**Matakana Community Group Meeting minutes Thursday April 6th 2017**

**7.30pm in the small meeting hall.**

**Present: Simon Barclay, Fiona Longuet-Higgins, Liz Sharek, Cate Astwell, Robin Barclay, Fiona Sowten, Barabara Souter, Gay Smith, Trish Allen, Scott McCallum, Janice Gummit, Amanda Stewart, Valda and Les Paddison, Carol Christy, Neville Johnson, Beth Houlbrooke, Jenny Kerry, Vern Tyerman, Geoffrey Craig, Bianca Howlett, Jenni Francis, Marie Steele.**

**Apologies: Chris Devereaux, Clyde and Ferida**

**Minutes of March meeting read and passed Simon/Trish**

**Financials to end February ratified Simon/Trish**

**Financial statements to end of March (Fiona) read and ratified (Simon/Trish)for circulation with the minutes**

**1)Updates**

**a)Matacarnival (Simon/Barbara)**A huge thank you to Barbara Souter and her team for their enormous effort in organizing this weekend event.

The funds deposited so far are $40,333.97 (to 31st March)and there's more to come. There are apparently further funds raised by The Design Guild. This requires some clarification.

Barbara distributed "thank you certificates" to those present who helped with the event.

**b)Grey Bridge (Scott)** Still looking for its forever home.

**c)Tamahunga Walking Bridge (Simon)** Work should start on the erection of the bridge within 2 months. A huge thank to the residents who contributed to the shortfall in funds who have enabled this to happen.

**d)Jubilee Park (Simon)** The work is almost finished on the the new courts. Lines will be painted on the concrete surface as a temporary measure until the funds can be raised for the Astroturf. David of Auckland Tennis has indicated that they might be able to help fund the final surface once the courts are finished.

Planting (Neville) AC has 500 plants available for the community to use in planting around the tennis courts. These have been ordered and comply to the original plan drawn up by Mike Petre.

**e) Other plantings (Neville)** There may also be plants available from AC for planting around the playground by the wharf but this area needs extensive work to rid it of weeds etc before this can be done. A working Bee to be arranged some time in late May. Neville to liaise with Mike.

Plantings will also be needed around the new Tamahunga walking Bridge site once construction has finished. Maybe the AC will do this as part of the build. But this area will be #2 priority after the tennis courts.

**f) War memorial Neville/Simon)** Some work is required to repair damage before Anzac Day. The dead Rosemary hedge has been replanted. The area needs to be kept open for parades etc.

**g) School Parking (Scott) S**cott showed the meeting a plan of proposed work to be carried out to turn the field next to the school into the School Parking Area. It's a low tech solution developed in consultation with the School and its requirements. Over this winter the slope/drainage will be sorted out and then a 15metre wide metal ring will be laid, in the summer, around the perimeter for angle parking. This should allow for around 60 parks. The entrance and exit will be through the present gate. Maybe we can then apply to AT to install a seperate exit later. Fletchers might be in a position to help with the metalling by the summer.

**h) IT (Amanda)** Work on a new portal is going well. It will co-ordinate access point to all the web sites currently available for the Matakana region eg The Info Centres, MCG, Tennis Club etc.

**i)Community Garden (Trish)** The garden is very productive and surplus produce is being put on the stall. The honesty box is working well.

**2)School Cook Book fundraiser (Kate)**

$150,000 is to be raised to build a covered area over part of the school netball courts to provide an outdoor covered space for sports/community use/ events.

Support is sought from community groups for a grant application. Eg how they might use such a space.

A high quality Cook Book (around 400 pages, 200-250 recipes provided by locals/ chefs of the area etc as well as sections highlighting the local area) ) is being created to help raise funds. This will go to print in early 2018.

**Call for submission of recipes is now out to the community. To submit your foodie masterpiece recipe or to find out more about this project go to** [**www.matakanacookbook.co.nz**](www.matakanacookbook.co.nz%20)

**3)Matakana Cemetry (Valda and Les Paddison)**

Valda is the secretary of The Matakana Cemetery Board of Trustees who run the Matakana Cemetery. It is not council owned and they want to keep it in community hands.

History: First recorded burial in 1861. Opened 23rd October 1875. In 1908 the burial site register was created. Local families bought plots of 8 sites and were responsible for maintaining their areas, however many people have moved out of the area and keeping the cemetery tidy is becoming difficult. The mowing is being done on a voluntary basis but more help is required. There is an annual Working Bee on the last Saturday in November . It was agreed that this should be publicised through the MCG and Jenni Francis' Newsletter.

New Trustees are sought.

**(Amanda)** Suggestions of a Matakana Heritage W/E to be held sometime over the Winter months to hightlight local history. (Cemetery/ Morris and James/ etc)

**(Jenni Francis)** There is a Geocache located in the cemetery. Go to <www.geocaching.com> to find out more.

**4)Mahurangi Waste Busters (Trish)**

A Public Meeting on 20th April in Warkworth Town Hall is to be held at 7.30pm.

This is a very exciting opportunity to develop Resorce Recovery Centres at the Lawrie Road (Snells Beach) and Rusty Brook Road (Wellsford) recycling centres. The leases are coming up for renewal at both sites and Trish Allen is spearheading an initiative to put in a proposal to AC to redevelop these sites as a way of diverting waste from landfill. Expressions of interest are needed by mid May. This is to be a community initiative maybe run in the form of a Charitable Trust with support from the MCG/ Schools/ Hospice/Local Iwi.

Amanda has undertaken to develop a Facebook page when needed.

A grant will be sought to set up the organization.

Cliff Colquhoun CEO of CBEC Kaitaia will partner with MWBs to provide the necessary expertise as well as Treena from The Helensville Community Recycling Centre.

Letter of support to be supplied by the MCG (Proposed Trish, seconded Simon)

**5) Any Other Business**

**A) (Beth Houbrooke RLB)**

a) The Rodney Local Board is holding its monthly public business meeting at The Kaipara Flats Hall on 20th April at 2pm. Anyone is welcome to attend to observe the workings of the board.

b) Grants Applications for up to $30,000 will close on 21st April. This maybe the last opportunity to apply for this type of grant as the grant system is being changed.

**B)** There have been some concerns raised around the safety of people walking from Morris and James' Carpark on Tongue Farm Road at weekends. It was suggested some kind of bollards could be used to separate the walkers from the cars.

**C)**School Crossing. Discussion ongoing as to the best solution. Ideally traffic lights but very cossimontly and traffic volume dependant. AT are going to do another traffic volume count. There have been a number of near misses involving children so please keep Simon informed of any incidents so he can keep up the pressure on AT to trigger a review. Neville/ Amanda suggested looking at Ministry of Education guidelines.

Meeting closed 8.45pm.

Next Quarterly Meeting to be held on May 4th, 7.30pm in the Main Village Hall. TBC.