

The Greenhithe Residents Assn Inc

Chairman's Annual Report 2020



Welcome to our virtual Annual General Meeting, on May 26th 2020.

The 2019/2020 year has had its challenges and its success's, mainly Community Hall success's which have been due to the generosity of sponsors.

Last year we reported a \$42,000 over-run on the Community Hall renovation program due to deterioration uncovered. We are pleased to say that the projects that were postponed have now either been completed or are at the final stages of completion. The stage side doors were built and installed by a volunteer. The front of stage, soundproof doors, which are about to be hung, were donated by Placemakers Albany. The rear yard trees were cleared by committee volunteers and mulched by sponsors Tree King. The excavation for the deck and tiding up the boundary was done by sponsors Kiwi Excavate. The funding for the rear deck, fence and garden was from a very generous donation from Ryman Health Care aided by a substantial discount from deck supplier Outdure. The bathroom vanities replacement was funded by an Auckland Council Local Board Grant. Our building work was carried out at very favorable rates and with some time not charged by local builder Zane Raphael of Renovation Builders.

The Old School Building (OSB) exterior has been renovated (removal of rotting timbers) and is in the final stages of being repainted. This has been thanks to the generosity of grants from Auckland Council Local Board and the Coco Trust.

Projects carried out over the last 2 years have exceeded \$300,000. Much of this funded from the Assn's own reserves and earnings but mostly through community and business generosity.

The challenge now is how to fund future projects when you have exhausted the obvious, and a few less obvious, funding sources. Never-the-less we have several bold new initiatives on the Agenda.

1. The Air Conditioning of the Community Hall (now that the doors are up). \$30K
2. The equipping of the Community Hall with its own crockery and cutlery. \$3k
3. The replacement of the Old School Building roof. \$20k

Our work on Greenhithe infrastructure projects with Auckland Transport and Auckland Council has been less fruitful. The frustration of getting \$1.5m allocated to improve the road down Rame Rd to the waterfront, only to have the Auckland Transport planners come back with a Rolls Royce footpath, replacing one that is not broken, and ignoring the original mandated. This has been crushing to say the least. The Local Board were as bemused as we on the Residents Assn were as to how something can be approved for one purpose and end up being something else. There is still no resolution to this matter, which in itself is equally frustrating. Unfortunately, Auckland Council have suffered a financial hit with Covid 19 and

the word is that all projects not committed are likely to be cancelled. That puts us back at square one with \$1.5m of our Local Board areas funding lost! Our persistent submissions did get 50% of the potholes at the school round-about fixed and we have an undertaking that post Watercare we will have the rest fixed, we hope!

The Assn has undertaken a project to identify every dangerous footpath, park walkway and park facility. We have submitted 109 footpath photographs to Auckland Transport and 5 parks Dept Maintenance matters to the Local Board for their attention. We would not expect to get these all attended to immediately but would hope that the 25 critical spots identified would get priority attention and the others in due course. These do not include small cracks that would be considered a cosmetic fix! The Committee is also working with Local Board to try and get the carpark at the Old School Building resealed.

Your Residents Assn committee has benefited from an introduction of new faces over the last two years. Our Secretary Ivy has been most effective and has also contributed to better communication to members and the community and substantially reducing our IT and web-site costs. Our new Treasurer Steven has been most effective and for the first time we are projecting forward rather than operating with historical numbers. New member Ehsan has bought an IT capability to our organization that it never had and been instrumental in making considerable savings in that area. Michelle, our Hall manager, has gone beyond the call of duty and been the face of our Assn when dealing with our Hall clients, which she has done superbly. Dennis Thornton has ably continued to be our Assn's voice on the Emergency Response Group. New member Nika has taken on our event planning and shown her capability in just a short time. Mick has guided us through a few legal negotiations and like matters and Annie and Dale have shown their real value as sources of information and wisdom. Deputy Chairperson Trish has made a valuable contribution by encouraging everyone, not the least the Chairman. Greenhithe is lucky to have such a dedicated and talented team looking after its affairs and it is a privilege to work with them as Chairman.

All current committee members offer themselves for re-election. That leaves 3 positions to be filled by new nominees. If you are interested or wish to nominate someone please contact the writer by email bcarran@xtra.co.nz for further information.

Attachments to the AGM Business papers relevant to the contents of this report are:

1. Agenda
2. Minutes of May 2019 AGM
3. Financial Report
4. Committee Profile
5. The Dangerous Footpaths Report
6. The Dangerous Pathway and Facilities Report

Brian Carran
Chairman
Greenhithe Residents Association Inc