**Matakana Community Group Minutes April 2nd 2019**

Matakana Hall meeting Room 7.30pm

**Present** Simon, Liz, Ivan,Robin,Sally, Janis, Fiona,Angela

**Apologies** Scott, Clyde and Ferida (who unfortunatley can’t make the meetings now they have been moved to the Tuesday),Trish, Rachel.

**Minutes March Meeting,** Simon/Liz carried. No matters arising

**Financial Report** Simon/Liz carried.

Matters arising: -Waiting on the GST to be returned from the Tiger Turf payment.

-The MCG finances are in a healthy position at the moment but the MCG needs a regular income to ensure we can meet ongoing costs such as maintenance of the School Carpark and finance new future projects.

-The contributions by residents to the Tamahunga Bridge build are included in the total funds available. It would be very difficult to return these funds to all parties as their details do not appear in the accounts. It was decided that the $6,600 (approx) should be earmarked for tidying up the area and planting around the bridge.

-John/Scott have offered to clear the Sheoaks saplings around the Bridge and create a planting plan.

**Venue**

Unfortunately the Hall isn’t going to be available for the MCG Quarterly meetings so these will have to be held in the small meeting room.

**Grants**

No further applications for grants at present.

**Community Safety**

Simon met withAlana McClintock who is co-ordinating the documents received from all the local groups. Alana is also liaising with Beth.

**Pony Club/Jubilee Park**

The groups that are presently using Jubilee Park (mostly the Pony Club and Tennis Club) will co-ordinate an agreement between themselves and then contact AC with a working solution for Jubilee Park’s use.

The Pony Club want to clear and drain the back part of J P .

This is an area a that could have a number of uses in addition to the Pony Club, such as cricket nets, football goal etc.

It would be nice to have an area for family use with BBQs and seating areas, somewhere as well.

It was noted that the only time parking is a problem at Jubilee Park is on Saturday mornings.

**Matakana Link Road**

Martin Dancy sent a submission to AT on behalf of the groups in this area.

To see the submission go to: <http://www.matakanacommunitygroup.org/transport-and-roading.html>

**Mahurangi Wastebusters**

5 groups presented tender documents to Auckland Council. The time frame is very short as the present contract terminates 1st July 2019.

**Fundraising**

A team has been bought together to look at fundraising options that would give the MCG a regular income. (Karen, Robin, Ivan, Rachel, Liz)

-A donation box has been made and will be installed by the Carpark for donations from the weeekend visitor users.. Thank you Ivan for arranging this.

-Bucket gold coin collection to be made from visitors to Matakana on Holiday W/Es, starting April 20th (Easter Saturday) morning 9am to 1pm whilst the market is running. Still looking for more collectors. Fiona volunteered her time. Thank you Fiona.

-Monthly donations from Matakana Businesses, especially those who benefit from the carpark use, a letter is being composed to be taken around businesses.

-Donations from Matakana residents.

-Give-a-Little site may be used in the future.

Thank you Karen for coming onboard with your professional fundraising skills.

**Matakana Fire Brigade are canvasing for more volunteers.**

**Community Care Group (Janis)**

Janis, Ivan,Kirsty,Angela met at The Sawmill Brewery

Matakana Caring Community meeting at the Sawmill Brewery

29th March 2019

Present

Janis Grummitt

Kirsty McKay

Angela Kinnersley

Ivan Wagstaff

Thank you to Kirsty for allowing us to meet at the Brewery.

Background

The Community Group primarily operates around projects and fundraising events for projects and maintenance. There is also an opportunity to support people and work together as a caring community. As the Matakana area grows, our group could seed processes and events to encourage better social connection.

This meeting was to generate ideas and possibilities for next steps. We had a wide ranging discussion to scope the possibilities and concluded that this is a huge area so we need to start with small, focused activities.

We identified three areas:

1. Support the building of Communities within the community. Many smaller groups are tight communities based on location. Angela lives in one of these at Rainbow’s end; Leigh and Whangateau may also have tight communities. Many others do not get the same social and practical support from their local neighbours

1. Catch people who ‘fall between the cracks’

There are some who may have no local support at all and it is hard to know who these people are:

* People who live in cars around the area
* Those who are unwilling or embarrassed to share their circumstances with close neighbours.
* Those who are so busy with their problems that they have no time to seek help or support.

1. Create a Culture of Community Caring

People who live in the Matakana area could feel proud to be part of a great community overall.

Possible first steps

Support the building of community within community

The ideal would be for us to support the formation of local ‘families’ so that they are able to support their members. Communicating their stories and sharing some ideas could be a first step.

Catching people who fall between the cracks

There are already several effective support mechanisms in this area – examples would be the Free Stall in Matakana and Homebuilders in Warkworth. We could support the supporters or partner with them where they are doing a great job.

We are aware that the community garden already does a good job of supporting Homebuilders financially, but maybe we could offer to communicate about their work or event partner with them to help individuals in Matakana.

The Free Stall does a great job of enabling people to donate to those who really need help without making them feel embarrassed…perhaps we could encourage people to donate more things to it?

A Culture of Community Caring

* We could plan for regular, inclusive, fun events that are inexpensive and not fund raising, but community building. Examples could be a Christmas event that expands beyond the school and includes everyone. A mid-winter event that is for everyone – food trucks, games etc. held at Jubilee Park.
* We could add community building and care to the discussion at out next annual ideas get together.
* We could encourage the school to introduce intergenerational mentoring. A sense of worth is critical for older people, particularly if they are lonely and have lost a partner. Many communities worldwide have school or community sponsored programmes to bring old and young together for mutual benefit. Kids teach oldies technology and oldies teach children life skills and add wisdom. These programmes are very successful and bring whole communities together.
* Some communities start regular ‘drop-in’s for like-minded people. The community garden, Green swap, the tennis club are all existing examples of this. We could ‘seed’ others that are more social and support based. Regular coffee or lunches for singles over 60’s, caring for elder’s lunches, retired runners get-togethers etc.…

Next steps

* Discuss at the MCG monthly meeting
* Clarify priorities and accountabilities
* Ask for a wider response for volunteers
* Approach other external organisations with ideas (School, Homebuilders, other)?
* Take first steps and report back to MCG

This was discussed and a number of ideas put forward.

-Veggies left over from the Green Swap could be put on the Community Garden Stall for people to take.

-MCG could offer to upgrade the free stall in the Village . eg make it more waterproof, put up shelving. Trish has offered to talk this over with the stall holder to see if she would like some assistance.

-It was noted that there are a number of groups already operating services in the area eg.Food Rescue, Homebuilders, Churches. They are mainly located in Warkworth so, maybe, it would be beneficial to talk to these groups to identify needs and collate the services already available.

**Mid Winter Community Event for** everyone in the Community to participate in. This could be held to co-ordinate with the Festival of Lights to be held in Warkworth in July.

-Liz to contact Justin to talk about food trucks at The Hall.

Meeting closed 9pm

Next Meeting April 7th Quarterly meeting. Small meeting room 7.30pm.