



## Onemana Ratepayers Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Onemana Ratepayers Association held on Sunday 3 January 2016 commencing at 10 am in the Community Centre.

### PRESENT

Stan Alder	Michael Donovan	Pene Ruhi
Stephen Bertram	Paul Durrant	Diane Perry
P Biddle	Ron Frenchum	Alison Priaulx
Steve Wilcock	Arthur Haughey	Maria Ross
Ange Wilcock	Mike Hazel	Erika Sedin
Rex Wood	Jeff Hollings	Ray Walker
Norman Coleman	Barry Hunt	Julia Wharton
Kay Coleman	Rosemary Hutchings	Anne Duncan
Deane Cope	Peter Kowalewicz	Ken Wedgwood
Rhonda Cope	Karel Kuper	
Bill Daniels	Marion Kuper	

### APOLOGIES

Rupert Holdsworth	John Duncan	Neil Baker
Bev West	Ron Jones	
Julian West	John Hutchings	

Erika welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was moved (S Bertram) and seconded (J Hollings) that the minutes of the 2015 AGM, having been circulated, be taken as read and approved as a true and accurate record. Carried

### MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

**Surf Club:** Laurie Stubbing (Onemana SLSC Chairperson) joined the meeting and spoke briefly about the progress of the new Club building. In the past year an archaeological survey had been undertaken, iwi support has been obtained, schematic and landscape designs have been finalised. The new building will have a slightly larger footprint than the present one and will be two storeys high. Erika asked that information about the new building be passed on to the ORA to be included in future newsletters. Erika advised the meeting that in the past local funding for both the Fire Force and the Surf Club had been available from within the village but now their only local fundraising was through the Market Day and Beach Hop.

**Security Camera:** Stan Alder reported back on work carried out over the past year in relation to the possible installation of a security camera at the entrance to Onemana. A set up similar to the one at Pauanui would cost in the region of \$50,000 plus significant on-going costs. A member of the ORA who is involved in the security business had offered to provide a quote but despite numerous

attempts to contact him this information had not been forthcoming. In addition resource consent would be required from TCDC and they had been unable to provide any indication of cost. The camera would need to be located on a pole within the village boundary ie not on the Fire Force building.

Crime statistics for the village were not available although there had been several burglaries over the past few months. These had been attributed to the people who had rented a property in the village, who were known to the Police and had since been evicted. Regular daily Police patrols around Onemana were continuing.

It was moved (E Sedin) and seconded (W Daniels) that the committee continues to pursue options for a security camera and report back to members either via a newsletter or Special General Meeting. Carried (one against)

**Street Lighting Covers:** TCDC are in the process of replacing all street lights with LED lights but a date for the this work to be finalised is not available.

**Dog Bylaws:** Erika outlined the change to the Onemana dog bylaws in 2011 which were approved by the Community Board but not enacted which meant that the dog signs currently in place were incorrect. However this has now been rectified. Another dog bylaw review has recently taken place and the ORA made a submission supporting the retention of the current bylaw in Onemana.

**Telecom Petition/Rural Broadband:** The petition collected last year was sent to all the phone companies, MP and TCDC but nothing much has happened since then. Erika read out the email from ORA member Carl Ammon (copy attached). Stephen Bertram advised that he had received a promise in writing from Vodafone re rural broadband but this has been retracted two weeks later. Paul Durrant advised that his daughter who worked for Spark had advised that a new tower was due to be installed by March this year.

#### **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Erika read out her report (copy attached). It was moved (E Sedin) and seconded (S Bertram) that the Chairperson's report be accepted. Carried

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Ken Wedgwood presented the annual accounts which showed that slightly more had been spent than collected in. In the last financial year there had been 206 members but currently not everyone had renewed for this year.

It was moved (K Wedgwood) and seconded (S Bertram) that the annual accounts be accepted. Carried

#### **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

It was moved (E Sedin) and seconded (K Wedgwood) that the subscription for the coming year would remain at \$25. Carried

#### **REVIEWER**

Ron Frenchum was thanked for completing the review of the annual accounts. It was moved (K Wedgwood) and seconded (E Sedin) that Ron Frenchum be appointed reviewer for the coming year. Carried

## **ELECTION OF COMMITTEE AND OFFICE BEARERS**

It was moved (S Bertram) and seconded (S Alder) that Erika Sedin be appointed as Chairperson. There being no further nominations Erika Sedin was duly elected. Carried

It was moved (E Sedin) and seconded (J Hollings) that Anne Duncan be appointed as Secretary. There being no further nominations Anne Duncan was duly elected. Carried

It was moved (E Sedin) and seconded (S Bertram) that Ken Wedgwood be appointed as Treasurer. There being no further nominations Ken Wedgwood was duly elected. Carried

Nominations were called for a further nine committee positions. There being no further nominations it was moved (E Sedin) and seconded (A Duncan) that the following existing committee members be elected:

Stan Alder, Stephen Bertram, Alan Cole, John Duncan, Ron Jones, Neil Baker and Peter Kowalewicz. Carried

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Market Day:** Erika advised the meeting that the permit for the Market Day was now provided by the ORA and if we wanted to have music, bouncy castles etc then we needed to take out public liability insurance. A member who works in the insurance industry had offered to help in this regard. A Beach Dig was held for the first time this year and provided a fun activity and raised \$178 to be divided between the Surf Club and Fire Force.

**Membership Renewal Issues:** Completing a membership form is part of the renewal process for the organisation. However many people had not returned a completed form (or in one instance returned a completely blank form) and this creates a huge amount of additional work for the Treasurer. In addition some members pay through a Trust, the name of which bears no relation to the name of the home owner. This year there were also five people who paid twice. As everyone on the committee is a volunteer it would be greatly appreciated if all members could take a few minutes to clearly complete the membership form when renewing their subscriptions.

**Green Waste Dumping:** There have been on-going problems with green waste dumping for many years. The ORA working bees spend many hours trying to make the village look more appealing and it is frustrating when people do not respect the work being done and take their waste to the dump (which is very reasonably priced). There are also issues with other waste being dumped on forestry land and one local has received a trespass notice for dumping rubbish off Pokohino Road. TCDC are setting up a hotline for people to 'dob in the dumpers'.

**Pest Plants:** Leaflets are available for people to take which will help with the identification of pest plants. A large poster has also been put on the back of the ORA noticeboard at the bottom car park. ORA are happy to assist with the removal of pest plants.

**Postal Service:** Some issues with access to the PDC had been experienced but no-one at the meeting had any concerns about this.

**Community Garden:** The idea of a community garden has been suggested. The proposed location is the vacant plot next to the Spa Pool Complex. This land is owned by the Spa Pool Complex and although it is technically for sale there has been no interest for a number of years. Sponsorship

would need to be sought to set up the garden. It was moved (E Sedin) and seconded (D Perry) that a feasibility study be carried out. Carried

**ORA 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday:** It was agreed that some form of celebration would be held at Labour Weekend (21 to 24 October) and ideas should be forwarded to Erika.

**List of Skills/Services of Members:** Erika suggested that a list of skills could be compiled for use by members.

**Beach Care:** Erika advised that Barry and Margaret Turk had now sold their house and moved to Tauranga. Thanks were noted to the Turks for the work they had done on the beach. This work had now been taken over by the ORA.

**Family Fun Day:** Anne reminded everyone of the activities on the reserve this afternoon starting at 2.30 pm.

**Dotterels:** Ken advised it has been a quiet season with only three chicks.

**Outgoing Committee Member:** Erika thanked Rosemary Hutchings for her work on the committee over a number of years and especially for the decoration of the Christmas tree.

**Track Work:** A vote of thanks was passed to Selwyn Kingsford, Mel Harris, Stan Alder and Ron Jones for their on-going maintenance work on the tracks around the village and Stan for cleaning all the seats in the village. More work is planned in 2016 on the track to Octopus Bay.

**Vehicles on Reserve:** Members were reminded that no vehicles (other than emergency vehicles) are allowed on the reserve ie golf carts etc.

**Rocks:** The 'beware of falling rocks' sign at the south end of the beach has not been replaced but this area can be dangerous.

**Bait Traps:** Possum bait traps and bait are available from Ken Wedgwood.

#### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The 2016 AGM will be held on 3 January 2017.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Carl Ammon" <[carlammon@me.com](mailto:carlammon@me.com)>

Cc:

The poor phone and Internet access and performance situation does not appear to have changed much for Onemana over 2015.

Recently some copper connections have been offered to people on the waiting list. I have not been able to establish if this is just the cycle of freeing up lines from those terminating accounts or an actual increase in lines available.

The option of a 3G cellular based Internet also continues to be available. This is almost twice the cost of copper based broadband.

Both options are at a marginal level of performance - currently under 1 mbs for both cellular and copper upload and download. Putting this in perspective old school urban copper is around 5-6 mbs typically and the new fibre networks are between 30 - 100 mbs.

Onemana has both insufficient access and a barely operable data performance. The problem is people cannot access streamed data or upload large (business related) files.

The increased holiday populations' usage will see reduced performance of the overtaxed system.

It appears we can only hope for the promised upgrade to 4G cellular to solve the problem - this has no set date as far as I can ascertain from Vodafone who have a grant from government to upgrade our cell tower(s).

It seems keeping on the case of the Telcos; TCDC and MPs is our best option as other areas have been upgraded and on paper we are due an upgrade by mid 2016.

I believe the commercial reality is Onemana has limited customers and the cost of upgrading the copper exchange is not attractive - it also seems our 4G upgrade is a low priority.

## **ORA Chairperson's Report January 2016**

The last year has been one of our most productive with regards to improving the Lakes Reserve and the Tuna Place reserve. The council assisted with the felling of four large non-native trees (banksia and casuarina) which we subsequently cut down into smaller pieces and sold as firewood. Much weeding was achieved as well as more planting. Most of the planting done in 2014 has survived last summer and we have identified the areas needing attention this year. These include the zig zag track at the end of Russell Bruce Place, the banks of the stream by the foot bridge and the banks across the road.

At our request, the council finally pruned all the trees on the main beach reserve from Bambury Place to the southern boardwalk. This was long overdue.

The native bird life in Onemana is thriving as more bird friendly plants are being sourced Bell birds, North Island Kaka have been seen.

A wallaby was also spotted in Bambury Place, the first sighting north of Rotorua. Environment Waikato investigated promptly but Skippy appears to have continued on its journey. The rabbit population continues to be a problem, causing havoc with the young plants on the beach. Another rabbit cull will be undertaken and traps installed on private properties.

The TCDC 10 year plan was released in 2015.  
\$126k has been allocated to upgrade the toilet block in the 2016/2017 FY.  
\$69k has been allocated to Onemana's water supply for the 2018/2019 FY.

The culvert under the driveway to the car park by the children's playground has been covered with a safety grill at each end. An iron fence was fitted around the top of the wing wall, where the lakes join the main reserve (adjacent to the Freedom Camping Area).

### **Potable Water update from TCDC**

The water quality in Onemana is not good, however it does meet WHO standards. The bore water is quite warm and has a pH of 4 to 5. A correction to the pH level is done at the treatment plant where there is a specific filter due to the high level of arsenic in the water.

Water is treated weekly prior to being pumped to houses. The lime build up experienced is due to the hardness of the water.

Water softening systems can be installed by house holders to their individual mains intake to mitigate this. Nationally, primary focus has been on communities with populations of 500 or greater. As Onemana has a registered population of 170, the next water supply grading for Onemana will occur 'in the future.' More information on water gradings can be found on the ESR website <http://www.drinkingwater.esr.cri.nz/default.asp>

A 3rd Poopod bag dispenser was purchased to replace the corroded council dispenser, in Bambury Place. Stickers on the pods advertise these are the property of the ORA.

There is also a sticker at the tennis court to advertise our involvement with the maintenance programme.

More bollards have been installed on the beach reserve to encourage pedestrians to use the designated access ways, in order to protect the dune plants. Opoutere school children were involved with the planting of 4000 seedlings during the last school term. Onemana Beachcare custodians

Barry Turk and his wife Margaret have moved to Tauranga and the ORA has taken on the role. We wish to acknowledge and thank Barry for his dedication and

passion. Onemana Beachcare has been recognized by EW as the most successful campaign in the entire region and Barry was nominated person of the year in 2013.

The first summer with Freedom Camping in the bay produced a lot of feedback and after much discussion with TCDC and the Whangamata Community Board, an agreement was reached to relocate the area to the other side of the car park. Regrettably, the signs were moved back to the existing area within a week. The Community Board apparently forgot to enact their decision, making the move illegal. Assurance has been given this will be done in February at the next Community Board meeting.

I wish to thank the dedicated team of volunteers, namely Arthur Haughey, Kathryn Weston, Selwyn Kingsford and many others, as well as the committee for supporting me, and giving much of their time to improve this beautiful place I am lucky to call home.

Erika Sedin