



## **Minutes of the Newtown Residents' Association Annual General Meeting, held at Newtown Community Hall, 7.30 pm, 19th September 2016**

### **Present**

Brendan Bonner, Rhona Carson, Carol Comber, Steve Cosgrove, James Coyle, Steve Dunn, Cr Paul Eagle, Peter Frater, Walter Jobstl, Angelique Kerr, Ryan Kerr, Tom Law, Cr David Lee, Kevin Lethbridge, Jeanie McCafferty, Don McDonald, Jane Patterson, Daphne Pillar, Keith Powell, Martin Powell, Stephen Pritchard, Effie Rankin, Cheryl Robilliard, Warwick Taylor, Léonie Walker.

### **Apologies**

Patrick Morgan, Anna Kemble Welch, Peter Cooke, Laura Newcombe.

### **Minutes of the 2017 AGM. Taken as read.**

Motion: that these minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record. Proposed Jeanie, seconded Steve C. Carried.

### **Matters arising**

Money collected for Christchurch - not distributed yet, in discussion with GapFiller people about a joint project.

WSLT History - Steve D reported funds to be used to put the current material online.

Laura Rosier History Project - still slowly progressing.

### **President's Report**

Rhona summarised her previously circulated report.

Additional verbal report - Rhona thanked all involved with the Meet the Candidates Meeting, in particular Patrick Morgan for his contribution to organising and chairing the meeting.

Rhona moved that her report be accepted, seconded Steve.

#### **Discussion**

- Donald McDonald reported the Resolution office have sent him feedback about his fixit reports to Council
- Meet The Candidates Meeting. Supper was highly recommended.
- Vote of thanks to Rhona for a lot of work this year - carried by acclamation

Motion carried.

### **Financial Report**

Jane's report was circulated. The audited accounts are not yet available; as with last year the AGM will need to be reconvened at a later date so they can be presented. There is no cause for concern; the finances are in good shape with reserves in the bank.

#### **Discussion of proposed budget:**

- The Association got an additional grant of \$500 this year intended as an honorarium for writing the newsletter. However finding a person to do it is a challenge.

Moved that the interim report be accepted, and this meeting reconvened when audited accounts are available. Rhona / Steve, carried.

### **Proposals for discussion**

**Community engagement process** for deciding on how to spend the money set aside in the Long Term Plan for redeveloping Newtown community facilities.

- Separate from appointment of WCC Newtown Community Liaison Officer, which is proceeding.

- WCC have asked our Association to be the lead agency to develop a concept through community engagement about how to spend money set aside in the Long Term Plan for redeveloping Newtown community facilities. There is \$48,000 available for the engagement process, and money for capital projects adds up to about \$3.3 million.
- Vogelhorn and Aro Valley have been through similar processes. The Vogelhorn report was presented as a submission to the Annual Plan this year. Kaka project was given \$40,000, which was just enough for concept plans for Vogelhorn. (David Lee)
- Need a steering Group - NRA, Newtown Community Centre Trust, others?
- Develop Community Facilities - what does this mean? Discussion - several ethnic groups would like their own space, but WCC has a policy of inclusiveness. Some properties are falling vacant - e.g. Salvation Army buildings - that might be used. Developing bricks and mortar capital or social capital? Process leading towards Newtown's own 10 year plan? This particular project is about bricks and mortar, but many possibilities for other benefits from community engagement.

Moved James, seconded Warwick: "That the NRA will lead the strategic and community engagement process and administer the use of \$48k from WCC to develop a community concept for Newtown that will be a foundation document and assist in resource applications to existing capital funding held by WCC of \$2.728m + \$0.61m. This plan should consult with other initiatives in Newtown, Berhampore and Mt Cook, and be open to other funding sources." Carried.

### **Change of name for Newtown Residents' Association?**

- Newtown Business Association commissioned a report (Roger Tweedy) on possible Mainstreet development. Explored option of a Business Improvement District, which involves extra rates levied on businesses for local projects - not supported by local business. Roger suggested a combined Association for both Residents and Business people as an alternative. Many shared concerns - Alcohol / Cleanliness / Developments.
- Many years ago the Association rules were changed so that members do not have to be Newtown Residents. "Anyone who lives, works, plays, or has an interest in Newtown" is welcome to join. However for a combined Association our name could be a barrier. Would we want to change it - e.g. Newtown Community Association, or just Newtown Association? We can change the name of the Association in the same way we can change the rules.
- Discussion - mixed views.
- It was agreed that we would continue to think about these issues.

### **Elections - Newtown Residents' Association**

- **President:** Rhona Carson accepted nomination and carried by acclamation
- **Secretary:** No nominations.  
Tasks -correspondence, newsletter, web, publishing minutes, etc.
  - Perhaps two to eight hours a week
  - Will work closely with the President
  - Rhona agreed to continue as Secretary, while we all look about for someone to take over in time
  - Minutes secretary - Steve
- **Treasurer:** Jane Patterson
- **Vice Presidents** James Coyle, Martin Hanley, Kevin Lethbridge (continuing as membership secretary)
- **Executive** - Peter Frater, Steve Cosgrove, Cheryl Robilliard, Steve Dunn, Carol Comber, Keith Powell, Effie Rankin, Stephen Pritchard, Martin Powell, Nominated Marin H, Jane P. Passed by acclamation.

Noted that those not on the Executive are welcome to be on a list to be consulted about events that arise.

Rhona thanked Jeanie, who is standing down from the Executive this year. Jeanie has worked extremely hard, particularly in the field of negotiating with WCC about street maintenance. [Enthusiastic applause from those assembled].

## **Newtown Festival**

- Festival report discussed in July
- Definitely a year-round organisation
- Will have a Trust in time for 2017 festival (by Christmas even). Newtown Association will continue as an active partner. Looking for any suitably qualified Trustee from Wellington region.
- Some Creative-Connected people have offered to assist with advice on forming the Trust.
- Trust deed is being worked on. There was discussion about how trustees might be appointed.

As an interim bridging measure that will be retired upon the launch of the Newtown Festival Trust the AGM appointed the Newtown Festival Director, the Newtown Festival Committee and the Festival Review Team.

- **Newtown Festival Director** - Martin Hanley
- **Newtown Festival Committee** - Tom Law, Rhona Carson, Keith Powell, Anna Kemble Welch, James Coyle, Andrew Leggott and Simon Wood
- **Newtown Festival Review Team** - Peter Frater, Steve Dunn, Ken Allen.

The Festival's annual operational funding and management resolution:

"That the AGM authorises the Newtown Festival Director to manage the event, manage its budget, make payments in accordance with the approved budget, make funding applications, and circulate for Association Executive approval by email resolution those applications where the potential funder requires an application specific funding resolution." Martin Hanley/Kevin Lethbridge. Carried.

The AGM also acknowledges the sunset nature of these arrangements for 2017, and foreshadows that a subsequent Special General Meeting will be called for the Association to formalise the handover to the Newtown Festival Trust at such time as it is legally ready to become the body under which the Festival Committee operates. At the time this occurs the Association's Festival Review Team will disband.

## **Other Business- notices.**

- Job description of WCC Newtown Liaison Officer. Rhona is expecting to be asked to help interview for this position.
- Community Law newsletter. Notice about "Treaty voyages – Nga Rerenga o te Tiriti" Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October, 12-3 pm, level 8, 203 Willis St. [See here for flyer.](#)
- WREMO: Training for Community Emergency Management. Tuesday evenings through October, and Thursday evenings through May 2017.

Meeting ended 9.30pm.