

POKENO COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting of Pokeno Community Committee held at Pokeno Tennis Club Hub, Avon Road on Monday 01 July

Present

Helen Clotworthy (Chair), Ginny Bullock (Secretary), Bronwyn Heath, Mike Holroyd

Councillors: Vern Reeve, Kandi Ngataki

Visitors: Will Gauntlett (WDC)

4 members of the public

Apologies

Janet Baillie, Allen Grainger, Ian Leader, Councillor Vern Reeve (arrived later)

Moved Helen Clotworthy

Seconded Mike Holroyd

Confirmation of Status of Agenda

Moved Helen Clotworthy

Seconded Mike Holroyd

Confirmation of previous minutes 28 May 2024

Kandi Ngataki advised that Ted Ngataki's name was incorrectly spelled and that the correct name be amended in the current minutes

Moved Helen Clotworthy

Seconded Bronwyn Heath

Disclosures of interest

The register of disclosures of interests is no longer included on agendas but PCC members still have a duty to disclose any interests under this item to the Chairman

PUBLIC FORUM

A member of the public (Elaine Lawrence) raised the question of the spelling of the name of our town. She said that there was a recent public meeting to learn of the background of the name change where the Pokeno Community had an opportunity to express their concerns. It was unanimously voted that there should be no change in the spelling and this was clearly advised by PCC to the mayor and councillors.

Elaine said that a referendum should be offered to the public of Pokeno regarding the spelling to see what residents want and this should be binding. Any changes should be advised in plenty of time to allow submissions

She also raised 1 Market Street and how the suggested use of the "Men's Shed" will attract trouble from illegal usage.

Helen advised that the Men's Shed is designed to support men in the community - men's health, cross-cultural and ultimately creating a social enterprise with the help of MBIE. It will not be a foodbank

Council to make final decision as the land is designated for a future railway station

Elaine also asked for the costs for the main street development and how much the delays at the roundabout have cost. She wants to know if these delays will be charged to the ratepayers. Will Gauntlett to follow up

Mr John Lawrence advised that he made a submission regarding the rates on the council website and did not receive an acknowledgement nor a response. Will Gauntlett will follow this up

CORRESPONDENCE

In: Various emails from WDC forwarded by Secretary Ginny Bullock to all committee members.

Out: Nil

REPORTS

Councillor's report

Kandi Ngataki advised that there are by-laws up for submissions – Animal Control, Road closures for motor sports. She spoke about footpaths between Pokeno School and Lakeside to enable safety for children walking along Pokeno Road. There is no capacity for footpaths on Avon Road between SH2 and Fraser and Dean Roads as there are insufficient grass verges on Avon Road making it dangerous for children attending the Tennis Club to walk/cycle there. Mike said that there was a plan for a back entrance walkway from Munro Road to the school but nothing has been done about this. Will Gauntlett to follow up and advise back

Enhanced Annual Plan

10 year plan is actually 9 year plan as there is a one year interim plan for 2024 so LTP will be looked at again in 2025 until 2033. ATP was adopted for the next 12 months at council meeting last week.

Water costs effective 2024/5 will revert to council due to Watercare no longer supporting Pokeno water

Rates reduced to 11.75% from 13.5%

A question was raised about developers and how much they are contributing to infrastructure

Many residents moving out of Pokeno due to high council rates and high mortgage rates. 135 houses are for sale in the area at present

It was mentioned that Allen Grainger attends all council meeting regularly to get updates and to query council decisions and is the only chairman to do so. He then passes any information received back to the Committee

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Strategy and Growth / Pokeno Realm

Ginny Bullock reported that the main street is nearly complete. Just waiting for concrete seating and some final plantings

Pedestrian crossing lights are now connected.

Concrete barriers have been installed at Market Street and Marlborough Street to replace water filled barriers which were damaged

Roundabout is now moving ahead and should be completed in early October.

Helen advised that there is a meeting at the Hall on Tuesday 02 July with Patrick from WDC and the public is invited

Moved Ginny Bullock

Seconded Helen Clotworthy

Treasurer's report

Helen Clotworthy advised that we have received a \$10000 grant from the Council Discretionary Fund. Pokeno has not received any grants from this Fund before, whereas other Committees/Boards have received an annual grant.

This is a one-off grant for use towards events such as the Santa Parade, etc.

There will be no further grants and any further funding should be sourced from other entities



PCC Savings Plus 9
April 2024 - 1 July 20



PCC Society
Account 9 April 2024

Moved Helen Clotworthy

Seconded Ginny Bullock

Communications

Website is being updated. This has been delayed but should be ready soon.

Helen, Bronwyn and Elaine Lawrence will meet at a later date to put together a strategy for getting local businesses on board to raise more funds for the committee for community projects. Elaine has many vibrant ideas to assist PCC.

Events

Helen advised that Matariki celebrations last week were very successful and the tent in the car park was a great idea

Facilities

Skatepark. Fundraising needed to complete the project. A consultant has been asked to present some options, but this report has not been received to date

Munro Road widening has been delayed due to flooding.

Community Hub. Preference is Option 1. No response from council as to when works might commence. Will Gauntlett to report back.

Toilets. 8 new toilets have been installed and are just waiting for sewerage to be connected. Container toilets will then be removed
Little library is being added at the road end of the toilets and when complete the library at the hall will be moved

NEIGHBOURING COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

KEY WORKS PROGRAMMES

Will Gauntlett (WDC) advised that no date has been set for public submissions on the **marae** project on Avon Road.

Council must adhere to the Reserves Act and also to the Resource Management Act. Council has to advise the intention to grant a lease and to reclassify from reserve to marae use and then go to Resource Management to apply for approval.

Consenting issues and road upgrades have not been assessed at this stage. If council supports leasing land for the marae any services and road upgrades will need to be considered as part of the consenting process.

Ginny Bullock said that it is essential that any approvals be publicly notified with time for the public to make submissions. Council must be seen to be open and no private consents should ever be granted.

There are no plans for any public funding for this project

Whangarata Cemetery

This has been used as a dog park in recent times. However as Tuakau and Pokeno cemeteries are nearly full, the cemetery will be required in the short term so the use for dog walkers will be banned shortly. They can still use the Avon Road dogpark

A discussion took place regarding the name of the cemetery. Tuakau wants Tuakau-Whangarata. It was decided by PCC that it should just be Whangarata Cemetery as it is halfway between Pokeno and Tuakau and will serve both communities

Decision will be made by WDC on 16 July

Security Cameras

Operation is based in Hamilton and cameras are operated by Hamilton Crime Prevention. Pokeno is governed by Counties Manukau Police and the 2 systems do not connect. Vern Reeve advised that discussions are taking place between both police divisions as to how the cameras can be operated

Will said to use the “squeaky door” to keep reminding council regarding our cameras

Munro Road

Road is due to be closed for up to 4 months for widening and for flood protection to enable access to Sports Park. This has been delayed

GENERAL BUSINESS

Fabio Rodrigues from GAS Pokeno raised the question of the additional costs due to delays for various reasons of the roundabout at Great South Road/Pokeno Road. He wants to know costs and how much of this has been charged to developers and how much is covered by insurance and how much to ratepayers.

Will Gauntlett to report back to PCC with these figures

Delays to the upgrades has cost businesses in Pokeno up to 50% of their annual income and delays are still happening.

Helen Clotworthy advised that she had complained to the mayor and within 24 hours, most of the northbound traffic cones had been removed as far as Pokeno Hall.

Vandalism of the water filled traffic barriers has necessitated the use of concrete barriers for both Market and Marlborough Streets until roading is completed

Fabio was advised of the meeting with the WDC operations manager at Pokeno Hall on 02 July and encouraged to attend to raise his concerns

Meeting closed at 8.33 pm

MEETING DATES 2024

Monday 12 August

Monday 23 September

Monday 04 November

Monday 16 December