

Waikawau Boat Ramp Society Inc
AGM
Thames Sailing Club ,Taranu
Sunday 21st July. 2023

President of Waikawau Boat Ramp Society welcomed every one to this 2023 AGM. Plus our two Guest Speakers from Legacy - Warren Maher (also on Regional Council) plus Mike Plout.

PRESENT: A list of members is attached to this Report. Total of 31 plus two guests.

APOLOGIES:

Bruce Bogan, Bruce Efford, John Donahue, Muri Paki, Terry Hawkeswood, Spencer Baty, Richie Te Aho, Murray Williams Joanne Williams, Mike Grey. Eric moved these apologies be accepted, seconded Matt.

MINUTES OF 2022 AGM:

Everyone had access to these minutes posted online. Eric moved minutes taken as read and passed for approval. Seconded Mary Ann Hurcoms

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

Nil

PRESIDENTS REPORT.

Eric - Thanked Ramp Wardens, Committee, stated very good relationship with Iwi. Thanked Bev Walker Membership secretary for her excellent job over the last 10 years. A full copy of Eric's report will be attached with these minutes.

TREASURERS REPORT.

Matt Juby presented the financial statements and the Treasurer's report. Full details of this report will be attached with these minutes. Discussion of the main revenue and expense items. Matt moved the financial statements and the Treasurer's report be accepted, seconded Allan Gamble.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE.

PRESIDENT. Nominated Eric Carter Moved Lloyd Downing, seconded Judy Sandford.

TREASURER. Nominated Matt Juby Moved Eric Carter, seconded Phil Pawley

SECRETARY. Nominated Eileen Ward Moved Eric Carter seconded Bev Walker.

VICE PRESIDENT. Nominated John Sanford moved Eric Carter, seconded Lloyd Downing.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY. Still to be decided.

COMMITTEE. Nominated by Allan Brock that the five existing committee members stay on. Greg Ward, Rowen Christini, Bruce Bogan, Bill Malcom, Russell Waterhouse, seconded Eric Carter.

AUDITOR. Moved by Matt Juby that Absolute Auditing be retained as auditor, seconded Eric Carter.

A Presentation was given to Bev Walker by Matt Juby thanking her for her 10-year service as membership secretary. Matt presented Bev with a small gift from committee and members.

MEMBERSHIP FEES.

Committee recommended that the annual membership fee remain at \$50 per year (discounted to \$45 for members who pay before 30 September) and the day fee remain at \$15 per day. Moved Judy Sanford, seconded Stan Lowe.

SPEAKERS - Warren Myer, Mike Plout

Warren is a Legacy member plus on the Waikato Regional Council. Also, Vice President NZ Sports Fishing Council and President of Tairua Pauanui Sports Fishing Club. Mike Plout is a Legacy member.

Warren thanked Waikawau Boat Ramp Society for their \$5,000 donation to Legacy last year. He went on to say they use funds for supporting recreation fishing rights. Legacy put in 20 submissions last year. The Legacy team is made up of NZ Sports Fishing Council, 56 fishing clubs, 35 members. Warren stated the Waikawau Boat Ramp Society had a unique situation working with TCDC, Regional Council & Iwi. Warren went on to stress the importance of good relations with Iwi and making sure we maintain it. Warren also passed on congratulations for lowering of the ramp fees.

It was bought up, what they were doing about a very invasive weed Caulerpa. Mike Plout replied they have in place early detection, containment and eradication for this problem. Caulerpa spreads easily, with the tides and currents essentially the foot and mouth problem of the ocean. It is a serious biosecurity threat. Caulerpa is found more coastally, Legacy are pushing the Ministry to act on this urgently. Northland have a hundred hectares of it up there. It has come into the East coast. This issue has not come out to the public yet but will be hearing about it soon. Legacy are pushing for action on this.

Eric Thanked Warren and Mike for speaking at our AGM.

Lloyd Downing moved the Waikawau Boat Ramp Society donate Legacy \$5,000 again this year for all the good work they do, seconded by Eric Carter. Passed unanimously. Warren thanked the Society for the donation.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

Stan Lowe. Expressed concerned at the state of the reserve (parking areas and driveway), when is the committee going to do something about fixing the problems?

Eric replied

We are not allowed any of the metal out of the river system to use to fill pot holes. All the material must go back into the system. It's part of our resource consent with the Regional Council.

The potholes have been filled in three times this season. The weather that we have had has been shocking. The Society has certain areas for us to maintain. Anywhere else is not permitted.

Plus the ramp users need to slow down, as they cause the potholes by with excessive speed in the reserve.

These potholes will be filled only when things dry out, in the spring.

Need to get on common ground with what to be done on site with IWI and TCDC.

We have a good relationship with Iwi and hope to carry on after 23 years we are on smooth ground. When and if Iwi and TCDC give us permission to upgrade the reserve, the Society will upgrade the area further.

Question from floor. Is the boat ramp society interested in promoting and selling health and safety gear eg epirbs, life jackets, flares etc? Since we have a big club, we may be able to obtain good pricing with large volumes.

Eric replied. Good idea but we are not a fishing club. Matt also commented that we risk losing support from our retail operators who sell our memberships if we competed with them. We don't want to go into retail.

Phil Pawley – re Membership. Most people have smart phones or ordinary phones, could we go into digital membership which is highly secure and could do both. It could cut out a significant amount of work re maintaining the memberships.

Eric responded that the committee will have a look at digital membership.

Eric also said that committee wanted to put in place licence plate recognition technology. Iwi has not supported it yet. Matt noted that an advantage of licence plate recognition is that it didn't rely on any ramp wardens checking.

Stan Lowe went on to say we still need wardens for the traffic flow. Matt agreed and said the wardens would become ambassadors. The biggest health and safety issue is vehicles blocking the main road with a blind corner just up from the trams. There is concern that there could be a fatality and that may result in NZTA closing that entrance. A warning sign was requested from the NZTA but there was no action. So the Society put a warning sign up and within a month it was taken down.

Stan also noted the new toilet location could lead to congestion. Eric replied that the road will change and go around the car park, if we get consent from Iwi.

Emails from members

Mike Gray. Safety of boat ramp concerns re obstacles in the channel and the marker buoys only secured with a tyre. Matt responded that all the issues you are have noted are being dealt with. Dredging is dependent on smaller tides. Information is on the web page and face book page and radio.

Richard Te Aho. Why can they not use the land between ramp and the bridge. Eric to send a reply stating to Richard the reasons why. Eric noted the principle reason is that the area is sacred (Tapu).

Eric. New ramp wardens are needed now – is anyone keen on helping out.

Meeting closed 11.30.