

DRAFT Minutes of the 80th Annual General Meeting of the Piha Ratepayers' and Residents' Association Sunday 6 January 2020 Barnett Hall, North Piha

Present: Ken Cowan President and 34 members
Waitakere Ranges Local Board - Sandra Coney and Mark Allen

The meeting began with a presentation by Sandra Coney and Andy Mardell on the Piha Wetland Trust.

Key points:

- Land was owned privately until 1958, when purchased by Ministry for Education. Schoolhouse was relocated on site in 1959. School only operated for two years.
- In 2008, a number of west Auckland schools formed trust to use site for educational purposes and restore wetlands. When trust withdrew activities, MfE determined to sell.
- Schoolhouse was purchased by Auckland Council in 2016 based on a number of groups indicating intent to form a trust to undertake activities on the land, including use of the building for community activities
- AC purchased land because of presence of wetland and the site being adjacent to existing parkland.
- An artificial bund disrupts the hydrology of the wetland by preventing natural water ingress. Bund does, however, allow foot and cycle traffic around the perimeter of the wetland.
- Investigations to 2018 flooding by Healthy Waters have recommended a number of minor works to wetland to restore hydrology and prevent erosion on stream banks.
- Since purchase, Council has repaired foundations of schoolhouse and made exterior repairs.
- Piha Wetland Trust, a consortium of four local groups (West Coast Art Gallery, Protect Piha Heritage Society, Piha R&R, and Piha Kids Charitable Trust) and Waitakere Ranges Local Board will work in partnership to manage the site and restore wetland.
- Due to complexity of restoration, Local Board will take on responsibility for works. Plan will be prepared and consultation with local community will take place.
- Piha Wetland Trust will have lease on schoolhouse within 6-8 months. Currently, health and safety issues prevent the building being used. Initial focus will be on making building available for community use.
- New entrance to track behind schoolhouse will be formed soon. Current entrance is not within property boundaries.
- Currently four members on board of Trust, one from each of the groups. Two further members are sought.

Questions from the floor were taken.

The President, Ken Cowan, thanked Sandra and Andy for their presentation and opened the Annual General Meeting at 7:59 p.m.

Apologies

Tony Dunn, James Dickenson, Randall Morton

MOTION 1

That the apologies be accepted.

CARRIED

Ken Cowan / Hanneke Bouchier

Minutes of the 79th Annual General Meeting 9 January 2019

MOTION 2

That the draft minutes of the 79th Annual General Meeting held on 9 January 2019 be accepted as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Ken Cowan / Nicola Legat

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

President's Report

Ken Cowan presented his 2019 report (attached) and invited questions or comments.

- Waitakere Ranges Local Board members were welcomed. Committee is grateful for good relationship with Board and council.
- Committee members were thanked for time and energy and the knowledge and expertise they use on behalf of the community
- In consultation with the community and working with Auckland Council and Waitakere Ranges Local Board, issues that the R&R have addressed include:
 - Sewage pump-out protocols
 - Kitekite Falls 'selfie bridge' proposal
 - Piha Stream and Glen Esk Valley flooding issues
 - Parking and trading complaints
 - Piha Resilience Plan
 - Piha Road repairs and rebuilding and stormwater issues
 - Seaview Road maintenance
 - Kauri dieback related issues, including track closures
 - Proposed Taitamo track and park restoration
 - Signage on beach front
 - Maintenance of Domain and facilities
 - Roadside maintenance, including large puddles along beach front
 - Proposals for a skate park
 - Claude Abel Park and duck pond
 - Bus services to Piha
 - Piha Pro surfing event
 - Eel bridge maintenance
 - Speed limits within the community
 - Freedom camping
- Piha Post Office, owned and operated by R&R, continues to be an important asset.
- A good working relationship has developed between the R&R, owners of the community building, and the Piha Community Library Trust, occupiers of the building. Maintenance has been undertaken as required during the year.
- Working with council's Healthy Waters team on the pollution of the Piha Stream Lagoon has been a major focus through the year. Approval or tacit consent has now been received from all the appropriate Piha organisations to a R&R proposal to assist the tide to

flush the lagoon at times that the flushing is not occurring naturally. Graeme Carrie's efforts spearheading this work is acknowledged.

- R&R is one of four groups that have formed Piha Wetlands Trust. Hanneke Bouchier's efforts as the R&R's representative on this group are acknowledged.
- R&R can better represent community with more input from members on their concerns.

Questions were taken from the floor.

A question from the floor regarding proposed improvements to Kitekite Track was addressed by Ken Cowan and Sandra Coney. Sandra indicated that it appears development of the track is being actively pursued by council officers and that a general move to upgrade a number of tracks in the area is being planned. These upgrades may be counter to Waitakere Ranges Heritage Plan and wishes of the local community.

MOTION 3

That the meeting opposes the construction of the two proposed bridges across the Glen Esk Stream near the Kitekite Falls.

CARRIED (with one objection)

Helen Pearce / Hanneke Bouchier

MOTION 4

That the meeting requests that the R&R Committee engages with council to set up consultation on the nature of the all track upgrades and other infrastructure and works being done and planned for the Piha area.

CARRIED

Kath Dewar / Barron Braden

Sandra Coney noted that the Local Board had not been consulted on the track upgrades and the support of the R&R would be helpful.

MOTION 5

That the President's report be received.

CARRIED

Bruce Middleton / Graham Cleghorn

Elections for the 2020 Year

The President announced that the following nominations had been received at the close of nominations on 6 December 2019:

President	Ken Cowan	
Vice President	Hanneke Bouchier	
Secretary	No nominations received	
Treasurer	Graham Cleghorn	
Committee	Barron Braden	Graeme Carrie
	Anna Comrie-Thomson	Warren Smith
	Mike Hales	James Dickenson

Therefore, those nominated are elected unopposed. In accordance with clause 11.2 of the Association's Constitution, the committee may have four officers and up to eight members.

MOTION 6

That the election of committee members be accepted

CARRIED

Ken Cowan / Bruce Middleton

Annual Accounts

Graham Cleghorn spoke to the Financial Report (attached).

MOTION 7

That the Annual Accounts to 31 October 2019 be approved.

CARRIED

Graham Cleghorn / Jan O'Connor

Subscription

MOTION 8

That the annual subscription for membership for the next financial year remain at \$10.

CARRIED

Jan O'Connor / Graeme Webber

PO Box rental

MOTION 9

That the annual fee for PO Box rental remain at \$90 per annum.

CARRIED

Jan O'Connor / Graeme Webber

General business

Historically, no mobile trading has been allowed on Piha Beach or in public areas. In recent years, a surf school has been operating without a trading licence, initially in the Piha Beach carpark and now at the north end of North Piha Road. Despite numerous protests from Piha R&R, council officers have not been enforcing the existing bylaw relating to mobile trading licences.

MOTION 10

That the members of the Piha Ratepayers and Residents Assn strongly advocate for the continuance of the 'No Trading Licence at Piha Policy' currently enforced by Auckland Council in beach, car parks, and public areas, except for specific events

CARRIED:

Ken Cowan / Graeme Carrie

Graeme Weber congratulated the President and committee on achieving 80 years of operation by the Piha R&R.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:19 p.m.