



Lake Rotoiti Ratepayers & Residents Association

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE LRCA HELD ON 4
JANUARY 2009 AT THE PIKIAO RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB**

PRESENT

Robin Ford and Neil Oppert (EBOP Councillors)
Andy Bruere (EBOP Officer)
Maggie Bentley, Karen Hunt, Maureen Waaka, Dave Donaldson and Charles Sturt (RDC Councillors)
Peter Guerin (RDC CEO)
Brentleigh Bond, Geoff Palmer, Karen Hunt, Dave Donaldson and Neil Callaghan (Community Board Members)
Jim and Mary Stanton and Lindsay Brighthouse (Life Members)
The Right Hon Paul East
Brentleigh Bond, John Green, Ann Green, Phill Thomass, Geoff Turner, Gerald Plested and David Wilson (LRCA Committee Members)
Buzz Rathbone, (Commodore Classics and Wooden Boats Association)
56 LRCA members as per **attached** attendance sheet

APOLOGIES

Todd McClay (Rotorua MP)
Caroline Hobbs (LRCA Member)
Kevin Winters (RDC Mayor)
Glenys Searancke (RDC Councillor)

WELCOME

John Green chaired the meeting and welcomed all in attendance

MINUTES OF 2008 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Moved, J Green. Seconded G Turner that the 2008 AGM meeting minutes circulated be taken as read and approved (after amending Karen Bentley to Maggie Bentley).
Carried.

MATTERS ARISING

- Water - Mary Stanton spoke and wished everyone a happy new year and indicated she would speak on the issue of Mourea Water under General Business.
- Shand Report - John Green noted that the Government had not embraced it and the new minister is working through it.

- Sewage – John Green noted that there had been a significant boost in funding from the Government late last year and considerably in excess of what Steve Chadwick had indicated at last year's AGM.
- East Rotoiti Transfer Station – John Green reported that the Curtis Road site was dead and that RDC advised that it was up to the community to find an appropriate site whereupon the RDC would respond. A site has been identified at Lake Rotoma which looks likely to successfully proceed.

LRCA COMMITTEE REPORT

John Green noted that all that the LRCA Committee had been involved in, had been substantively set out in the last newsletter.

COMMUNITY BOARD REPORT

Brentleigh Bond addressed the meeting from his written report (attached).

At conclusion, Nick Miller complimented Brentleigh Bond on a very clear and concise report.

Comments on matters canvassed in Community Board Report

Rubbish

Fraser Wilson spoke on doing away with rubbish bags and the need to have kerbside recycling. Karen Hunt spoke at length as to the options on rubbish bags.

Glenys Wilson of Okawa Bay commented that recycling is a personal issue and if you don't believe in it you won't do it. She noted that there are good facilities available at the transfer station.

Lindsay Brighthouse spoke and said "if aint broke don't fix it". He personally thought the current operation operates excellently, to which there was general support from the floor.

Phill Thomass pointed out that it is hard to recycle in East Rotoiti with no transfer station. He spoke in favour of retaining the current regime but encouraged individuals to recycle anyway.

Heather Simpson spoke to the sticker scheme used in Franklin.

Mary Stanton spoke vehemently on the need to retain the Monday rubbish bag collection. Don't alter it she pleaded.

Karen Hunt assured the meeting that there was no question of a removal of rubbish collection but only possibly the annual bag delivery, after community consultation. She noted rubbish bags caused a disproportionately high amount of RDC officer time.

Nick Miller spoke against the introduction of wheelie bins.

Brentleigh Bond advised that the community board had done a survey of 800 houses in the lakes area and got 13 responses. He suggested this indicates that residents are happy with the status quo.

Okere Control Gates

Brentleigh Bond stressed the need for all interested individuals to ensure that submissions were made when the application for a resource consent, (current one expires in June 2010) was advertised.

Bob Armstrong spoke as to the need to ensure the Okere control gates are retained and moved **"that it be the policy of this Association that it strongly supports the retention of the control gates on the outlet to Lake Rotoiti, and that the Association takes all steps to ensure a resource consent be reissued in 2010."** Seconded by Paul East.

Neil Oppert spoke as to EBOP's role on the control gates, namely to first find out the community opinion and then react.

Peter Guerin outlined the RDC role as asset owner and regulatory controller. He advised that RDC will make a submission once it has the feel of the community opinion. He also noted that RDC will be making the application (to itself), possibly jointly with EBOP.

Robbie Sinclair spoke as to the importance of submissions. He outlined that when the RMA renewal consent for the Okawa Bay Resort to discharge sewage into Okawa Bay was made, only 5 people submitted. He noted that the renewal granted, allowed the Resort to continue to discharge sewage, all on the residents **assumption** that the RDC would be putting in a reticulated sewage scheme shortly. He noted that the community didn't put sufficient effort into securing conditions, and that sewage reticulation took many years to come to be. He pleaded with the meeting to not let a similar situation happen with the control gates.

Jim Stanton spoke as to the history of the gates. He noted they were put in under some protest. He noted it is an issue for local Iwi. He noted this issue came up in lake water quality terms recently in the Lake's Restoration Focus Group Committee, and that Professor David Hamilton had reported that if the gates are removed there would be no great difference to the ebb and flow of the lake. He advised that local Iwi were of the possible opinion that water quality will improve if the gates are removed. He spoke of the issues of flooding at the eastern end of the lake and boat shed problems in Okawa Bay and the Okere arm when lake levels dropped. He expressed his own personal opinion that the gates should stay, particularly when Professor Hamilton says the gate removal would make no great difference.

Hilary Prior asked if the Professor Hamilton report was available and Nick Miller advised that it could be located on the RDC website.

Mary Stanton spoke as to the effect the gates might have on water quality. She talked in some detail as to the position when she was a child and drew comparisons from the cuts made to the Ohau channel. She said Iwi will be thinking about water quality and the effects that a high water level may have as to homes and maraes.

Bob Armstrong's motion was put to the meeting and **carried** without dissent.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Brentleigh Bond spoke to the attached financial report which was distributed. Moved – Brentleigh Bond. Seconded – Phill Thomas that the financial report be received and that Ivan Thompson be reappointed as the auditor. Both **carried**.

ELECTIONS

John Green noted that Brentleigh Bond, John Green, Ann Green and Geoff Turner were resigning and that Simmone Hetapore had resigned earlier in the year.

Moved – John Green. Seconded – David Wilson that Hilary Prior be elected Chair. **Carried**.

Moved – John Green. Seconded – Buzz Rathbone that Gerald Plested be elected Treasurer. **Carried**.

Moved – John Green. Seconded – Nick Miller that Helen Prior be elected Secretary. **Carried**.

COMMITTEE ELECTION

It was noted that more people were standing for the Committee than the maximum number permitted by the Constitution. It was agreed that all nominations be accommodated by formally electing seven members and the balance to be co-opted.

Moved - John Green. Seconded – Buzz Rathbone that Caroline Hobbs, Jeanette Roberston, Keith Smith, Phill Thomass, David Wilson, Fraser Wilson, Jim Stanton, Jan Wilkins and Nick Miller be elected/co-opted. **Carried**.

ANDY BRUERE'S REPORT FROM EBOP

Andy outlined in terms of lake's restoration, the **highlights**, the **programme** and the **next steps**.

He outlined the **highlights** as being the \$72m being received from the Government over the next 10 years the completion of the Ohau Division in Lake Rotoiti and, the Lake Okaro achievements by Zealite intervention for sediment capping.

He outlined a **programme** of continued implementation on the balance of the Lakes and noted that over half the \$72m was going to sewage reticulation. He outlined phosphorus "locking in" was to take place in two Rotorua streams, such to start after proper consultation had been completed. He outlined the Tikitere de-nitirificaton project and that a contract had just been let for a treatment plant. He outlined the engagement with land use owners at various places including farmers at lakes Okaro, Okareka and Rotoma – good discussions to get land management changes implemented. He spoke of the engagement with Dairy NZ who are leading land use changes particularly in the Rotorua area. No decisions yet, but good prospects.

As to the **next steps** he outlined the continued research and monitoring especially as to the diversion wall and its potential effects on fish and bird life. He outlined what Professor Hamilton and his students are doing with ongoing modelling work. He noted land use changes are one thing, but locking in these changes is still a very big challenge. In summary continuation of the monitoring programme is to be undertaken with further action plans for the balance of the twelve lakes. Resource consents are needed for change, and the challenge is to get community buy in.

Lindsay Brighthouse spoke after Andy's report and said he was originally concerned about the Okere arm becoming contaminated, but was happy to hear of the ongoing testing programmes being undertaken by EBOP.

NEW RATING PROPOSAL

Councillor Charles Sturt made a presentation and encouraged members to look at the material on the RDC website. He introduced his fellow committee members and then spoke to his distributed handout. He concluded by giving great credit to Andy Bruere amongst others for the progress on land use changes.

Peter Guerin then spoke and invited the LRCA to work with him in making submissions as to the new rating proposals. He advised that RDC were putting great focus on cutting procurement and internal costs to keep rates down. He stressed that he and the RDC wanted to hear submissions as whether the UAGC proposal is the right way to go and how the currently proposed allocations stack up.

He highlighted that the current proposal has the maximum UAGC charge (\$550) with new targeted rates for roading and tourism. There is to be re-instated the rural residential differential, but with the old 0.70 differential rising to 0.76. He noted under the previous proposal the rural residential differential had been totally abandoned.

He urged members to go to the RDC website and use the individual property calculator to see the effect of the new proposal, on individual's rates.

Geoff Palmer from the Community Board (Okareka member) noted that while Okareka rates appeared to reduce by 20 – 25%, it was somewhat illusionary because of upcoming sewage costs to be imposed on affected landowners.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Boating

Lindsay Brighthouse spoke to boating issues and the general need for boaties to be safety conscious. He noted that every boat should at least have a cell phone and preferably VHF channel 64. He stressed that in emergencies boaties should call the Police and not the Coastguard. He noted that there is a very impressive brand new big coast guard boat coming, to add to the two existing fast reaction boats. Lindsay also made a plea for boaties tying up to the Okere Falls wharf to move to the end and not occupy the middle. He also pleaded for bigger boats at a beach to go to one end of the beach. He urged members to join the coast guard at either \$30 per annum or at \$10 per annum as a supplementary member.

Catfish

Don Atkinson noted that he had recently found a catfish washed up on his beach. This is disturbing. He was urged by EBOP to report it to Fish and Game.

Te Akau Point

Marcus Wilkins noted that a sign had been erected calling Te Akau Point Amass Point which was incorrect and sought rectification.

Jetties/Boatshed

Nick Miller spoke updating his newsletter saga with the RDC on jetties and boatsheds, and reported that sadly still no progress was being made. Peter Guerin agreed to investigate.

Mourea Water

Mary Stanton spoke at length on the issue of the Mourea water supply. She thanked the RDC for the 2008 survey but was disappointed as to there being no mention of costings in it. She noted that a lot of Iwi didn't reply because there were no costings. She noted that a local land trust and incorporation was seeking to subdivide land for housing local people but were inhibited through lack of water and sewage being installed. She stressed the need for healthy people and the need for water and sewage to assist that aim.

Phill Thomass moved a vote of thanks to retiring Committee Members and in particular thanked Brentleigh Bond and the Greens for their outstanding past service. **Carried** by acclaim.

The meeting closed at 12.15pm.