**Matakana Community Group meeting**

**June 2nd 2016**

**Matakana Community Hall 730pm**

**Present** Neville Johnson (acting chair), Eric Henry(Treasurer), Fiona Sowten, Jenni Frances (secretaries), Mike Dixon, Gay Smith, Barbara Souter, Richard Wintle, Chelsea de Berry, Scott McCallum, Murray and Marie, Greg Sayers and Beth Houlbrooke (Rodney Local Board)

Welcome to new members to community – Debra and Bruce

**Apologies** Simon and Robyn Barclay, Amanda Stewart, Trish Allen, Clyde and Farida Cooper

**Minutes** accepted as per email sent out Eric/Barbara

**Weekend display of projects past, present and future** (email update sent from Amanda)

Community engagement event planned for 2-3 days in August or September over a weekend – probably in the Matakana Cinema Foyer TBC.

Virtual tour imagery: weather permitting will get drone shots on Friday and also ground panorama shots at 10-12 locations around Matakana.

Will then start building the custom tour which will then be embedded into the newly developed website.

**IT review** (Chelsea)

Looking at way of presenting the Matakana environment and community in the most effective way via a website. This will involve working with what is already available on line such as the Matakana Village and Matakana Coast websites with perhaps linkages between them.

**Financial Report** (Eric)

As at the 31st of May 2016 00 Account $12480.72

50 Account $92974.47

01 ARST acc $2219.27

**Total $107674.46**

Of the combined balance $11226 is ring fenced from the Matakana Variety Performance 2014.

$8631.00 received from 2016 Fruitloop.

$18 000 transferred from chequeing account to savings.

Funds raised from Fruitloop (including donation from Gull towards event) $8631 which is considerably less than previous years. Costs involved with traffic management were particularly high this year and we need to look at options for next years event to improve on funds raised.

**Jubilee Park**

Work continues to be done to work through the plans. It is understood the decision has been made to remove the Macrocarpa trees.

**Matakana Bridge Project**

Work building the walk/cycleway bridge continues off site and it will be put in place in due course.

Despite some concerns in the community about the final cost of the bridge we are told that the cost came within what was expected by AT after tenders went out for the work. AT had also used the time working in this area to complete some additional work that needed to be done from their perspective which while not directly involved with the bridge have shown up in the total costs to AT.

**Sale of blue bridge** (Scott)

The blue bridge is up for sale on Trademe.

The offer has gone out to other walkway groups in the area to use this bridge if it suits them.

If this offer is taken up it will be donated by us to that project.

**School carpark**

Recent changes to the school Board of Trustees have not affected plans for the carpark by the school. Work continues to progress this project

**Drainage issues in the village**

Water drainage problems across the road from the new subdivision developed along Matakana Valley Road continues to cause concern amongst members in the community.

The settlement pond on the roadside is considered to be a serious safety issue with large volumes of water collecting here rather than draining off.

The council is aware of the issue but there seems to be some indecision about who is responsible for the problems and who should be fixing it.

Concern was expressed at the meeting regarding there being no village plan in place around not only the drainage and roading issues but also how the community wants Matakana to look and feel going into the future.

Ian Hutchinson has worked with the community group and the council in developing a plan involving covering the existing drains and creating parking spaces over the top of them.

The community group were in general agreement with these plans when they were presented in the past but what is happening with them? Murray has been in contact via regular emails with council regarding these drainage issues and will continue to try and find out what is happening.

**Tamahunga bridge**

Scott has done work to clear the track on the Tamahunga Road side of the proposed walkway bridge As a result of this work it can be seen that the retaining wall that was thought to be required here will not be needed so this will reduce costs considerably.

**General Business**

**Northern Action Group (NAG)**

A letter has been received from the Councillor for Rodney on the Auckland Council (Penny Webster) regarding the application NAG have made to the Local Government Commission for local government re-organisation in the North Rodney area that would see part of the Rodney area moving into a separate Council structure.

Alternative applications are sought from the whole Auckland Council areas to these proposals.

Alternative applications can come from any person, body or group and must reach the Commission by **24 June 2016.**

This is an opportunity to express your views on what is working, and what isn't, in terms of Auckland Councils governance arrangements for the Rodney area, and what improvements, if any you consider could be made.

**Local walkway plans**

Simon, Scott, Neville and Chelsea recently attended a meeting of local community and walking groups looking at connecting all the walkway in the area. The initial plans are around connecting Matakana, Snells Beach and Warkworth walkways.

Ideas were put forward regarding developing a loop walkway around Matakana along the banks of the river.

**Reducing the number of signs in the village** (Richard)

Richard has discussed with the appropriate person in council.

They are aware of the problem and will work towards looking at ways to reduce the number of signs in the village but there is a correct process they need to follow to do this.

**Upgrade to the surface of the walkway**

Ras Sutherland has applied to the Local Board for $10,000 towards the concreting of a section of the walkway.

The Rodney Local Board has also received another application from Ras for $10,000 towards an upgrade of the surface of other areas of the walkway that are also causing problems. Otta seal has been suggested which is a bitument mix used for flexible pavements to increase strength, durability and drainage of water.

**Matakana Community Hall Committee** (Mike)

Work is needed with cleaning and general maintenance and repairs around the hall.

A future working bee to be considered for this smaller work.

Future larger items of work being needed are building a proposed rear and side fence, improving heating and underfloor insulation, cleaning or replacing carpets in the meeting room and work needed to reduce puddling on the seal at the front of the hall.

**Fundraising event idea**

Barbara reminded us of a successful fundraising event held in 2007 that she and others are interested in revisiting.

The 'Matakana Kingdom for a Day' event involved 'closing off the borders' of the village with entry requiring the purchase of a 'passport' which allowed the holder admission to various special themed events being held in the village on that day.

The school got involved by dedicating the week to learning around medieval life and times with the making of costumes which the children and parents wore on the day. There was a parade, jousting and the crowning of the Queen and Mayor of Matakana along with many other special events celebrating the day.

This event raised $26,000 and this idea has been put forward by the fundraising group as a possibility to run again. Accepted by all.

**Next MCG meeting 7th July 2016**

**Matakana Community Hall**

**730pm**