

**GREENHITHE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

HELD WEDNESDAY 24TH MAY 2023 Greenhithe Community Hall

Chairman Ken Forrest called the Greenhithe Residents Association Annual General Meeting to order at 7 10 p.m.

PRESENT:

CHAIRMAN: Ken Forrest

MEMBERS: Existing Members Present

Tricia Moore, Trish Cassone, Nika Osbourn, Mick Sinclair, Chris Fraser, Jackie Miles, Samantha Joyce, James Chong, Annie Yong-Mewburn, Mick Sinclair, Adele Piper

Guests:

National Candidate for Upper Harbour

Cameron Brewer

Councillors:

John Watson, Wayne Walker

Local Community Board

Anna Atkinson

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman extended a warm welcome to all Residents, Cameron Brewer National Candidate for Upper Harbour, Councillors John Watson and Wayne Walker, and local Board Member Anna Atkinson as well as members of the Committee.

2. APOLOGIES

Committee members: Michelle Heald, Wendy Turner

GRA Member Jeff Wagg ,

Local Board Uzra Casuri Balouch

Guest Speaker Hon. Vanushi Walters

MOTION : *That the Apologies be accepted*

Carried

3. CORRESPONDENCE

A local resident wrote requesting more detail on the proposed rule changes. The Chair addressed this in his preamble before the relevant motions.

AMENDMENT TO RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION (PART VI : meetings)

Ken proposed the following amendments to Rules of the Association in terms of the Constitution and that a motion to adopt these amendments respectively be passed.

MOTION:

- 1) That Rule 6b be amended by changing the words “in the month of July” to “within the months of May to July”

Carried

- 2) That Rule 6i be amended by changing the wording from “one more than half the total number of” to “a minimum of 5”

Carried

4. FINANCIAL REPORT

The end of the year had a positive result with money in the bank as opposed to the beginning of the year which was attributable to recovering from Covid in terms of bookings. Rentals amounted to \$40,000 - still down on what we would like i.e. \$50,000. This meant not as many repairs could be carried out as we had hoped for. However with the sale of land having been realized and a grant received from the Auckland City Council and the Upper Harbour Local Board of \$15,000 we can now proceed with rejuvenation of the Hall. Another expense that was incurred was insurance on the two buildings. This cost of \$10,000 is no longer paid by Council.

Unfortunately Adele has decided to step down from her role as Treasurer due her work commitments. Ken enquired from the audience if anyone would be willing to take on her role or if they knew of someone. Adele has done a great job of getting systems in place on MYOB.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

Ken referred to the Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended 31 March 2023 and commented as follows:

Income amounted to \$40,000 as opposed to last year's of \$32,000. A small operating loss was offset by a rates rebate that we received from Council. Gain on the land sale amounted to \$87,122, after GST deduction. In summary the Association is in the best financial position it has been for a while and our thanks go to our predecessors that formalized the sale of the land. Total equity is now \$1,000,000 which is owned by the Association and we take seriously our commitment to maintaining the buildings with regard to insurance and upgrade.

MOTION: That the annual accounts as presented be adopted.

Moved by: James; *Seconded by:* Mick

Carried

MOTION: *That no Auditor be appointed for the ensuing financial year*

Moved by: Chris; *Seconded by:* Adele

Carried

5. GRA CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman's Report 2023 had been handed out before commencement of the meeting and were taken as read.

Ken made reference to the recent floods that occurred earlier in the year and how Greenhithe was affected.

Projects that will be undertaken on the hall this year include, replacing the floor, interior painting, fire doors (\$8,000), curtains, chairs and carpets. New signage has been implemented, one has already been installed on the outside of the building whilst the street sign is yet to be installed.

Ken thanked Tricia for taking on the role of Secretary and Adele for being Treasurer.

A special mention was made to Samantha Joyce acknowledging her work on getting concrete barriers on Upper Harbour Drive removed and for her role on the Committee as web page administrator.

Ken thanked Karl Vetter, previously a Committee member, for assisting in various projects undertaken on the buildings.

Ken further reached out to the audience for any possible help they could offer with the upcoming projects.

A special vote of thanks to Brian who stepped down from Chairmanship last year but is now resident handyman and continues to work in the background. The Committee is ever grateful for his support.

Ken encouraged people attending the AGM to register and be part of the Association by paying an amount of \$20 which will entitle them to be informed of current decisions made on the hall and Old School Building (OSB) and also help with costs of running the facilities.

The future of the OSB needs to be addressed. It contributes quite considerably to cost of insurance and its upkeep, i.e. it needs new roofing, replacement of piping and heating. Unfortunately revenue obtained through hireage is falling.

Ken acknowledged the great work that Michelle Heald does on the Committee as Hall Manager. She was unable to attend the meeting due to a serious back injury.

A priority for the Committee this year is to increase revenue and we will work on the budget next month.

Ken thanked the Local Board, Uzra was absent however he thanked Anna Atkinson for her support given to the Committee and for attending our meetings.

With regard to emergency resilience Ken referred to the recent floods and how the village hall became an important venue for Greenhithe residents affected by the floods. Michelle opened up the hall and residents were able to come in, have a drink, have contact with other people, do some cooking etc. However the Hall is not an official civil defence facility and thereby relies on the Community to run it i.e. there's no formal structure in place as part of Auckland Emergency Management. A group known as GERG (Greenhithe Emergency Resilience Group) has been formed and to which Ken is a representative of GRA. GERG is responsible for setting up a group within the Community of residents with specific roles and how they should react in the event of an emergency. A meeting to address this will be held at a later date. Greenhithe needs to be better prepared in the event of another disaster. It is up to the Community to resolve how we do this.

Ken gave thanks to Vanushi Walters MP for Upper Harbour for her role in the recent floods with regard to co-ordinating the Upper Harbour leaders, an advocate for resilience in the area.

Ken asked the attendees if there were any questions regarding the Hall. A couple of residents enquired about the replacement of the floor with regard to what material it would be replaced with. Ken responded that the Committee would thoroughly research the type of flooring product, with regard to durability, cost etc. He further added that the chairs need to be replaced so that they don't dent the new floor surface and would potentially seek contributions from the Community regarding this.

MOTION to Adopt Chairman's Report
Moved by Brian: *Seconded by Annie*

Carried

6. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

a) Existing Committee Nominations

Ken Forrest, Trish Cassone, Tricia Moore, Annie Yong-Mewburn, Michelle Heald, Nika Osburne, Chris Fraser, Mick Sinclair, Ehsan Zabihi, Jackie Miles, Samantha Joyce, Wendy Turner, James Chong confirmed they were happy to remain on the Committee.

MOTION: *that the current committee member nominees be elected*

Moved by Tricia, *seconded by Jackie*

Carried

Ken called for any nominations from the floor for the position of Treasurer

No response.

b) Election of Officers

Chairman Ken Forrest

Deputy Chair Trish Cassone

Secretary Tricia Moore

MOTION: *that the Nominations for Executive Officers be approved.*

Moved by Jackie, seconded by Mick

Carried

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Anna Atkinson Upper Harbour Local Board Chair addressed the meeting

Anna acknowledged the work of the GRA

Anna commented on **Public Transport** as follows:

Local Boards only have an advocacy role in terms of public transport, it is under the control of Auckland Transport and the Councillors who vote for the money allocated to Auckland Transport. Only 25% of the general public are satisfied with public transport. Anna raised the point that through the general public lobbying for more improved public transport services an additional \$20million had been ring fenced for public transport and urged that the general public continue with putting pressure on Auckland Transport and Councillors for improved services. Bus service along Upper Harbour Drive not going to change any time soon as many more people in the area use the bus service within the village rather than UHD. Local Board is going to advocate for frequency of route 120 to be increased to fifteen minute intervals. Anna also referred to a Local Board Capital Transport Fund which funded little projects i.e. footpath in Kyle Road. This Capital Transport Fund could potentially get dropped. Once again she reiterated the importance of lobbying Councillors to ensure that this doesn't happen!

Other Projects

Anna referred to Local Board projects within Greenhithe in the last 12 months:

Three upgraded toilet blocks and a new playground refresh at War Memorial Park.
Future projects include Collins Park.

In addition, the Board has supported a lot of community groups e.g. Sea Scouts, Community Trust, and the Greenhithe Village Hall.

The recreation fund has funded parts of Rame Road Boathouse.

In summary Anna emphasized that the best way to report a problem to Council is to log a problem on the Council website. Anna is more than happy to follow up if not a good response.

Councillor John Watson: Addressed the meeting

John acknowledged the good work that Samantha Joyce of GAAB had done in removal of concrete barriers on Upper Harbour Drive and also the work that GRA do.

He gave a brief summary of the financial position of the Council - \$12 billion in debt. Operational deficit of \$375 million, included in that is the flood damage relief which will result in rates increase of 22%. All of this will have significant consequences to the budget. Councillors are doing their best to address the imbalance in the organization in terms of the high level of managerial staffing that is disproportionate and advocate for more stringency in the way projects are administered i.e. Upper Harbour Drive fiasco where money was clearly wasted. On a more positive note however in this particular Ward we are fortunate to be a beneficiary of some NZTA projects i.e. Northern Busway.

Councillor Wayne Walker addressed the meeting

He referred to the recent floods. The Council are engaging directly with residents and Healthy Waters in terms of stormwater consultation. High risk areas are going to be prioritized and also more money allocated in the budget to address stormwater, which has been significantly underfunded in the past. More attention will be applied to clearing out catchments, drains and better modelling as regards streams as well as overland flows in terms of pipework that cannot cope in these large storm events. There is to be significant engagement with communities. Civil Defence is going to change from being too centralized to be more decentralized so more engagement with communities.

Greenhithe Community Trust - Amanda Mitchell

Amanda referred to the role the Community Trust plays (GCT) within the Community. They provide a social network for vulnerable people within the Community through various community activities. Groups that they currently run, the Greenhithe Youth Collective, Ecology Group, Fabulous Fridays for seniors, Ukelele group, Mainly Music and a Plunket group. They raise grants through the Lion Foundation, pub charities, lotteries, local businesses to fund neighbourhood support, International friends group etc. Amanda referred to the great work that GERG (Greenhithe Resilience Group) have done within the community and acknowledged the residents that helped out in the recent floods. GERG will play an important role in the future in the event of an emergency.

Cameron Brewer addressed the meeting

He gave a brief outline of his background having worked on the Orakei Council, Rodney Council and Newmarket Business Association. He acknowledged how GRA had been proactive in their submission on Plan 78 intensification of housing and was supportive of lower densification housing remaining in Greenhithe. He noted National Party policy on this as well. He acknowledged the good work that the Greenhithe Fire Brigade do in terms of the parade in ANZAC day, money raised at the Malt for Muriwai tragedy. He acknowledged the GCT and the Ecology group for their recent planting day in the William Gamble Drive Reserve.

After a brief Question and Answer session the Meeting Closed at 8.15 p.m