and Ratepayers Association and set up a workshop meeting to explore future options for use of the Waihi Beach Community Centre Reserve.

Following input from all groups involved, the Reserves and Facilities Manager would be advised of the initial thoughts and future plans. A concept plan for the reserve area giving consideration to the ideas put forward would then be developed. There were specific processes that needed to be followed for the development of facilities on reserve land and staff would advise those requirements when progressing the concept plans

**WB20.2.6 Letter from the Athenree Homestead Trust****Declaration of Interest**

Chairperson Allan Sole declared an interest in this item and vacated the Chair and took no part in the discussion or voting on this matter.

The Deputy Chairperson took the Chair for this item.

The Board considered a letter from the Athenree Homestead Trust requesting funding for the installation of a sprinkler system for the new extension to the historic building. Having listened to the Athenree Homestead Trust Deputy Chairperson in the public forum section of the meeting the Board agreed that it was imperative that a sprinkler system be installed in the new extension of the historic homestead.

**Resolved:** Member Roberts / Councillor Marshall

*THAT the request for funding of \$11,400 + GST from the Athenree Homestead Trust for the installation of a sprinkler system in the new extension of the homestead building funded from the Community Board Reserve Account be approved.*

The Chairperson assumed the Chair.

**WB20.2.7 Waihi Beach Community Patrol**

The Community Patrol was raising money for a new patrol car to help see it through the next 10 years. Patrols were still going out and various tasks were being undertaken.

**WB20.2.8 Athenree Homestead**

The Athenree Homestead Trust would host a celebration of Mothers Day at the historic homestead on Sunday 12 May 2019. The Homestead Trust continued to actively raise money to complete the interior of the building.

**WB20.2.9 Waihi Beach Events and Promotions Society**

The Waihi Beach Events and Promotions Society continued to be active in the community and were supporting the Op Shop Ball Committee for the forthcoming 2019 ball. The theme for the Ball this year would be based on the Nambassa festivals that were held in the Waihi area during the 1970's.

**WB20.2.10 Waihi Beach Skate Park Group**

The Waihi Beach Skate Park Group continued to work on the proposed designs for the future skate park development.

**WB20.2.11 Waihi Beach Community Plan Review**

At the Waihi Beach Community Board Meeting held on 19 November 2019 (WB17) the Board resolved to commit up to \$25,000 funded from the Waihi Beach Community Board Reserve Account for the engagement of suitably qualified person to undertake the required research to formulate an updated Community/Town Centre Plan for the Waihi Beach area.

Staff had assisted the Board by providing a Short Form Contract for the engagement of a researcher, on the understanding that the Community Board was responsible for their own process in this matter.

The Short Form Contract had been agreed and signed. The Chairperson advised that the researcher had begun the required work and a first report would be presented to the Board in the near future.

**WB20.2.12 Waihi Beach Town Centre Development Plan**

As part of the Waihi Beach Community Plan Review, a proposal for a future Waihi Beach Town Centre Development would be included.

The Waihi Beach Community Plan and the Town Centre Development Plan would include and highlight the following:

- Provision for growth and connectivity of Bowentown, Athenree and the Waihi Beach area.
- How business owners, residents, property owners and holidaymakers would like to see Waihi Beach and the immediate area in the future.
- How the current town centre as it is now would sit in the future plan.
- How the effects of future predicted sea level rise must be considered across the area.

The Board was aware of the increasing growth in the area, and this was not expected to slow in the near future, so it was vital to have an updated plan for both the community at large and the future town centre. The Board wanted to ensure that Waihi Beach would develop as an age-friendly town.

There would be full consultation with all interested parties including home and business owners and residents.

**WB20.2.13 Significant Council Processes****(a) Community Matching Fund - 2019**

The Board was advised that the Community Matching Fund was available to Western Bay Community Groups. The 2019 Community Matching Fund applications open 29 April and close 29 May 2019.

**(b) Remuneration Authority – Childcare Allowance (Draft Policy Paper)**

Elected Members were reminded that they were welcome to provide comment on the Remuneration Authority – Childcare Allowance (Draft Policy Paper) to the Remuneration Authority at [info@remauthority.govt.nz](mailto:info@remauthority.govt.nz) by Friday 31 May 2019.

**WB20.2.14 Training and Conference for Elected Members**

The Board received a report on the New Zealand Community Boards Executive Conference held in New Plymouth during 11 to 13 April 2019.

**Resolved:** Members Sole / Roberts

*THAT the Waihi Beach Community Board Chairperson's Report dated 23 April 2019 be received.*

**WB20.3 Councillor's Report**

The Board considered a report from Councillor Marshall dated 23 April 2019 as circulated with the agenda. Councillor Marshall spoke to the following points:

**Annual Plan & Bylaws Consultation**

Attendance at the Have Your Say consultation events on the proposed Annual Plan & Bylaw amendments had been good across the district. There was significant interest in the proposed kerbside rubbish and recycling options with many recommendations received on potential improvements and special cases to consider. Locally there had been much interest in the Freedom Camping Bylaw amendments, as well as the proposed alternative Kiwi Camp locations.

This year there had been a significant volume of submissions via on-line options, in addition to those submitted at the face to face meetings. The submissions totalled 75 for the Annual Plan; 609 for Kerbside rubbish and recycling; and 14 for the proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges. Decisions on these would be made on the 26<sup>th</sup> June.

For the consulted Bylaw changes there were 150 submissions on Freedom Camping; 121 on Gambling Venues and TAB venues policies; 104 on Traffic



and Parking Enforcement Bylaw; 38 on Trading in Public Places & 15 on the General Bylaw. Decisions on these were due in August.

### **KiwiCamp Location**

With an extension of time for the local community to comment on the future location of the KiwiCamp next summer, submissions need to be received by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May. To-date there have been 41 submissions, with 1 of these being a petition from the Waihi Residents and Ratepayers Association with 368 signatories. A decision would be made in July/August subject to funding through the Annual Plan.

### **State Highway 2 Safety Improvements**

The New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) had confirmed the funding for safety improvements from Waihi to Omokoroa – a project expected to take up to 5 years. Work commenced earlier this year from Waihi and would commence shortly from Katikati. NZTA would aim to disrupt traffic as little as possible and 2 lanes would be maintained as much as possible to try and minimise traffic delays. There were plans were to have publicly accessible advice on potential time delays on the highway. The road centre would be widened, side barriers included, and intersection upgrades made. Later funding for centre barriers was a possibility. It was disappointing that the full safety upgrade was not budgeted for in the one project.

Council was still waiting on Government and NZTA to announce funding and plans for the critical section of SH2 from Omokoroa to Tauranga. Political pressure and negotiations with Government and NZTA were an ongoing priority for our Mayor and councillors to make New Zealand's most dangerous highway safe and efficient.

To remove the contradictions of competing priorities from different interests in the Western Bay of Plenty being presented to Government & NZTA, a coordinated regional group of Tauranga City Council, Western Bay of Plenty District Council, Regional Council, and NZTA has been formed, largely through effective lobbying led by Mayor Webber. The new organisation of Urban Form and Transport Initiative (referred to as UFTI) had been tasked with creating a comprehensive costed strategic priority plan for transport for the region by the end of 2019. By working collaboratively and having NZTA fully engaged in the process it was anticipated that the final plans would have a greater chance of government support and funding.

In the meantime lobbying would continue to ensure that planned housing developments in Tauranga and the Western Bay of Plenty had appropriate transport infrastructure provided in a timely manner.

### **Katikati Bypass**

NZTA have not made the Katikati Bypass a priority so no funding was available in the foreseeable future. However the disruption of the town

centre has continued to escalate with higher traffic volumes, and large logging trucks from Coromandel, passing through the town every day. Queues at both ends of town were common and were particularly severe over holiday weekends.

Council had allocated \$200,000 to conduct a feasibility study in 2019/20 to consider constructing a Council-owned Road as a Bypass. This study would encompass evaluating costs for such a project, potential funding models & sources, whether or not tolling would be appropriate, and the impact on rates for any required borrowing.

**Resolved:** Councillor Marshall / Member Sole

*THAT the report from Councillor Marshall dated 23 April 2019 be received.*

#### WB20.4

#### **Community Board Grant Applications - May 2019**

The Board considered a report from the Senior Governance Advisor dated 23 April 2019 as circulated with the agenda.

**Resolved:** Members Sole / Hepenstall

*THAT the report from the Senior Governance Advisor dated 26 April 2019 titled Community Board Grant Application – May 2019 be received.*

The Board considered two applications for Community Board Grant funding.

- (1) The Waihi Beach Community Centre Committee had submitted an application for funding to have the vinyl flooring in the Waihi Beach Community Centre stripped and re-polished.

The Board noted that the stripping and polishing of the hall flooring should be covered by the Waihi Beach Community Centre rate funding as general repairs and maintenance work.

The Chairperson advised that he would organise a meeting in the near future with members of the Waihi Beach Community Centre and Council staff to clarify the options and process that the Community Centre Committee should follow in regard to required repairs and maintenance work.

**Resolved:** Members Sole / Hepenstall

*THAT the Waihi Beach Community Board not approve the grant application from the Waihi Beach Community Centre and that the Chairperson liaise with the Community Centre Committee and set up a meeting with Council's Strategic Property Manager in regard to the future management of rate funding for repairs and maintenance for the Waihi Beach Community Centre.*

- (2) The Waihi Beach Tennis Club had submitted an application for funding for the purchase of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) to be located at the Waihi Beach Tennis Clubhouse.

**Resolved:** Member Hepenstall / Councillor Marshall

*THAT the Waihi Beach Community Board approve the grant application from the Waihi Beach Tennis Club for \$2,500 for the purchase of an Automated External Defibrillator from the Waihi Beach Community Grants 2018/19 account subject to all accountabilities being met.*

WB20.5 **Infrastructure Services Report Waihi Beach - May 2019**

The Board considered a report from the Deputy Chief Executive dated 18 April 2019 as circulated with the agenda.

WB20.5.1 **Waihi Beach Road Entrance - Minute Action reference WB15 18 2.3**

The Board was happy with the proposal put forward by the Operations Service Manager/Vegetation Manager from Westlink within the public forum section of the meeting. The Roding Engineer (West) and Board members would set up a future meeting to further discuss the Waihi Beach Road entranceway planting and maintenance plan.

WB20.5.2 **The Broadlands Block - Minute Action reference WB15 18 2.11**

The Board was advised that a site meeting had been organised to take place on Friday 31 May 2019. The meeting at the site should identify:

- Priorities for any proposed planting.
- Priorities and scope for any other development work that could be undertaken (pathways etc).
- How community input from interested parties could be managed.
- How the Broadlands Block could be managed in the future.

**Resolved:** Members Sole / Hepenstall

*THAT the Deputy Chief Executive report dated 18 April 2019 and titled Infrastructure Services Report Waihi Beach - May 2019 be received.*

WB20.6 **Financial Report Waihi Beach - March 2019**

The Board considered a report from the Management Accountant dated 10 April 2019 as circulated with the agenda.

**Resolved:** Members Sole / Hepenstall

*THAT the Management Accountant's report dated 10 April 2019 and titled Financial Report Waihi Beach - March 2019 be received.*

WB20.7            **Council, Standing Committee and Community Board Meetings**

The Board considered a schedule of meetings for the month of May and June 2019 as circulated with the agenda.

**Resolved:**            Councillor Marshall / Members Roberts

*That the schedule of meetings for May and June 2019 be received.*

The meeting concluded at 8.36 pm

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

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A Sole  
Chairperson  
Waihi Beach Community Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

WB20