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| **Mercury Bay South Residents and Ratepayers Association**  **Meeting Minutes** | | | | | |
| **Time / Date:** | 4:00 pm Sunday, 17th April, 2022 | **Venue:** | Harcourts Real Estate, Cooks Beach | | |
| **Attendees:** | **Committee**  Steve Lloyd, Bruce Philpott, Tom Riddle, Paulette Tainsh, Cyndy Lomas, Paul Hopkins,  Guests  Penelope Aston, Jean and Bob Kilham | | | | |
| **Apologies:** | Dal Minogue, Kane Jones, Chris Harris , Dave Baardman | | | | |
| **Keen Supporters** | Thanks to Paulette and Hendry Tainsh for being so accommodating and providing a permanent space to meet and provide photocopying. The Association thanks you: | | | | |
| **ITEM** | **DISCUSSION** | | | **ACTION** | **WHO** |
| **Warm Welcome**                    **Financial Report**              **Subs Online**    **Freedom Campers**              **Tina Bartlett**  **Contributions the MBSRRA could gift to the Hall Committee.** | The committee sends a warm welcome to our Guests who showed a keen interest in proceedings. Thankyou    Minutes from last mtg.            **Matters arising from minutes**  Invoice notifications have been worked through. Jean Kilham kindly offered her time and expertise regarding the above and auditing books. Thanks Jean **Date 23rd June**  **Opening Balance** $8,788.47  **Subs Paid** $20  **Xero**- $50.02  **Interest** 0.61 **Total**\_**$8759.06** as at 10th June  $8.759.06 as at 10th June  **To be banked** $95  **Term Deposit** $6,703.10  **Grand Total $15,557.16**  **Freedom Camping**  Cyndy Lomas will post a questionnaire on the website, available to members, to ascertain thoughts and future direction.  The TCDC Freedom Camping Bylaw has lapsed. TCDC will soon be notifying their proposed new Freedom Camping Bylaw for consultation and submissions.  The Freedom Camping Act 2011 states that **freedom camping** means to camp (other than at a camping ground) within 200m of a motor vehicle accessible area etc… in a tent, caravan, car, campervan, house truck or other motor vehicle. However, the local authority may make bylaws where freedom camping is **restricted** or **prohibited** if it is necessary to protect the area, the health and safety of people who may visit the area and to protect access to the area….. In **restricted** freedom camping areas, only self-contained motorhomes or caravans are permitted to use the area.  The entire Cooks Beach Reserve area is a **prohibited** freedom camping area other than the Purangi Reserve freedom camping area which was **restricted** and allowed for 6 freedom camping vehicles. There have been ongoing issues with freedom camping at the Purangi Reserve and, realistically, it is no longer appropriate for it to continue being located there because;   1. Inadequate monitoring and enforcement by TCDC 2. The ongoing issues and history of multiple vehicles (up to 40 at times – should be 6 maximum). 3. the frequent use of the surrounding shrubs, bushes, and long grass as a public toilet, with the health and safety and environmental impact of the resultant human waste. 4. The increasing number of visitors at the Purangi end of the beach and the consequent pressure on resources. 5. The Purangi Reserve being identified as an overflow parking area for boaties with trailers who are now required to pay $200 a year when they park there. 6. As taken from Penelopes notes   **Alternatives**   * Motor Home Association buy Land (It does not need to be at Cooks Beach) * The old Dog Dosing Strip   *NB Freedom Camping does not mean no cost It means the freedom to Roam.* | | | Paulette moved they be accepted, Seconded Cyndy Lomas          Moved Cyndy Lomas  Seconded Bruce Philpott                [Subs online](https://mercurybaysouthratepayers.weebly.com/mercury-bay-south-ratepayers-membership-form.html)        To help co ordinate ideas regarding this project with Paulette Tainsh  Cyndy to ask Council how many infringements they get over a years period  Cyndy Lomas to put a Questionnaire on the website. | [Paulette Tainsh](mailto:paulette.tainsh@harcourts.co.nz)    [Paulette Tainsh](mailto:paulette.tainsh@harcourts.co.nz) |
| **Road Safety**                                  **Lake Weed**  **Introduction of Grass Carp**                                **Erosion at The Cairn**  **Purangi Estuary Upgrade**                **Toilet Upgrade at Western End of Beach**  **Cooks Stream**              **Flaxmill Beach**                                        **Planting behind the Fire Station needs maintenance**    **Lakes and Exotic plant life and Animals**            **Increase in Rates**        **Next Meeting** | There needs to be a resubmission of requests for Road Calming measures at Cooks Beach, Flaxmill Bay, Ferry Landing during Consultative process engineered by [Ed Varley](mailto:ed.varley@tcdc.govt.nz) ( Council)  Road Safety Submission( Discussion, to provide insights into what we want to see in our  submission)   * Road Calming measures at the entrance of Flaxmill Bay * 30K Speeds at Ferry Landing, Cooks Beach Village and Purangi Estuary. In addition Road Calming Measures for Ferry Landing * Signage at Longreach / Purangi Junction * 30K Speeds at Longreach playground. Signage to alert people that there are children around this area * Road Speed for the Purangi 60K from Longreach to Flaxmill Bay * Markings on Capt Cook Rd at the village for non-parking as presently the visibility is poor when accessing the road from the Village Town Centre     A discussion followed regarding the effectiveness of Spraying. One of our Ratepayers wrote an email regarding the toxicity of Diquat and it was ascertained it was very limited with regards to toxicity. It was noted the scale that it is 1 scale less toxic than nicotine and 2 scales less toxic than caffeine!    The gel mixture (to sink it) is made of guar gum a food thickener commonly used in the manufacture of ice cream.    Refer following link;  [diquat.pdf (niwa.co.nz)](https://niwa.co.nz/sites/niwa.co.nz/files/import/attachments/diquat.pdf)        An action to contain weed growth could be the introduction of grass carp in the Lakes. DOC can only approve of the introduction of Grass Carp. There may be negative consequences if introduced. It was felt there was not enough knowledge to help implement this. There may be gains or dire unitentional consequences.  **Post meeting**  More knowledge was given to enlighten the committee on developments of in other areas who have introduced Grass carp successfully. This will be tabled at our next meeting.  \* The lakes drain to the sea. Can these fish survive in salt water?  \* Understand these fish cannot breed in NZ waters?  \* Do they have any natural enemies?  \* Being herbivores they only survive by eating weed and do not bother  other fish types e.g., eels?  \* Indicatively what would be the approximate costs to place carp in a  lake with the above areas (approx. 4 hectares)? N.B. whilst cost is for the  Council, knowing this gives us the ability to compare against diquat  spraying and make recommendations accordingly.  <http://www.nzwaterways.co.nz/stormwater-ponds/>  Lately it has been noted that erosion has had its way at the Cairn Cooks Beach and pushbacks of sand, and planting has not worked. There is an urgent need to investigate this. A suggestion of Groynes to facilitate a backup of sand was discussed.  The Purangi is a destination hotspot for Cooks Beach. A letter regarding future developments and ideas was discussed. It was reiterated that a bespoke playground, showers, and reconfiguration of parking be implemented. Overflow of Parking could be earmarked for the opposite area to cater for families.          **General Business**  An upgrade of Toilets is needed in this area. Questions Posed   * Are they on Sewage * Is there a bore             Jamie Boyle is investigating Erosion and Sue Costello is managing the creation of a new channel as it is undermining the path. Realignment of the stream is a cheaper option rather than configuring the pathway. Minutes from Easter Meeting  Through contacting Jamie Boyle (Coastal Engineer) delays were consigned to gaining permission from Heritage NZ. A pamphlet was tabled showing the proposed date for planting 23rd July working with the local community.  Next Meeting: 25th September at 4 pm Harcourts                                      Freedom Camping Bylaw has expired, and it is up to us to finalize where to accommodate them        Liz de Vere has brought it to our attention that lighting is needed for the Walkway from the Fire Station to the Village  .  This area needs to be maintained regularly        There is a big stagnation problem at the Lakes due to the encroachment of weeds. A letter will be sent to Greg Roache regarding frequent eradication program. Also, there was noted that the population of Turtles has increased. Post meeting: This has been completed by David        This was discussed, with Paulette investigating if rates were related to the Current valuation and improvements. Cyndy Lomas to notify Ratepayers of the timetable to make submissions to Council in the next newsletter.    Queens Birthday Weekend Sunday 5th June at Harcourts Cooks Beach 4 pm | | | Team to organise the process is [Bob Nicholls](mailto:bobnicholls@xtra.co.nz)  [Dal Minogue](mailto:bobnicholls@xtra.co.nz)  [Cyndy Lomas](mailto:gandclomas@xtra.co.nz)                        Steve Lloyd will be overseeing this issue by keeping in regular contact with Council and Greg Roache                David Barrdman to investigate this and table it at our next meeting                      Cyndy will contact Jamie Boyle inviting him to our next meeting  Paul Hopkins to facilitate and present to Council  Paulette will investigate and contact Council regarding this.  Bruce Philphott oversees this area.  Cyndy to confirm  Dates and advertise in newsletter and on website. | [Bob Nicholls](mailto:bobnicholls@xtra.co.nz)  [Dal Minogue](mailto:bobnicholls@xtra.co.nz)  [Cyndy Lomas](mailto:gandclomas@xtra.co.nz)  [Ed Varley](mailto:ed.varley@tcdc.govt.nz)                            [Steve Lloyd](mailto:cooksbeachlawnmowing@gmail.com)  [Greg Roache](mailto:greg.roche@tcdc.govt.nz)                              [Gray Jamieson](mailto:weedkill@nzwm.co.nz)  [David Baardman](mailto:davebaardman89@gmail.com)  [Greg Roache](mailto:greg.roche@tcdc.govt.nz)  DOC Link  <https://www.doc.govt.nz/footer-links/contact-us/office-by-name/?mode=details&office=306>            [Cyndy Lomas](mailto:gandclomas@xtra.co.nz)  [Jamie Boyle](mailto:Jamie.Boyle@tcdc.govt.nz)      [Sue Costello](mailto:sue.costello@tcdc.govt.nz)  [Heather Bruce](mailto:heather.bruce@tcdc.govt.nz)  [Paul Hopkins](mailto:kiwihoppy@xtra.co.nz)          [Sue Costello](mailto:sue.costello@tcdc.govt.nz)  [Heather Bruce](mailto:heather.bruce@tcdc.govt.nz)  [Paulette Tainsh](mailto:paulette.tainsh@harcourts.co.nz)  [Bruce Philphott](mailto:bruce_philpott@xtra.co.nz) |
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