

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF OMAHA BEACH COMMUNITY INC. ("OBC")**

Held at the

OMAHA BEACH COMMUNITY CENTRE

AT 10.00AM SUNDAY 22 JANUARY 2023

Present: 51 members were present. Included in the numbers were OBC Committee members Chris Allan (President), Murray Beatson (Vice President), Rohan Meuli (Treasurer), Rob Zubielevitch (Secretary), Rob Macready, Paul Head, Simon Martin and Paul King.

- 1. WELCOME:** Chris Allan welcomed everyone noting Councillor Greg Sayers from Auckland Council and Ivan Wagstaff from Rodney Local Board as guests.
- 2. APOLOGIES:** Secretary noted apologies from Terry Brailsford (OBC Committee), Richard and Eleanor Brabant and Sally Blyth (OBC Committee)
- 3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:** It was noted the Minutes of the meeting held on the 9th January 2022 were on the OBC website. Minutes were confirmed as being a true and correct record of that meeting. Moved by Chris Allan and seconded by Rohan Meuli.
- 4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2022:** Chris Allan noted his President's Report was included in the OBC Summer Newsletter and also on the OBC Website Chris also commented on the importance of the community communicating and taking part in Council surveys e.g. Freedom Camping where the response was poor.
There are two surveys coming up in the near future - Local Board Structures and Auckland Council Budget - and Chris urged the members to have their say.
Chris also discussed the cameras being erected at the Surf Club and Carpark and how we ask the businesses nearby to contribute to the cost. Chris introduced the OBC Committee members to the attendees.
- 5. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS:** Rohan Meuli presented the OBC's Annual Accounts ending 31 October 2022, addressing members with the OBC's

funding position. The Accounts were accepted. Moved by Rohan Meuli and seconded by Chris Allan.

- 6. CONFIRMATION OF ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FEE FOR 2023:** Rohan proposed that the Annual Subscription remain at \$90.00. Seconded by Chris Allan and a show of hands by the members.
- 7. COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Chris advised members that, there being no new nominations for committee members, the current committee have all agreed to stand again for a further year.
- 8. OMAHA BEACH SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB: (SURF CLUB).** President Linda Crisford thanked the community for their support. The club now has 670 members. Linda urged members to come down on Sunday mornings to man the BBQs. The club also needs sponsorships in the three categories-Gold, Silver and Bronze. Linda thanked Rochelle McLaren for the trailer donation and also Judith Herbert for the disabled wheelchair which was on show at the meeting. David Stone has agreed to be the custodian of the wheelchair.
Linda thanked Sally Blyth for having the guts to write about her experience getting into difficulty while swimming in the OBC newsletter. She reiterated that Omaha can be a dangerous beach at times.
- 9. OMAHA SHOREBIRDS PROTECTION TRUST: (OSPT)** Rob Zubielevitch, Trustee, spoke on behalf of the Trust. He explained the cat education program in conjunction with Auckland Council and Landcare Research for property owners and the issue of cats entering the sanctuary. Other predators include stoats and rats. Human behaviour is also an issue as are dogs. Rob talked about the new Facebook page and the need for the local community to support and protect the sanctuary.
- 10. INSITE SECURITY:** Scott Donaldson spoke about the cameras which are near the Surf Club and Carpark which are due for completion shortly. Scott said the patrols have been reasonably quiet this season mainly due to poor weather. There was a possible problem on New Year's Eve but they managed to contain it. The local concerts were generally well-behaved.
- 11. RODNEY LOCAL BOARD:** Ivan Wagstaff introduced himself and noted he was new to politics but looked forward to the challenges. While not living in Omaha, he had been and still is a very regular visitor and now, as a stay-at-home dad, walks his dog daily on Omaha beach. He invited any

Omaha residents to approach and talk with him at any time during these regular visits. He acknowledged the good new Local Board.

He looked forward to meeting regularly with the OBC Committee. Ivan noted the Council's financial position, and that some cost cutting was required, but noted that this would have to come from the Local Board's small discretionary budget allocation.

12. AUCKLAND COUNCIL: Greg Sayers, our Rodney representative on Auckland Council spoke to us about the new mayor, Wayne Brown and the way he is setting out the program for the years ahead. The Council has financial difficulties but the mayor and councillors are looking at ways to keep rates down. This may involve selling assets such as shares in Auckland Airport.

13. GENERAL BUSINESS: (comments from the floor)

Paul Head OBC Committee Member: Paul provided some observations on his first year on the committee and his surprise at just how much the group does across a wide range of topics. He reinforced the need for community members to submit to Council when issues arise and also invited anyone interested in joining the committee to get in touch

Road Cones: Greg Sayers was asked if Auckland Council owned the company that supplied the road cones. Answer – No

Dog Signage: David Stone raised the issue with dog signage as his wife had been bitten by a dog near the Surf Club. That is being looked at.

Greg Sayers: Greg also mentioned that it has been difficult getting mayors to visit the area and has arranged for Mayor Brown to visit both Warkworth and Wellsford. Omaha Committee and others will be attending.

Stormwater: a question was raised about progress on stormwater issues. Rob Macready replied on behalf of the committee and updated the group on the current situation.

New Motorway: Greg was asked when the new Puhoi to Warkworth motorway would be finished. Although he had not been told by the authorities, he thought around winter time.

David Stone: Proposed a vote of thanks for the OBC Committee's efforts

MEETING CLOSED: Chris Allan declared the meeting closed at 11.45am.