

## PUHOI COMMUNITY FORUM

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 25 April 2023 at 7.30pm at THE PUHOI SPORTS CLUB, CHAIRPERSON – Dustyn O’Leary

1. **In Attendance:** Dustyn O’Leary, Emma Doré, Jenny Schollum, Paul Manton, Greg Taylor, Sorrel O’Leary, John Rehm, Dell Peacock, Ken Sinclair, Sandra Beagley, Brian Titford, Michael Frost.
  2. **Apologies:** Gavin Donaldson, Karen Rehm, Pip Beagley
  3. **Confirmation of the Minutes of previous Meeting held on 28 March**  
  
Moved: Sorrel      Second: Paul      Mins accepted.
  4. **Matters Arising from those Minutes** (not appearing on this Agenda) None.
  5. **Treasurer’s Report – for March –** as previously circulated by Jenny Schollum.  
Accounts show a surplus of \$16,540.05 this year, for the combined accounts.  
Clarification that the income of \$5k from Boffa Miskal was a reimbursement for was requested but not completed. Jenny also provided PLG with a detailed record of their account, showing their income and expenditure.  
Noted that there will be income expected from an insurance claim for the flood-damaged PA system, which has been replaced (expense due for payment to Paul Manton).  
Additional invoices are to be paid to Greg Taylor for work for the PLG.  
Moved: Dustyn      Second: Brian      Payments approved  
Following discussion on the financial report, it was proposed to accept the Financial Report for March. Moved: Paul      Second: Ken      Report accepted.
  6. **Incoming Correspondence:** None received
  7. **Local Board Update:** None received.
- ## 7 General Business
- (i) **ANZAC Day Service**  
A very good service, good turn out, and the new PA worked well. As the organising was rather a rush this year it was a shame that there was no opportunity to organise Māori representation. The meeting notes that we should approach the ANZAC day arrangements earlier next year.
  - (ii) **Working Group Updates**
    - **Road Safety Group-** Ahuroa Rd closure is a significant problem for the community and residents in that area. The local residents are particularly distressed that there is

no communication about what is happening and what the plans are. The meeting reported that visitors and drivers are unaware that the road is closed, due to few / poor signage. There have been attempts to create pathways and tracks to cross the gap, but these are unsafe and we understand that Auckland Transport will be closing or removing these due to safety concerns.

Dustyn as Chair will follow up with AT and the Local Board to request updates and information for the community.

Repairs are underway to fix Krippner Road, which is anticipated to take 2-3 years to complete.

- **Puhi Heritage Museum-** lunch for the Puhoi Day celebrations is now sold out.
- **Puhi Community Garden-** despite flood damage and loss of the mulch, the garden is starting to bounce back. Paul will see if he can obtain more mulch for the garden and for community members as last time. There are some heritage trees which need replacing, and the meeting approves the pre-spend (for reimbursement) by Sorrel and Dusytn.
- **Waiwera Valley Association** – working bees have continued, but has run into some issues with differences of opinion on what work / clean up should be done. Brian has taken on the cutting of trees as he is experienced. There will be another working bee this Sunday, and fingers crossed there will be agreement on what to cut back and remove.
- **Puhi Village Market-** scheduled for this Sunday in the car park and tennis courts by the Sports Club. The park and field are still too wet to use.
- **Civil Defence /Neighbourhood Support-** no update as we know Olivanne is overseas at the moment.
- **Puhi Sports Club** – repairs are ongoing to the clubhouse and sports field.
- **Puhi Landcare Group** – good progress is being made with increasing areas that are under predator control, raising awareness and developing relationships. Greg and the group continue to work with other local organisations- The Forest Bridge Trust, Whitebait Connection, Predator Free 2050 and Restore Rodney East who provide support, some funds and resources. The PPMP has a trapline along the river, but not yet along the park ridge. It is hoped that when community members and volunteers are engaged this and other new traplines can be placed.
- **Puhi Memorial Park** – John reported that a small pathway has been cleared through the giant pile of debris along the river walkway but the debris has been left in heaps on the sides and still requires proper clearing. Sorrel has heard back from Jim Parker about quotes for work discussed at the last meeting. To repair the fence along the walkway, and the boundary fence, and to clear the debris will be \$?? Jim also suggests a solar powered outrigger to ensure the cattle are kept out which will cost \$??. This seems like a good idea and the meeting will come back to this once there is some progress on the fencing.

A quote for slip clearance (2 slips) which is blocking the tracks will be \$?? . The fence repair along the Te Araroa trail will cost \$??. Sorrel will contact the CEO of the Trail to discuss shared costs. It is noted that fence damage caused by cattle should be repaired by the leasing farmer. Sorrel has discussed this and is aware that Mark/Kevin are willing but very busy at the moment. Paul offered to follow up and contact them again to try and speed up the repairs, even if this means that stock must be removed from damaged paddocks.

Sorrel will also try to gain alternative quotes from another local company.

The meeting heard that although some of the planting was totally washed away by the floods, some areas of planting are now bouncing back and thriving.

**(iii) Miscellaneous Items**

- Dustyn informed the meeting of her “adventure” in horse riding up through the park to the ridge. In short, there are significant track blocks and land slips making access for horses unsafe at this time.
- Jenny revisited the agreed Forum plans from some months ago to create plaques describing the trees in the park. This project is on hold for the time being due to so much other work needing attention in the park.
- Sandra informed the meeting that the Puhoi Library is still closed, with no set date to reopen.
- The meeting commented on the location of the Library and the Museum, and wondered if relocations should be seriously considered as future floods are highly probable.
- Michael asked when the motorway would be open. The last intel from NX2 was that this would be in May or June, but the meeting is sceptical given the amount of work we are aware still needs completion.

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