

HOKIANGA HARBOUR FERRY LIAISON GROUP FULL MEETING (INCL NORTHLAND FERRIES). COUNCIL CHAMBER, MEMORIAL DRIVE, KAIKOHE

14 SEPTEMBER 2023 COMMENCING AT 2 PM

MINUTES

PRESENT

- John Wigglesworth - Chair and Kohukohu Representative
- Craig Joiner - Rawene Representative
- Steve Morunga - Iwi Representative
- Aaron Reilly – Lighting & Transport Operations Specialist (NTA)
- Keith Kent – Senior Transport Planner (NTA)
- Musheer Khan - Regional Operations Lead (NTA)
- Sam Peate - Chief Operating Officer Northland Ferries

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

- Sam Peate from Northland Ferries (NF) joined, and the meeting commenced at approx 2.20pm

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

- Confirmed.

APOLOGIES

- Emma Davis - Formerly Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board (North)
- Louis Toorenburg - Formerly Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board (South)
- Margareth Broodkoorn – Hokianga Health
- Angela Lush - Hokianga Tourism Association (resigned from position as HTA Rep on the Group).
- Jessie McVeagh - Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board South Hokianga Subdivision
- Rachel Kennedy - Operations Manager Northland Ferries

OPERATIONAL MATTERS AND SERVICE UPDATE

- Craig spoke to pontoon at Rawene (June meeting item). Craig has been providing feedback and discussing this with FNHL.
Discussed with FNHL and was advised that the facility is up for replacement, but timing may be delayed with depreciation funding availability. Sam has confirmed NF passed the same info to FNHL.
 - Aaron spoke to the Quarterly KPI Service Update that was provided with the Agenda. Discussed and noted.
 - Sam gave update on conflict resolution training for NF staff. Training included a good mixture of theory and practical measures avoiding conflict. Sam noted it was very well very received by staff.
 - Craig raised the ferry shift changeover in middle of days and asked if crew can load vehicles prior to changeover instead of leaving traffic queued while this
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occurred. Sam advised that Rachel is the appropriate person to look into this request. **Action: Sam** to discuss with Rachel.

- Sam noted that there had been significant uptake in Community Services Card holders 50% discount. Noted no specific feedback received from staff on board re operational issues but did result in some extra admin effort. Feedback received was more so a push back on fact that passengers are required to pay fares even when traveling as vehicle passenger. This fare issue was discussed by the Group and NTA staff noted the feedback and would consider this in future fare review.
- John noted that has heard some feedback from staff that is complex and a lack of awareness of their fare entitlement.

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES AND EVENTS

- Discussed the Country music festival (late Sept). NF should expect contact requesting for additional sailings and will respond accordingly.
- Sam spoke to marketing update – Hokianga Ferry is included in these marketing drives, not as a core attractor itself but as a travel enabler to the tourism attractors.
- NF will pay for the display board once the HTA are ready to confirm what the display is to look like. NF will also donate NF time to assisting with HTA's social media efforts and will offer funding of \$5,000 for this.
- Craig spoke to the Rawene Traffic Calming measures (presently temporary in nature) and is involved in coordination of a submission to NTA staff about this project. Sam confirmed that NF are happy to support the community submission regarding the Rawene traffic calming project

PLANNED AND COMPLETED MAJOR WORKS UPDATE

- The Planned and Completed Major Works update include in agenda was discussed.
- NF are presently pricing up a number of refurbishment projects focused on the cabin area, including replacement of seats), upgrade to different materials for windowsills and toilet walls to mitigate graffiti problems. Planned for completion this financial year subject to fitting within available budget.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Aaron asked whether the Group would prefer to the hold meetings in Rawene to reduce travel for some members. Response was Yes.
Action: Aaron to book venue.

CLOSE OF MEETING

- Steve closed with a Karakia and the meeting closed at approx. 3.10pm.
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HOKIANGA HARBOUR FERRY LIAISON GROUP MEETING (COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS AND NTA STAFF) COUNCIL CHAMBER, MEMORIAL DRIVE, KAIKOHE

14 SEPTEMBER 2023 COMMENCING AT 1 PM

MINUTES

PRESENT

- John Wigglesworth - Chair and Kohukohu Representative
 - Craig Joiner - Rawene Representative
 - Steve Morunga - Iwi Representative
 - Aaron Reilly – Lighting & Transport Operations Specialist (NTA)
 - Keith Kent – Senior Transport Planner (NTA)
 - Musheer Khan - Regional Operations Lead (NTA)
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WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

- Steve opened the meeting with a karakia
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APOLOGIES

- Emma Davis - Formerly Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board (North)
 - Louis Tooreburg - Formerly Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board (South)
 - Margareth Broodkoon - Hokianga Health
 - Angela Lush - Hokianga Tourism Association (resigned from position as HTA Rep on the Group).
 - Jessie McVeagh - Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board South Hokianga Subdivision
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PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

- Confirmed.
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LONG TERM PLANNING

- Refer to Hokianga Harbour Long Term Plan report appended to this Agenda. This is scheduled to go to the Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board (CB) meeting 27th September.
 - Keith advised that the report going to KHO/HOK CB is to recommend to Council (via the CB per the Terms of Reference) to fund the Long-Term Plan. Keith summarised the Waka Kotahi (WK) funding situation (per the last minutes).
 - John raised the historical agreement with WK/NZTA and recalled that there was a commitment to fund the full cost of the ferry.
 - The historical bridge option was discussed. Keith advised WK's expectation would be that all options for crossing the harbour would be evaluated as part of the business case process.
 - It was suggested by Keith and agreed that the group would hold off on giving feedback on the Ferry Outline LTP Concept and scope (June Meeting) until Council had approved the Recommendation by the CB and until funding of Hokianga Harbour Crossing Long Term Plan had been allocated. The basis for this was there is a potential risk that the recommendation may not be approved.
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- Keith confirmed historical refs to bridge costings were removed before inclusion of report.
 - Craig was on the original Hokianga Harbour Committee. He noted that the report included a media quote which claimed that the Committee (Rawene Businesses) opposed the bridge option. Craig wished to clarify that this wasn't accurate, and explained it was that the Committee felt the bridge option was far too expensive and believed it would not happen. Harbour committee just wanted a clear and unbiased appraisal and costings.
 - Steve raised if the ferry is to be upgraded and is the option for crossing in the future, there is a need to consider the wider safety aspects of the connecting roads (i.e. State Highway and local roads).
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GROUP MEMBERSHIP

- The Terms of Reference (ToR) were discussed, and minor changes were made in tracked changes. **Action: Aaron** to send out in draft.
 - The farming rep was discussed and noted John Guest had not attended for some time. It was noted that Ferry was used in the past for Lime deliveries and understand that this is no longer the case. Suggested that perhaps Hamonie could also be Farming Rep – to be discussed in next meeting.
 - **Action: Aaron** to write to Hokianga Tourism Association requesting appointment of a replacement representative to the Group for Angela Lush.
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FINANCIAL SUMMARY

- Moved and seconded. Discussed briefly and noted.
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ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Aaron provided an update on the Government announced Passenger only fare discounts as they relate to the Hokianga Service. Aaron explained that the existing 3 x Passenger fares per the schedule increase from 3 to 10 fares. The general consensus was that the changes were complex, and John noted that the public did not understand their entitlement.
 - It was agreed to discuss operational aspects of the fare changes with NF present in the subsequent meeting.
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CLOSE OF MEETING

- Approx. 2.18pm
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