

GREENHITHE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD TUESDAY 24TH MAY 2022 Greenhithe Community Hall

Chairman Brian Carran called the Greenhithe Residents Association Annual General Meeting to order at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT:

CHAIRMAN: Brian Carran

MEMBERS: Existing Members Present

Tricia Moore, Michelle Heald, Steven Oh, Nika Osbourn,
Mick Sinclair, Chris Fraser

New Nominations

Ken Forrest, Adele Piper, Jackie Miles, Wendy Turner, James Chong,

Guests: Local MP

Vanushi Walters

Councillors:

John Watson, Wayne Walker

Local Community Board

Margaret Miles, Uzra Casuri Balouch, Anna Atkinson,
Nicholas Mayne, Lisa Whyte

Guest Speakers Mayoral Candidates

Efeso Collins, Viv Beck

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman extended a warm welcome to all guests and the guest speakers Viv Beck and Efeso Collins, local MP Vanushi Walters, Councillors John Watson and Wayne Walker, and local Board Members, Margaret Miles, Lisa Whyte, Uzra Casuri Balouch, Nicholas Mayne and Anna Atkinson.

2. APOLOGIES

Committee members: Karl Vetter, Trish Cassone, Annie Yong Mewburn,
Ehsan Zabihi

From the floor: Mr and Mrs Moore

MOTION – That the Apologies be accepted

Moved by Chris, Seconded by Ken

MOTION Carried

3. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM DATED Tuesday 25 May 2021**

MOTION - That the minutes are accepted and approved as a true and correct record.

MOVED BY Amanda, Seconded by Tricia

MOTION Carried

4. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Steven Oh addressed the meeting and referred to the Financial Statements

Rental from the Community Hall and Old School Building amounted to \$28,000 against a budget of \$35,000.

Resurgence support payments (due to Covid 19 lockdown) amounted to \$13,217.

Major renovations (concealed ducted systems and a suspended ceiling), were partially funded from a lottery board grant amounting to \$41,683, however the whole amount was capitalised into building improvements. In addition to this, repairs and maintenance to the Community Hall and Old School Building amounted to \$19,147 - more than the budget of \$15,000. A net surplus of \$10,000 was realised largely due to the support payments. Donations and grants were down on previous years however we did receive a donation from Ehsan Zabehi of \$4,000 and \$2,000 from the Steadfast Foundation.

Steven made an appeal for an annual donation of \$20 to become a member of the Association.

In terms of the Statement of Financial Position key points are:

- the current bank account currently holds a balance of \$9,159
- fixed assets amount to \$838,827
- total equity amount is \$853,286 which is \$10,000 more than the previous year.

Steven highlighted the fact that the sale of the piece of land has not yet been realised although a deposit of \$13,800 has been received as reflected in the notes on page 7.

Brian reiterated the importance of a \$20 membership is in having a "say", and being part of the ownership of the Community Hall.

Brian pointed out that in terms of the Constitution it is not deemed necessary to have an audit therefore saving the Association \$1,000 of community funds.

Brian acknowledged and gave thanks to Steven for all his hard work in carrying out his role of Treasurer. Unfortunately the Committee will be saying goodbye to Steven as he is returning to Malaysia.

MOTION – That the Financial Report be accepted and approved

Moved by Brian, Seconded by James

MOTION Carried

5. GRA CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman's Report 2022 had been handed out before commencement of the meeting and were taken as read.

The Committee has worked conscientiously over the past year on various upgrades to the hall. In addition to the Treasurer leaving, Ivy Lu has resigned her position as Secretary and Brian gave a vote of thanks to Ivy who carried out her secretarial duties in very professional manner. Tricia Moore has now taken on the role of Secretary and Adele Piper will be replacing Steven as Treasurer. Brian will be leaving the committee and introduced Ken Forrest who will be taking over the role of Chairman. However it has been agreed that Brian and Steven will remain on the Committee as ex officio members for the next six months to assist Ken and Adele in their respective roles where required. Brian paid tribute to Dennis Thornton (Emergency Planning) who passed away late last year.

Projects undertaken this year include the windows in the Old School Building being replaced with toughened glass. The exterior of the Community Hall has been repainted and pre-paint repairs have been completed on the interior. Designer Alice Roycroft has been consulted in terms of the choice of colour for the exterior and interior of the building. Future projects include new flooring, replacement of chairs, installation of wi-fi, curtains and blinds, recarpet the Hall foyer. Signage will be replaced and will now read "The Greenhithe Community Village Hall". Two additional carparks will be added at the entrance to the building. The Old School Building needs to have its roof replaced and work on the pipework needs to be carried out.

Brian gave huge thanks to Michelle Heald for managing the Halls during these trying times of Covid in dealing with many cancellations as well as tentative future bookings. Wherever was possible Michelle kept running costs to a minimum in terms of cutting back on lawnmowing, cleaning and even her own retainer. A great asset to the community and deserves a huge vote of thanks.

Once sale of the land has been realised many of the abovementioned projects can proceed.

Brian gave a vote of thanks to members of Local Board, Margaret, Uzra and Anna who regularly attend GRA meetings who take on board issues with regard to the infrastructure of Greenhithe of note, the recent upgrading of footpaths. Brian acknowledged that Margaret Miles, Brian Neeson and Lisa Whyte would be leaving the Local Board and gave a round of applause for their services to the Local Board.

In his closing address Brian acknowledged that it is now time for him to step down as Chairman and thanked his wife Cath for all her support. He wished the Committee a successful future.

MOTION – that the Chairman's Report be accepted

Moved by Uzra, Seconded by Amanda

MOTION Carried

6. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

a) Existing Committee Nominations

Trish Cassone, Tricia Moore, Annie Yong-Mewburn, Michelle Heald, Nika Osburne, Karl Vetter, Chris Fraser, Mick Sinclair and Ehsan Zabihi confirmed they were happy to remain on the Committee.

MOTION - that the current committee member nominees be elected

Moved by Brian, seconded by Cath

MOTION carried

b) Prior Nominations

Adele Piper, Jackie Miles, Wendy Turner, James Chong and Ken Forrest.

MOTION - *that these prior nominations be approved.*

Moved by Brian, Seconded by Sam

MOTION carried

c) Call for nominations from the floor for Co-Opt position on Committee

Samantha Joyce

MOTION - that the abovenamed be appointed as Co-Opt member of Committee.

Moved by Brian, seconded by Mick

MOTION carried

d) Election Executive Committee

Brian introduced Ken Forrest a nominee who will be taking on position of Chairman and Adele Piper who was previously Treasurer of the Greenhithe School PTA

Chairman - Ken Forrest

Deputy Chair - Trish Cassone

Secretary - Tricia Moore

Treasurer - Adele Piper

MOTION - that the abovenamed executive committee nominees be approved.

Moved by Brian, Seconded by Chris

MOTION carried

Mick *MOVED* a further MOTION that Brian Carran and Steven Oh be appointed to the Committee for six months as ex officio members.

Seconded by Chris

7. GENERAL BUSINESS***Local Board Member: Address by Lisa Whyte***

Lisa acknowledged all the hard work Brian had put into the Committee during his 22 years.

She gave thanks to all the Local Board members who were in attendance.

Lisa then asked Samantha Joyce, a local resident, who having been involved in a near miss accident, was instrumental in putting together a petition for the removal of concrete barriers installed on the Upper Harbour Drive cycleway to address the audience.

Samantha made reference to a particular complaint by a resident of Upper Harbour Drive. This resident pointed out the history of Upper Harbour Drive noting that, in the past, it had been a

very dangerous stretch of road, then was upgraded and became safer, further down the track a cycle lane was introduced. Now that the barriers had been installed, Upper Harbour Drive once again had reverted back into becoming a dangerous stretch of road. The barriers had compounded problems with rubbish trucks who were unable to easily access the bins due to road cones and were forced in some cases to deposit empty bins in the cycle lane as well as causing unnecessary disruption to the motorists.

Samantha raised the safety concerns the residents of Upper Harbour Drive had and the lack of consultation on the installation of these barriers. Her petition at the time of the meeting had some 1200 signatures.

Lisa responded by saying that the Local Board had received the petition the previous week and they had passed it onto Auckland Transport. No response had been received at the time of the meeting.

In particular, the concerns raised with AT have been the access and egress to residents' properties being impinged upon. However the Local Board does not strictly have a view to support removal of the barriers as the funds to do so were somewhat constrained.

The Board have addressed the visibility aspect of the barriers and advocated to have the barriers painted on each end with reflective paint. Once the reflectorisation on the barriers has taken place the temporary road cones will be removed and the visibility issue should again be addressed. This removal of cones should address the problem of rubbish trucks' access to rubbish bin emptying being delayed and in turn remedy unnecessary traffic delays. The plan is that it will get better. The issue is to make sure everyone stays safe.

Councillor John Watson: Addressed the meeting

Auckland Transport were invited to the meeting but declined the invitation. Not a satisfactory response.

Very real issues regarding safety. Stretch of road from Albany Highway to Emily Place has no median strip in the middle making driving along this stretch of road very uncomfortable. Concrete barriers of this nature on a stretch of road with a speed limit of 70 km per hour is extremely dangerous and putting all road users, cyclists and motorists at serious risk of having an accident. The Local Board are really concerned about all these safety issues which will be put to Auckland Transport Board and request a response.

Another member of the audience named Ann addressed the meeting with her concerns about the safety, noting a recent accident that had taken place on Sunday night prior to the meeting. She had met with a representative of Auckland Transport addressing her concerns of safety. Of particular concern again was the stretch of road from Albany Highway to Emily Lane. She reiterated THIS IS AN ACCIDENT WAITING TO HAPPEN.

Lisa Whyte further added that she has requested that this matter be raised at the forthcoming Auckland Transport Board meeting under general business. Vanushi Walters also made the point that she has written to Auckland Transport on the matter and she too is awaiting a response.

Greenhithe Community Trust - Amanda Mitchell

Amanda addressed the crime statistics in Greenhithe as released by Waitemata Police Department. Three incidents the previous week, five the following. Basic things that people can do to protect themselves and their properties. Further information can be obtained on the Community Trust web page. Amanda raised the fact that resilience Greenhithe booklets were available at the meeting which outline what to do in an emergency. Brian suggested call to

action that it is Important to know your neighbours, introduce yourselves to new neighbours. Each street has a neighbourhood support contact. Greenhithe Community Trust runs many support groups each week where you can meet new people, gain new skills etc.

Amanda then gave thanks to all volunteers in Greenhithe especially Brian, the committee members of the GRA and GCT and anybody else involved in local support groups.

Jane Hunter COMMUNITY PATROL addressed the audience on their role in preventing crime in that they patrol the local communities 24 hours and work very closely with the Police in reporting crime, in other words they are the “eyes and ears of” New Zealand Police.

8. GUEST SPEAKERS

Brian introduced **VIV BECK** who has worked in leadership roles in the private and public and non for profit sectors during her career. She is currently Chief Executive of Auckland Heart of the City organisation.

Viv firstly addressed the reasons why she is standing for Mayor.

Having been involved and consequently instrumental in getting rid of plastic sticks that were erected in Queen Street. She was made aware that there was a lack of consultation and inefficiencies in many projects.

Secondly, she was concerned about the impact the City Rail link construction and Covid had had on businesses within the CBD. She took the issue to Parliament but it is still not resolved. Change is needed.

Three key elements that Auckland needs improvement in are:

- Transport i.e. good efficient public transport
- Traffic congestion
- Crime

She has advocated to get fuel tax removed as it is not a fair tax. Three things that need to happen. It's about getting the “FAT” out of the system.

- Prioritising the projects we really need and developing a different model with Wellington on how we plan and fund major infrastructure. She has set that as a target. We need to move quickly i.e. how to solve the congestion issue. She suggests a congestion unit. Setting targets within Auckland Transport and setting money aside for network optimisation i.e. lining up traffic lights.
- We need to be tough on crime and behaviour that intimidates people by improving police resource based on population.
- There needs to be better management on Covid issues such as housing, mental and addiction services.

In addition to the above there needs to be more accountability and transparency with CCO's within Auckland Council and Auckland Transport. She believes there are things a Mayor can do to set higher expectations and performance. Local communities should be heard more, and more decision making to be done by local communities.

In summary having worked on the periphery of Auckland Council for the last seven years she can see where improvements can be made in terms of how we work with our communities, as a Council and how we work with Central Government. She brings experience and a strong track record of getting things done. Her vision is to have a region

that is easily affordable, safe, has good housing and in so doing makes the most of our beautiful City and Region.

Brian then introduced **EFESO COLLINS** currently a second term councillor and has previously served on his local Board in Manukau. He has had a career in public service roles, broadcasting, lecturer at Auckland University and in managing youth mentoring programmes. He currently runs his own Consultancy company and delivers legislative programmes. Ran Project K.

The values that he would bring to the role are inclusive leadership. He is a collaborator and wants to see “what people are thinking”. Has met with councillors across the Auckland region so as to familiarise himself with how decision making is achieved. In order to get good inclusive leadership involves good robust discussions, being curious about someone else’s lived experiences. Where they originated from i.e. born in Auckland or overseas. His approach to this campaign will be one of “listening”. We need to engage our young people by exposing them to different parts of the City, different foods, festivals, i.e. all the things we have learned about Auckland Council. As we reconnect after Covid we want that human interaction that has been missing for so long.

His vision is to build a “ just people” centred and sustainable city. He wants one where everyone is connected with one another. We need to address climate change and how we are going to make a difference. We need to look at our tree planting, get out of our cars, look at the way we live, days when we don’t need the car. There are major infrastructure issues in this city and how to address this. 45% comes from rates, the other 55% comes from outside sources. How are we going to pursue those outside sources. How are we going to create those funds.

Management of a number of Boards within the Council need change, in particular the behaviour and attitude of Auckland Transport needs to be addressed. They are not connecting with our people. He proposes to put two Councillors back on Auckland Transport Board so that they are connected to the Community. A recent CCO review resulted in 60-70 recommendations. One of them was we have to look at the way in which CCOS engage and connect in order to understand the Community. They are public entities and these Boards need to understand that. True genuine, hard core leadership that’s going to make sure that they connect back with us.

How can we create liveable and lively communities, and how can we revitalise our town centres. Covid has largely changed the amount of time people work in the office, resulting in more people staying local. How do we ensure that our town centres are local and revitalised.

In conclusion Efeso expressed his excitement in being involved in the election campaign and how he could revitalise and allow the City to be reconnected again, make it the most liveable city in the world, and one that addresses and attacks Climate Change.

After a brief Q&A session and there being no further business the **MEETING CLOSED** at 9.33pm.