**Minutes for Warkworth Area Liaison Group**

**Date:**3rd July 2019

**Meeting Opened:** 7:00 pm

**Chairperson:** Hueline Massey

**Attendees:**  21 People

**Apologies:** Richard Papworth, Brian Tuck, Dave Parker, Murray Chapman

**Minutes of last meeting:** Peter Buckton/Warwick Massey

**Guest speakers; Trish Allen and Matthew Luxon**

* Mahurangi Wastebusters have won the contract to run the Lawrie Rd and Rustybrook Rd transfer stations for the next two years. There were two other tenderers for the contract and it was a close-run thing that took longer to decide than was thought. This left Mahurangi Wastebusters with only 8 weeks to set the site up instead of the 5 months that was originally planned for. This has meant that they will only be able to offer waste and green waste disposal services initially, with further recycling, etc services to follow when they can be arranged.
* Lawrie Rd will be open from Thursday to Sunday initially. Customer feedback will be sought as to which days are most convenient to the public. Auckland Council has a lot of remedial work to do at the dump site and this will be done on the other three days of the week over the next couple of years until it’s completed. The Rustybrook Rd site will be open two days a week.
* The set-up of the transfer station will differ from what was there before. A new concept will be implemented where waste will be sorted and things that can be recycled and reused will be separated. This approach has been around in New Zealand for about thirty years and successful operations have been running in Wanaka and Raglan for the last twenty years.
* You can still just dump everything there, but this will be the most expensive option. If you separate out materials that have further use then the dumping cost will reduce accordingly.
* The waste unloading method is to change. The previous way of having vehicles reverse up to the big bins and unload the waste has sometimes meant cars and trailers have toppled into the bins. The new system involves having twin lanes beside low sided bins that people will unload their waste into. If necessary the waste can then be sorted from this bin then the bin will be picked up with a fork hoist and emptied into appropriate bigger bins for removal.
* Eventually there will be demonstrations on worm farming, composting, etc. available.
* There is no market for recycling plastics # 3 – 7 at the moment so these must be dumped. Number 2 and 3 plastics can still be recycled.
* There will be no charge for glass that is sorted by colour as this is a higher value product, but mixed glass is of less value so will incur some charges.
* Timber waste will be separated out and mulched, nails and all. Magnets are then used to extract steel and the wood chips are turned into pellets which are burnt at the Golden Bay Cement works using an ultra-high temperature furnace that has very low emissions.
* An E-waste disposal service will be offered when possible. This will be on a user-pays principle. They will eventually be able to dispose of batteries too.
* Matthew acknowledged the assistance of the Warkworth Mens Shed. There will be an on-going relationship with this group.
* Patte Williams pointed out that there is a big need for a safe and efficient way of disposing of invasive weeds. This is another thing that Mahurangi Wastebusters will be looking into.
* For more information Mahurangi Wastebusters can be found on Facebook or at [www.mahurangiwastebusters.co.nz](http://www.mahurangiwastebusters.co.nz)

**Rodney Local Board Chair Beth Houlbrooke**

* Beth gave a shout out to the friends of the Old Cement Works. Tina Earl and John Tate are leading a group that will be forming an incorporated society to protect and preserve the Old Cement Works as an historic site. The intention is to first clean up and weed the area, and then make safe and open up more and more of it for the public to explore and the community to use. They have lots of good ideas for possible uses for the area. See more on [www.cementworkswarkworth.org.nz](http://www.cementworkswarkworth.org.nz)
* Beth told the meeting that Dr Roger Grace had passed away and a memorial service will be held at the Mahurangi East Community Centre at 2pm on Saturday 20th July.
* The Rodney Local Board budget has been signed off and the board has had all its initiatives approved, including sponsorship of the Kowhai Festival and the Festival of Light. Beth commented that often a grant from the Local Board will make it more likely that an organisation will attract funding from other funders.
* The Hill St pedestrian crossing is still at the design stage after having been originally promised to us by February 2018. NZTA is really dragging its heels.
* Auckland Council has $20million in a Community Safety Fund that is to be distributed at the discretion of the 21 Local Boards over the next two years. Allocation of the money is governed by the crash rates within each Local Board area. Rodney’s high crash rate means it will get $5milllion of this, with $2million to be spent in the first year. The Rodney Board already has several projects that they want to fund, thus it was able to put some of these forward immediately and has had these proposals agreed to.
* Once the Oaks on Neville has been completed there will be a small park landscaped in front of the old hotel. The formation of Te Huihuinga Kowhai, a small park by the Warkworth Library, has also been signed off for construction.
* There was a great turn-out at the recent Pestival. The Local Board has allowed $60,000 in its budget to help people doing planning for pest management programs.
* The suspension bridge project that was to be built near Heritage Lane will no longer be going ahead as one of the affected property owners has decided to withdraw their support for it. A new track will instead be cut through the Atlas site. The bridge project may yet go ahead at a later stage if sentiments change.
* Beth then kindly presented the Warkworth Area Liaison Group with a Rodney Local Board Volunteers Recognition Certificate. This was very much appreciated.

**Transport Forum report (Roger Williams and Dave Stott)**

* Good progress is being made with the Matakana Link Road. There has been an agreement to four-lane at least some of the route, and a tender will be sought for the remainder of the route to be four laned too for potential future use. The hearing and resource consent process is underway but it seems like there could be at least one, and possibly up to four appeals. This could have the effect of delaying the whole project which would mean that its completion date could stretch out to after the opening of the Motorway. Roger and Dave are hoping that the detailed design can proceed at the same time as the appeals are being heard so the project isn’t held up. If this can’t happen the appeals could delay starting the detailed design until the end of the year. This would cause major disruption as traffic moving between Matakana and the motorway would have to make the difficult right turn movement onto State Highway 1 at the Hill St intersection. The traffic build-up from this would be even worse than the current congestion caused by the traffic trying to head back to Auckland from Matakana during peak holiday periods.
* A business case for the Hill St intersection work is to be presented by the end of August so funding can be sought within the next funding cycle. This needs to happen so we at least have money budgeted for the project. Jenny Marcroft, the NZ First MP is taking a strong interest in the Hill St project and has lobbied Phil Twyford to get money allocated to it. To date Twyford has not agreed. The present situation is that nothing at all will be done at Hill St until after the motorway opens, but Jenny has asked Dave Stott and Chris Murphy to put together a paper detailing all the issues that she can use to try and convince Phil Twyford to at least get the detailed design done so construction can start as soon as the funding becomes available.
* A route protection order for the Warkworth –Te Hana stage of the motorway will be lodged next week. Submissions will be sought in July/August and a hearing is expected by the end of the year.
* The Supporting Growth Group was set up by NZTA and AT to advise and assist with infrastructure projects in Auckland. It came up with plenty of good ideas that could have been considered by the Warkworth Structure Plan team, but disappointingly it never came out in time. It is hoped that as the Structure Plan inevitably evolves these ideas will be looked at.
* The Southern Interchange on the motorway will not be considered until the southern development cell starts to be developed. This could be anytime from 10 – 15 years from now. The interchange is still not a sure thing to happen.
* Roger again commented on the importance of authorities using correct traffic data when making planning decisions.
* Beth pointed out a very positive thing that has come from all the work members of our community have put in trying to get transport issues progressed. This is that our community have really pulled together and spoken with a unified voice over the issues we’ve faced. This is proving to be a strength for projects we are advocating.

**One Warkworth (Dave Stott)**

* Three major events coming up. The first is the Great Scone Bake-off. This is a new event which is starting on Saturday 6th July and will run monthly on the first Saturday of each month. All of Warkworth’s cafes that open on Saturday will be baking scones that can be sampled free-of-charge between 9 and noon. People can then vote to decide the winner of the Scone of the Month.
* The monthly women’s networking evening will be held on Thursday July 4th. This month it will be at Matakana Botanicals
* The Mahurangi Festival of Lights will be held this month. The first event in this is on the 12th July at Leigh, followed by an event at Snells Beach on the 18th July and then on the 19th and 20th of July there will be a number of events in Warkworth including the laser show. This festival was a great success last year, despite wet weather, so make sure you catch it this year.
* AT approached One Warkworth to discuss a round-about that is to be constructed at the Queen St/Mill Lane intersection. Advise was sought for the position of an associated pedestrian crossing too, with the likely position being further down Queen St towards Paper Plus. The construction of the round-about will probably start early next year.

**General Business**

* Roger advised the meeting that submissions on the Council’s private plan change 25 on the Stubbs Farm Estate development closes on the 5th July. He thinks that the plan proposed by Turnstone for this development is generally very good. He is putting in a submission on behalf of WALG (this is attached) centred on the need to get the main road through the development constructed quickly.
* Roger also reported that the recent Pestival held in the Warkworth Town Hall was a great success. About a hundred people attended and it was very heartening to see the number of people determined to help eradicate pests. The main focus was on animal pests. What was made clear was the need for workshops to be run on pest control methods, and how important a coordinated effort will be to maximise the efforts. The Local Board put money towards the initiative which will hopefully spur other funders to contribute too.
* Terry told the meeting that the demand for food bank parcels is up 40% on last year. All donations gratefully received.

**Meeting Closed:** 9.00 pm. Next meeting is on July 3rd at 7-00pm