
MINUTES

THURSDAY 18 AUGUST 2011

7.32PM - 9.03PM

**MAKARA HALL
MAKARA ROAD
MAKARA**

PRESENT:

Gavin Bruce (7.32pm - 9.03pm)
Christine Grace (Chair) (7.32pm - 9.03pm)
Judy Liddell (7.32pm - 9.03pm)
Margie Scotts (7.32pm - 9.03pm)
Hamish Todd (7.32pm - 9.03pm)

APOLOGIES:

Wayne Rudd

078/11MB **APOLOGIES**
(1215/13/IM)

Moved Christine Grace, seconded Judy Liddell, the motion that the Makara/Ohariu Community Board receive apologies for absence from Wayne Rudd.

The motion was put and declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED:

THAT the Makara/Ohariu Community Board:

- 1. Receive apologies for absence/lateness from Board member Wayne Rudd.*

079/11MB **MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION**
(1215/13/IM)

Moved Christine Grace, seconded Margie Scotts, the motion that the Makara/Ohariu Community Board approve the minutes of the meetings held on Thursday 16 June 2011 and Thursday 21 July 2011 having been circulated, be taken as an accurate record of those meetings.

The motion was put and declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED:

THAT the Makara/Ohariu Community Board:

- 1. Approve the minutes of the meetings held on Thursday 16 June 2011 and Thursday 21 July 2011 having been circulated, be taken as an accurate record of those meetings.*

080/11MB **CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS**
(1215/13/IM)

NOTED:

Gavin Bruce declared a conflict of interest in relation to Report 8 – Project Mill Creek. He advised that he would not take part in discussion or debate on the matter.

081/11MB **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
(1215/13/IM)

(ORAL REPORT)

NOTED:

There was no public participation.

082/11MB **GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL RESOURCE
CONSENT PROCESS**
(1215/13/IM)

(ORAL REPORT)

NOTED:

Gavin Bruce reported that he had met with officers from Greater Wellington Regional Council to discuss resource consent processes. He distributed to the Board members a copy of a Ministry for the Environment guide to the Resource Management Act and a Greater Wellington guide for applying for resource consents. The Board suggested that information regarding

resource consents be included in the Makara Mag and forwarded to the Ohariu Preservation Society for circulation.

083/11MB CIVIL DEFENCE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
(1215/13/IM) (ORAL REPORT)

NOTED:

Mike Mendonça - Manager Citiops was in attendance for this item. He talked to the Board regarding the Civil Defence preparedness paper which the Strategy and Policy Committee had considered at its 23 June 2011 meeting. He advised that the report outlined the current resilience of the city, the level of resilience that is desirable and the works that would be required to reach that desired level.

Mr Mendonça covered the lessons learnt from the two Christchurch earthquakes in particular to preparedness.

084/11MB RURAL FIRE
(1215/12/IM) (ORAL REPORT)

Mike Mendonça - Manager Citiops was in attendance for this item. He talked to the Board regarding the proposal to enlarge the Rural Fire districts. He explained that the purpose of the proposal was to improve the effectiveness of the rural fire sector through better resource management.

The Board advised that they would read the documents and forward their comments to Mr Mendonça.

085/11MB ROADING
(1215/13/IM) (ORAL REPORT)

NOTED:

Steve Wright – Team Leader, Resurfacing and Contracts was in attendance for this item. He advised that he had conducted his drive about the Ohariu Valley and Makara areas.

Board member Liddell reported that the installation of the new speed signs and cats eyes had contributed to improved road safety in the Ohariu Valley area.

086/11MB **MAKARA/OHARIU COMMUNITY BOARD SUBMISSION TO THE WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL DRAFT DIGITAL STRATEGY**
Submission of the Makara/Ohariu Community Board.
(1215/13/IM) (REPORT 5)

Moved Christine Grace, seconded Judy Liddell, the substantive motion.

The substantive motion was put and declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED:

THAT the Makara/Ohariu Community Board:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Agree to the submission to the Wellington City Council Draft Digital Strategy as attached as appendix 1 to these minutes.*

087/11MB **MAKARA/OHARIU COMMUNITY BOARD SUBMISSION TO THE WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL WELLINGTON 2040**
Submission of the Makara/Ohariu Community Board.
(1215/13/IM) (REPORT 6)

Moved Christine Grace, seconded Judy Liddell, the substantive motion.

The substantive motion was put and declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED:

THAT the Makara/Ohariu Community Board:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Agree to the submission to the Wellington City Council Wellington 2040 as attached as appendix 2 to these minutes.*

088/11MB **NEW ZEALAND COMMUNITY BOARDS' WORKSHOP - TUESDAY 23 AUGUST 2011, WELLINGTON**
Report of Kirstin Harvey - Team Leader, Committee Services.
(1215/13/IM) (REPORT 7)

NOTED:

The Community Board noted that the Workshop had been cancelled.

(Gavin Bruce withdrew from the table due to a conflict of interest.)

089/11MB **PROJECT MILL CREEK**
(1215/13/IM)

(ORAL REPORT)

NOTED:

The Board noted that the Environment Court decision had been made regarding Project Mill Creek.

(Gavin Bruce returned to the table.)

090/11MB **PROJECT WESTWIND**
(1215/13/IM)

(ORAL REPORT)

NOTED:

There was nothing further to report.

091/11MB **RESOURCE CONSENT APPROVALS AND APPLICATIONS FOR
15 JULY TO 5 AUGUST 2011**

Report of Bill Stevens, Manager - Development Planning and Compliance,
North and West.

(1215/13/IM)

(REPORT 10)

Moved Christine Grace, seconded Gavin Bruce, the substantive motion.

The substantive motion was put and declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED:

THAT the Makara/Ohariu Community Board:

1. *Receive the information.*

092/11MB **FORWARD PROGRAMME**

Report of Fiona Dunlop - Committee Adviser.

(1215/13/IM)

(REPORT 11)

**Moved Christine Grace, seconded Judy Liddell, the substantive motion
with additions as follows:**

Thursday 20 October 2011

- Rural Fire

Thursday 17 November 2011

- 2012 Meeting Dates

The substantive motion with additions was put and declared **CARRIED.**

RESOLVED:

THAT the Makara/Ohariu Community Board:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Approve the work programme for the upcoming meetings.*

<i>Thursday 15 September 2011</i>
<p><i>Standing Items:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Resource consent</i> • <i>Roading</i> • <i>Project Mill Creek</i> • <i>Project Westwind and Community Liaison Group</i> • <i>Upcoming areas of consultation</i> • <i>Forward Programme</i>
<i>Thursday 20 October 2011</i>
<p><i>Standing Items:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Resource consent</i> • <i>Roading</i> • <i>Project Mill Creek</i> • <i>Project Westwind and Community Liaison Group</i> • <i>Upcoming areas of consultation</i> • <i>Forward Programme</i> <p><i>Rural Fire</i></p>
<i>Thursday 17 November 2011</i>
<p><i>Standing Items:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Resource consent</i> • <i>Roading</i> • <i>Project Mill Creek</i> • <i>Project Westwind and Community Liaison Group</i> • <i>Upcoming areas of consultation</i> • <i>Forward Programme</i> <p><i>2012 Meeting Dates</i></p>
<i>Thursday 15 December 2011</i>
<p><i>Standing Items:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Resource consent</i> • <i>Roading</i> • <i>Project Mill Creek</i> • <i>Project Westwind and Community Liaison Group</i> • <i>Upcoming areas of consultation</i> • <i>Forward Programme</i>

The meeting concluded at 9.03pm.

Confirmed: _____
Chair
/ /

APPENDIX 1

Makara/Ohariu Community Board Submission on Wellington City Council's Wellington Draft Digital Strategy

1. The Makara/Ohariu Board wished to be consulted in the draft stages of the Digital Strategy. The Board considers itself a key stakeholder for Council across a range of policies, plans and strategies.
2. Access to adequate and reliable telecommunications services are a key issue in rural Wellington. This includes weather proof telephone (land line) services, mobile phone reception and access to internet.
3. There are a number of small businesses in the Makara/Ohariu area and almost 300 households.
4. An approximate estimate of 80,000 people visit Makara coast each year. It is one of Wellington's five major recreational areas.

Issues with Internet Access

5. There is limited mobile phone coverage, no cable and poor quality, weather affected phone lines. A limited number of households have coverage for mobile wireless. Dial up internet is too slow to load many websites or download large PDF's, for example Council plans and consultation documents. The rural roll out mainly provides a better service to a limited number of households around already established and serviced hubs. For many ratepayers the only potential broadband service is via a satellite services.
6. Issues with satellite internet include
 - Affordability. Satellite internet is particularly expensive, and affordable only for high income households. There are significant installation costs, small data caps and high rates per MB.
 - Satellite in the main delivers 'slow' broadband, with significant delays as the signal travels. Faster broadband is over \$200 per month.
 - Satellite receivers struggle with the high wind, high corrosion environment

Social Inclusion

7. It is necessary to have broadband access to conduct ordinary every day business, and participate as a citizen.
8. Government and Council service design is predicated on access to broadband internet to conduct every day business.
9. Council identifies its role as enabling. The ways it will do so include
 - ensuring all financial transactions can be conducted online
 - making civic data available
 - using web and IT interactions to increase civic participation
 - removing barriers

APPENDIX 1

To become users of the digital business benefiting from Council investment in the Digital Strategy Council demands connected citizens.

The citizens of Wellington are mobile and wireless. They carry their access to email, internet, social networks, music and phone everywhere.

Christine Grace
Chair
Makara/Ohariu Community Board
410 Makara Road
MAKARA

APPENDIX 2

Submission for “Towards 2040: Smart Green Wellington” on behalf of the Makara/Ohariu Community Board

The Makara/Ohariu Community Board has focused the submission below on the Makara and Ohariu Valleys.

Makara and Ohariu are the largest “green lungs” of the Wellington City Council area. The role of the rural fringes of Wellington as a carbon sink are increasingly important.

We see Makara and Ohariu as retaining their rural characters, providing residents with the opportunity of living in such an environment, close to Wellington City, and also being able to provide a recreational facility for city residents in an area in close proximity to Wellington City and its suburbs. The Board also wishes to recognize and encourage the rural aspect and uniqueness provided by several large scale farms, providing clear open spaces and primary products only 20 minutes from the Wellington CBD. Retaining and enhancing the current rural environment by ensuring that suburban encroachment and large scale development in these areas does not lead to a fundamental change in character. This will require concerted policy decisions on the part of the Wellington City Council. It will also require affirmative policy decisions to ensure that the regeneration of the native flora and fauna is actively encouraged and supported. This latter suggestion can be achieved by providing incentives to community groups, and residents who currently live within the valleys to undertake active land and pest management in order to achieve these ends.

The two valleys and the Outer Green Belt currently support recreational facilities i.e. golf clubs, riding schools, walking tracks, and mountain bike/cycling facilities. These are activities that are in demand by those who live within the city and its suburban areas. Future development of such things such as horse trekking and walking tracks should be encouraged to provide safety and recreational opportunity for all users.

The Makara Beach and coastline should be protected as it provides a unique opportunity for recreational enjoyment within easy reach of the city. Makara Beach fronts and protects the only salt marsh wetland in the Wellington City Council area. It is a migratory bird stopover point, and hosts a colony of the rare black footed shag. The river hosts several healthy stocks of indigenous whitebait species. It is the only beach in the Wellington area from which boats can be launched when the wind is from the south. This is well demonstrated currently by the increasing number of boats being launched from Makara Beach, partly due to portions of the south coast being closed off for conservation reserve. This adds pressure to a finely balanced Makara Coast environment. Future launching facilities at Makara Beach may be part of this consideration.

The coastline and Makara Walkway needs to be cared for and well maintained into the future. It provides a great opportunity for recreational fishing, walking, cycling, swimming, diving etc. Increased human activity in the area may impact adversely on beach residents and the environment. The opening up of private land for public access will add to these impacts. Traffic management will need to be forefront. Increasing competing interests in this environment and their impacts will need to be carefully managed.

APPENDIX 2

There are also the historical aspects of Makara and Ohariu, such as the churches, gold mining history, fishing history, gun emplacements, and some other old buildings which all add points of interest for visitors to Makara and Ohariu. The retaining of these facilities is important for the future.

It is also important to ensure that Makara and Ohariu are included in all technological developments in the future; this is particularly so because in the future, social and recreational activities will be tied in with technology and it is therefore important that those technologies are available in Ohariu and Makara, both of which are only 20 minutes travelling time from the Wellington City Council offices. It also gives the opportunity to those people who currently or would like to move into a rural lifestyle to work from home whereas at the present time, these opportunities are limited because there is inadequate cell phone technology and broadband facility. Any such new technologies therefore should be extended into the Makara and Ohariu valleys, as we are part and parcel of Wellington City.

The Board believes that it is unreasonable to have one community bear all the effects of wind power development in Wellington. Makara has already made a significant contribution towards ‘greening Wellington’ with the West Wind wind power development.

Earlier in the Board’s submission, we have referred to the recreational and environmental values inherent in the rural areas of Makara and Ohariu. We urge the Council to carefully consider any future proposed wind power development in Makara or Ohariu. The Board is concerned that creeping development may further erode the green benefits that the Makara/Ohariu area currently provides for the city. We do however support the development of renewable energy in other appropriate areas.

Ratified at the Makara/Ohariu Community Board Meeting held on Thursday 18 August.

Christine Grace
Chair
Makara/Ohariu Community Board
410 Makara Road
MAKARA