

TE HIKU COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBER'S REPORT

Member Name: Sheryl Bainbridge

Subdivision: Doubtless Bay

Date: to 13 January 2020

REPORT

1) Meetings

23 October 2019 – induction

5 November 2019 - Inaugural Board meeting

Oct/Nov 2019 - 3 meetings about Mangonui waterfront development

14 November 2019 – Standing orders training LGNZ

14 November 2019 - Attendance at Doubtless Bay BPW meeting

28 November 2018 - Strategic plan workshop

2 December 2018 – Taipa Bridge opening

10 December 2019 - Board meeting followed by strategic plan workshop

19 December 2019 – scheduled meeting with Museum Chairman did not take place.

2) Issues

Request to move the 60kph sign at the top of the hill at Coopers Beach to a point further south. This request has come from members of the public and members of the fire brigade who sometimes experience difficulty in exiting Wrathall Road. I have been in contact with NZTA, am dissatisfied with the response and have referred it to the Chair of the Roading committee.

Doubtless Bay Information Centre – request for funding assistance. On 30 July 2019 Mayor Carter received a letter from Doubtless Bay Information Centre (DBIC) seeking funding assistance of \$10,000 p.a. to help with operating costs. I was asked to discuss this matter with DBIC.

I believe that an annual grant of \$10,000 as requested is not unreasonable.

The CEO office also advises that there will be an i-site review next year, and states:

- We have not selected anyone to do the i-SITE review as yet,
- The timing of the review is yet to be confirmed
- We will aim to follow the same process as the Library Service Delivery Review, and changes were made as a result of that review. It is hard to say what changes will be made until the review is complete, recommendations made and considered by Council
- Key stakeholders / external parties will be identified and their feedback sought; Doubtless Bay Information Centre will be one of those.

Some facts:

1. While there is an option of waiting for the i-site review, the Doubtless Bay Information Centre requires funding for ongoing expenses at this point in order to continue operating.
2. Doubtless Bay is a destination. People who travel here do not necessarily carry on to Kaitaia. However, DBIC does promote Kaitaia attractions such as the museum and Te Ahu pou. They are open to advertising the cinema schedule at Te Ahu for the benefit of visitors and locals.

3. DBIC opening hours are 9.30 – 4pm in summer and 10 – 3pm winter, seven days per week. There are nine willing, well-informed volunteers, and a manager who is paid for 10 hours per week.
4. Accommodation bookings are mainly done online these days so it is unlikely that accommodation providers would agree to increased membership fees. At present (end Dec/beginning January) 2019, although DBIC is receiving many queries regarding accommodation, there is none available. On the other hand, there is an increased number of regular queries from locals and visitors regarding attractions and activities, particularly walking, hiking and biking. Also the new Taipa bridge is proving to be a great tourist attraction.
5. Kaitia i-site visitor numbers for December 2016/17, December 2017/18 and for December 2018/19 were all in the 3,500 region. Doubtless Bay information Centre figures are: December 2017 3,899, December 2018 4,231, December 2019 4,936.

I note that Mayor Carter has advised that this issue needs to be discussed at policy level, and on 9 December, asked staff for a paper for the next council meeting, saying that he did not want this to drag on, so I'm assuming it will be considered at the first meeting of 2020.

Following that meeting would the council please provide a positive response setting out the way this organisation can be helped to continue to function please.

Footpath along Mill Bay Rd from SH10 end to Rangikapiti Road This is a safety issue. My request that elected members look at it as part of the ward tour was not agreed to. Apparently, it does not score highly on the footpath matrix, in which case the matrix needs to be amended so that safety is given more consideration.

Parking at Mill Bay Mangonui boat ramp and need for lighting at Silver Egg Road RFS3989389 I have been told that the council owns an area of road reserve on the foreshore at Mill Bay. The legal description of this land is Lot1 DP 74135 CT29D/1407 and it is currently part of the seabed. I would like to know more about this for the following reasons:

1. Parking at Mill Bay, particularly in the holiday season is becoming increasingly inadequate because:
 - Larger vehicles (eg Rangers Colorados etc.) are towing larger boats
 - An increased population of retired people mean that there is greater use of the boat ramp.
 - Matai Bay boat ramp is closed, putting more pressure on ramps at Perehipe and Rangiputa. Taipa boat ramp and parking also seems to be fully utilized.
 - Although there has been more parking provided at Rangiputa, parking there is still a nightmare as no one is going to use the new parking at the top of the hill except as a last resort due to the difficulty of launching and retrieving boats so far away from the parking area.
 - There is limited parking at Pukenui, and to use the Houhora Gamefish Club ramp requires membership or payment of a fee.
2. Mill Bay Road is very narrow, has no footpath and when vehicles and trailers are parked on the roadside, pedestrian safety is compromised.

I note that TGIF money has been allocated for a review of boat ramps etc. If there is an opportunity for development at Mill Bay which could potentially include further boat trailer

parking, a footpath, street lighting and seating I would like to see how this can be progressed please, and how funding can be allocated.

Kupe Waka project: A representative has been in touch and will contact Member Lawrie Atkinson and myself with an update in the near future.

Request for pump track: A letter is attached. The writer is looking at options for areas that may be suitable and will then contact me again.

3) Resource Consents

Nil

4) Requests for Service

Request for clarification about a council decision – Mayor Carter spoke to the constituent about his concern.

Request for repairs to the footpath adjoining the bridge at Coopers Beach –

RFS 3981821 - Trip hazard Kupe Road Coopers Beach – repaired but not a great quality job

RFS 3981257 - Request for key to entrance to a reserve at Coopers Beach – ambulance staff were unable to easily access last year following an accident, so the adjoining motelier will hold a key in the event of any further event.

Request to remove vegetation and clear drain George Street Mangonui

RFS 3983112 - Request for repairs to a damaged handrail at Coopers Beach. Temporary repairs have been effected and we are advised that work is commencing early January 2020. A new barrier will be put in. Note the footpath is to be renewed as well.

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9th December 2019

Far North District Council C/- Sheryl Bainbridge sakia@xtra.co.nz

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the parents of the Doubtless Bay I am contacting the FNDC regarding a pump Track (bike track).

There are so many Families who can't afford to travel to a bike park to give their children the opportunity to ride in a safe environment. The closest Pump Track is in Paihia.

I have spoken to a few local Businesses – Fulton Hogan, Coastal Homes, Kelly construction Ltd, just to name a few. They are all willing to pitch in to help build a Pump track up here in the Doubtless Bay area.

We are requesting from the FNDC to supply a piece of land which this project can take place on. I have been told that there is a Council reserve in Taipa – is this correct?

We would love to give young children a safe and healthy place to ride their bikes on that doesn't cost a cent for the parents.

Please find attached photos of both the Paihia Pump Track with asphalt and the Waitangi Pump Track with metal.

I hope the FNDC can take this request further as I think it is in need for the Far North.

I look forward to hearing from you

Respectfully yours,

Alarnya Ashby

