

Minutes of OBRA General Meeting held on 4 April 2021 at 5pm at Biel's Shed, Opito Bay.

Present: Chris Severne (Chairman), Paul Cook (Treasurer), Cheryle Parker-Willoughby (Secretary), Glenn & Nicola Sycamore, Grant & Gwilton Beale, Sue Edens, Mike & Fiona Taler, Geoff Martin, John Calder, Grant, Craig & Cassie Roe, Brian Cameron, Jonathan Hope, Grant Northcott, Tony Fox (TCDC)

Apologies: Chris Pullin, Jan Berrins, Chris Mygind, Greg & Jane Farrant, Johnnie Teat, Murray Mclean Reka, Percival Perry, Alan Tiplady (TCDC), Laurie & Peter Robinson, Terry Costello, Wally Leighton, Kim Ellett, Brian & Patsy King.

Acknowledge successful Easter BBQ held yesterday for our OBRA members and guests.

Welcome to ***Tony Fox TCDC Councillor for Mercury Bay area.***

Minutes from previous meeting dated 23 January, 2021 accepted. **Sue/Jonathan – all agreed**

Matters arising from the Minutes on Agenda items

Scallop Ban

Notices published in local and national newspapers and through websites. Submissions have been lodged on behalf of OBRA and we would ask individual submissions to help support the process and send in prior to deadline. Submissions that are more individual have better impact. Meeting 14 April with Legacy, Ngati Hei and other interested parties. Massive step forward from October last year to date. This now covers from Opoutere to Whangapoua, sustainable bed with no dredging.

Grant Northcott invited to talk about current process and update.

Paul - Generous contributions from Opito and Matarangi for funding has started. Record and acknowledge those donations.

Chris – 50 sites, measuring 5metre area the state of seabed, scallops as well with other research. Sustainable fisheries area 1.2M hectares.

Reserve Management Proposal

Presented submissions' to the Council and Mayor, we asked a few questions. Document what we wanted is now with TCDC. Timeframe three months.

Biosphere Initiative

The 6-Pillars – from Wharekaho to Rings Beach, groups interested in environmental protection for the peninsula approximately 8,000 hectares. Kuaotunu Peninsula – including pest control, night sky,

Ngati Hei work with pest trapping, approaching Trusts and Waikato Regional Council for extensive trapping. Meeting end of May environmental groups who have an interest, where do we go from now?

Idea we need to protect the area on conservation lands (not private property). Currently working with groups- **Chris**

Correspondence

Roading – \$2.1M sealing cost, 3.1 km road \$330K, unsealed \$536K sealing will not happen for next 10 years, several requests with corrugations tidied up on Blackjack Road.

Treasurer's Report

As tabled, did a budget, current level of subscriptions will not cover our projections, donations help to support our initiatives. Increase subscriptions proposed, we received subs from 160 out of 250 households, there are some who do not contribute to their subscription. Email goes to everyone regardless if they are paid up members. It will be nice to get that number up. Everyone can help the process by checking with his or her neighbours and friends and sending us contact email addresses so we can follow up - **Paul**

Significant projects, green waste we will introduce moderate charges, as we cannot afford to pay it fully, but it will be subsidized by OBRA.

In solid financial position, do have significant plans – **Paul**

Jonathan– need emails of those not paying subscriptions as it holds up progress.

There are 250 sections in Opito Bay, excluding new subdivision. Talked about at committee today and will try to get contact details from those not included. We hope to have emails from those but will do a door knock at Christmas if needed, volunteers can help - **Paul**

Chris – outlining all positive things we do including relationship with TCDC and what OBRA has achieved. Marketing on our Facebook pages and through newsletters.

Mike Taler – TCDC newsletter be included, sometimes you just don't get everyone to pay up.

Green Waste Collection

Closed for two years, last collection Tricky Trees cost the ratepayers, an expensive exercise. It took a lot of time to clear. The big piles from ratepayers, they individually paid additional costs to cover.

Cost for green waste collection will be \$40 per household; they will collect during Labour Weekend and Easter. This is still cheaper and more convenient than removing yourself. Only acceptable material is permitted, as it goes through the chipper.

Gwilton – did it help reduce the non-accepted waste items?

Paul –Tricky Trees do not take any green waste not acceptable.

Wilding Pines

Aaron Power - Opito Bay has \$50K allocated for wilding pines, appointing a Project Manager to get the groups together and do Community plan. Doing work on wilding pines May this year with a lot of community groups on board. Each area will be looked at for cutting, poisoning depending on areas and positioning of wilding pines.

Chris – Pines they use poison to ensure the seeds become infertile.

Aaron – 6-8 months will see something happening in the bush by Christmas. Plan goes for up to ten years, and we are spending this year's budget before we lose it.

Rahui

Grant Northcott presentation begins area from South Kennedy Bay to Opoutere.

Ministry signed research project with NIWA beginning May/June, busy doing survey and then doing the data to manipulate and work on, is reported to be available June 2022.

MPI initiative. Home Bay and Opito Bay included in that survey. Also backed up additional survey to complement the local survey. Expect them to take more notice of their accepted survey by MPI, 2012 last survey done.

Bringing together local iwi, community groups, using Opito as a case study and benchmark site across the East Coast. Funded for five years and larger ecology, Scallop sustainability as part of that.

Timeframe, March next year, in the meantime talk and seminar about lifecycle of scallops. Will notify ratepayers when this will happen.

Jonathan – voluntary ban, how are the commercial boats dredging with GPS in the Bay.

Minister to decide if it is a 'No take to commercial and dredging practices'. Need to put submissions in to **support the Rahui, due May 17 closing date.**

Paul – prefer a submission with instructions for making your own submission.

Other communities also supporting the initiative. We have a process in place

John – Hippo to Rabbit, trajectory of the line. Photographs taken.

Paul – monitor what happens when commercial scallop season opens 15 July – 21 December (commercial scallop season Coromandel), send photographs to Legacy if you are concerned. There is a ground swell also to other areas and it will be difficult to object to this.

Qwilton – Media person. If there are breaches, having media here on 15 July, they start midnight; can Legacy be ready for it?

Paul – It is mainly the commercial dredges that are the issue.

Pest Free Opito

Craig update – started formally end of last year, 64 in our system from existing and 40 new traps.

App gives us good reporting. Full coverage each end of the Bay, start into Stewarts Stream area.

Rachel has been doing an awesome job. Want 100 more traps or funds towards it, in order to progress the work we as volunteers do, this is much appreciated. My address: 50 Opito Bay Road, 10am how to bait/clear/monitor traps, come for more detail and how you can help (Easter Monday). App is on your phone and can be downloaded. Have some possum traps who wants to buy them, see Rachel or myself.

Blackjack Road – upgrading TCDC has improved the state of the roads, ongoing.

Logging trucks – We haven't had an issue, Vella Farms made aware and being more mindful of cars when transporting logs out of the area.

Other Business

Moloks

We have indicated our disapproval to TCDC of our Moloks being proposed to be removed. We have objected with OBRA doing our own survey = 147 yes to retain them / 2 against who would like them removed (due to traffic going past their road or the mess left by some people who use it as a dump!).

These can all be mitigated with more efficient and sustainable uses for the Moloks and area. The convenience and reduction of waste on our beachfronts far outweighs the removal of them –**Cheryle**

Chris – putting a formal submission in to TCDC close 16th April.

Paul – requested costs from TCDC to sustain Moloks = \$17K. Tony aware of the feelings of the community.

Tony – Reserves managed by a new outfit. Solid waste district funding, new Waste Management Plan finally being designed to make things better for recycling. Communications went around were not very good. Make your voices known, I sympathise with you and put your submissions in as other community organisations have done.

Opito Bay & South groups, a lot of progress and thanks to those pushing things forward. There are things happening now. Wilding pines, Biosphere programmes. People use own time to contribute; we are amazed and appreciative of those who volunteer their time and energy to projects.

Thank you to Tony for attending.

Reserves Commercialisation discussion

Dive & Coffee cart at Stewart Place discussion

Meeting closed at 6.05pm

Minutes of AGM of Opito Bay Ratepayers Association (OBRA)
held on Sunday April 4th, 2021
at Biel's Shed, Blackjack Road, Opito Bay, Coromandel at 6pm

Present; Chris Severne (Chairman), Paul Cook (Treasurer), Cheryle Willoughby-Parker (Secretary), Craig Roe, Sue Edens, Nathan Tesslar, Glen Sycamore (Committee Members) plus attendees as noted on General Meeting list held at 5pm today.

Apologies: (as noted on General Meeting held at 5pm today)

Minutes of last meeting dated approved

Moved: Quilton 2nd Glen Sycamore

Agreed & accepted

Matters arising from the Minutes – none

Chairperson's Report read out as emailed and attached

Moved: Chris 2nd Sue

Agreed & accepted

Annual Accounts as emailed and attached

Moved: Paul 2nd Craig

Election of Committee and Officers listed under Motions for consideration

Subscriptions listed under Motions for consideration

Motions for consideration listed on the Agenda as attached Moved: Cheryle/MichaelTaler

Agreed & accepted

Appreciation to the OBRA committee members for the work done this past year

Moved: Craig/John Calder ***All***

Meeting closed at 6.20pm