

# Member's Report

Name: Jessie McVeagh

Subdivision: South Hokianga

Date: 03.9.23

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## **Meetings Attended**

Date	Meeting	Comments
8.8.23	Opononi Omapere Ratepayers	Discussion on local issues incl. Hall upgrades, WWTP consents, beach access, water.
10.8.23	Combined CB meeting	Animal Control, Climate Change response, Delegations, LTP
30.8.23	KHCB Monthly Meeting	Public forum, Community grants allocation, report on Hokianga Community Campus.

## **Community Issues**

Issue name	Comment
Wastewater discharge to Hokianga Harbour	Hokianga is unanimous that there should be zero human waste to water. The FNDC amended application for the Opononi-Omapere and Kohukohu wastewater treatment is available for response by submitters, deadline Sept 29 <sup>th</sup> . Commissioners return on October 12th to finish the hearings at Opononi Memorial Hall, this is open to the public.
Contaminated water from Lake Omapere into Hokianga Harbour	The pollution of Lake Omapere flows into the Hokianga Harbour. NRC have allocated money to create a business plan to restore the health of the Hokianga catchment. This plan should enable NRC and other organisations to attract funding to begin restoring the mauri of the Hokianga waters.
Spraying of roadsides, Rawene	Alternatives to Glyphosate spray have been discussed with staff. Improved mowing of berms to reduce the fire hazard and use of toxic spray, and any cost implications this may have are being looked in to.
Hokianga Community Campus access	KHCB received a report on the maintenance of the Campus buildings and the protection of the heritage trees going forward. A map will be made of the remaining trees to be protected.
Litter, waste, recycling services	KHCB allocated Placemaking funds for Para Kore (Zero Waste) to contract someone to support education on litter, rubbish, burning, dumping and recycling to improve the problem in our area. A new Waste Management and Minimisation plan is being developed; community will be able to feed into this and offer local solutions.
Traffic calming, safe accessible footpaths Rawene, Opononi and Omapere	There are ongoing safety concerns around speed, safe cycling and safe footpaths for pedestrians, push chairs and people with mobility issues. We continue to advocate for improvements. The temporary speed bumps in Rawene are in need of repair, this will be updated in September by NTA representative. Waiarohia Reserve has been partially fenced off temporarily to protect the footpath that was covered in mud and debris. The footpath near the lower reserve has been swept to improve safety.

Rawene Domain	Several local groups continue to work on a collaborative plan to create a recreational hub on the Domain that will serve a wide variety of people and activities in this public space. The area has been surveyed to establish the correct boundaries. A meeting with the various parties is scheduled to inform a report to the KHCB. The Domain is a priority in the KHCB strategic plan.
Animal control	Stock on roads is endangering drivers. We are supporting local people to find appropriate locally-led solutions. KHCB allocated funds from the Community Grant to remove wild horses that wander onto the roads in our area. Dogs roaming in Rawene, Whirinaki, Opononi and Omapere are a concern, this has been brought to Council attention.
Erosion to seawall Clendon Esp. Rwn	The hole has been temporarily filled to prevent risk to children. NTA will complete another site visit and advise feedback on road condition. A further update will be provided regarding budget availability.
FNDC assets and reserves	There are concerns about the level of service our facilities receive, such as cleaning gutters, repairs, mowing, weed control, litter. Contracts are due for renewal next year. We have fed back re appropriate levels of service in our area and await the cost implications that this may incur. 'Town-scaping', beautification and levels of service are priorities in the KHCB strategic plan.
Hapū and Community-led priorities	We have a draft KHCB strategic plan with projects prioritised and currently being costed. A Long-Term Plan workshop with Councillors and CB representative to discuss the priorities is scheduled in early Sept.
Non-notified vs Notified resource consents	There is a need for clear guidelines for communities and discussion with FNDC regarding public interest on new consents.
Safety in Community	There are widespread concerns around safety in our communities. Hokianga are seeking our own solutions. Possible FNDC support with cameras in public spaces, perhaps similar to the CCTV that Kaikohe have. This is a priority in the KHCB strategic plan.
Housing	This is an ongoing crisis that needs support at all levels. Seeking guidance from FNDC to support better housing and address homelessness in our ward.
Housing for Elderly	Expressions of Interest have been put to FNDC for the Elderly Housing across the area.
Safe Cycling	Rawene road from the ferry to the junction with SHW12 needs to be made safe for the increasing number of cyclists we have.
Climate Change	There is a strong call for FNDC to take action on reducing emissions and supporting community resilience. Discussions with community around potential impacts and plans for climate change action are needed, particularly in areas where impacts are already being felt, such as Pakanae, Koutu, Opononi and Omapere. This is a priority in the KHCB strategic plan.
Water resilience.	A scheme for FNDC subsidies on water tanks and pumps is being considered for costing. This is a priority in the KHCB strategic plan.
Roads, dust, 1 lane bridge approaches	South Hokianga are asking for a higher level of service on the maintenance of all our roads, safer approaches to 1 lane bridges, improved dust control on Waima Valley road, Otua, Waitemarama Gorge, and sealing outside Otua Te Kohanga Reo.
Support for Community groups	We are exploring how FNDC can support the development of the various projects and aspirations of our communities and groups across the Kaikohe Hokianga ward. This is a priority in the KHCB strategic plan.
Civil Defence response	Civil Defence groups are reviewing local responses across Hokianga, looking at what support that FNDC might offer, what roles FNDC staff and Elected Members take in Emergency response. Equipping Council owned buildings that are used for emergency response with solar power and battery storage is a priority in the KHCB strategic plan.

Pine Plantations	There is community concern around the increasing number of pine plantations in our ward, particularly with regard to slash, impact on water quality and waterways, increased pollen and reduced farmland. In most cases it is NRC, not FNDC, who have oversight of pine plantations.
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### **Requests for Service (RFS)**

RFS number	Date	Comment
4121926	5.12.22	Erosion of Seawall Rawene, the hole was filled to prevent risk to children, however erosion under the road is still a concern. NTA will be completing another site visit and advise feedback on road condition. A further update will be provided regarding budget availability.
4133549	3.11.22	Spray-free Hokianga wish to progress this issue, prefer mowing as an approach where possible, weedeating where necessary and organic spray as a last resort. Levels of Service re mowing roadsides are being looked at as a potential part of the solution.
4140355	27.12.22	Broken retaining wall below Parnell st, above Nimmo st E. Works to rebuild the rock and concrete supported structure have been programmed and were scheduled to commence during April. Not yet completed as awaiting funding allocation.
4144572	1.2.23	Taita Rd slip; Status is Priority 1. Application for Geotech and design approved. Once Geotech and design is complete, then another funding application will be applied to Waka Kotahi for Construction.
4168436	27.7.23	Abandoned car on side of Rawene Rd. This has been referred to the contractor for pick up, however the vehicle is currently blocked from removal by power pole and bag in front of it.
4169493	4.8.23	Streetlight not working opposite 145 Parnell st Rawene (follow up on community rfs). This and the light next to it have now been repaired.
4168254	26.7.23	Legal status of the end of Opara rd regarding responsibility to maintain and repair (follow up of community rfs). This road will now be maintained by FNDC.
4172659	28.8.23	Follow up on a query re the ownership of the units at The Sands, Omapere; Far North Holdings Ltd own the land and units next to The Sands, which are leased to the hotel.
4172671	28.8.23	Follow up on public concern re pine plantation planted on a sacred maunga, a significant cultural area.
4172689	28.8.23	Enquiry re plans for dust control or tar seal on Waiotemarama Gorge rd, Pakanae end. This will be considered by Council in the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP).

### **Other Issues**

Concrete bollards were placed at Russell Esplanade, Rawene. Further discussion to be had around the design of the sea wall repair and bollards in this location.