

Written summary of the Waitematā Local Board meeting held via Skype  
for Business on Tuesday, 19 May 2020

This written summary was prepared by staff following the business meeting to fulfil legislative compliance under the provisions of S47A of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, as inserted by the COVID-19 Response (Urgent Management Measures) Legislation Act 2020.

- Item 1            Chairman Richard Northey checked the electronic attendance of the members of the Board, local board staff and members of the public; and opened the meeting with a karakia. All members of the Board were present, and no apologies were received.
- Item 3            Chair Richard Northey declared an interest in item 14: Waitematā Local Grants and Multiboard Grants Round Two 2019/2020 grant allocations and item 15: Waitematā Accommodation Support Fund 2019/2020 grant allocations.
- Item 4            The minutes of the meeting held on 5 May 2020 via skype were confirmed as true and correct.
- Item 8.1          Nicholas Albrecht, Chair, Victoria Park Sports and Cultural Trust (VPST) and Mark Bird, Chair, Grafton United Cricket Club (GUCC) were in attendance to present an update on the Grafton United Cricket Club and highlight some issues that the club would like to work with the local board on regarding its home ground Victoria Park. A presentation was shared, and it was added as an attachment to the official business meeting agenda.
- VPST and GUCC acknowledged the historical relationship with the Waitematā Local Board and requested that the local board consider the following:
- a) Ensure ongoing access to the car park for sports purpose and investigate replacing the bollards and chains to allow access for the club participants while still allowing access to pedestrians and cyclists.
  - b) Take actions to ensure Victoria Park continues as a sport and recreation facility. Specific acknowledgement was made to the previous local board Chair and Deputy Chair Shale Chambers.
  - c) Guidance and support with homelessness residents in the park and its changing rooms. Local board to continue to advocate and support City Mission. The Trust sought more control over the changing rooms through their upcoming lease renewal.
  - d) Plan and support trees upkeep and consider paving an area alongside the path.
  - e) Thank the board for Cox Bay Reserve second ground which has been used increasingly and raise the possibility of an upgrade in the future.

The Board thanked Nicholas Albrecht and Mark Bird and referred the presentation to Auckland Council staff for information and advice.

Item 8.2 Scott Tibbutt, General Manager and Rory McKenzie, Community Sport Advisor from Sport Auckland were in attendance to present on inspiring communities to live healthy and active lifestyles through Sport Auckland's plan to partner and empower the community.

A powerpoint presentation was provided. A copy has been placed on the official minutes and is available on the Auckland Council website as a minutes attachment.

Sport Auckland presented their strategic plan for 2020-2024 and sought to identify how they could better assist the Waitematā Local Board area.

The Board thanked Sport Auckland for their attendance and presentation.

Item 8.3 Noelene Buckland, Chair, Auckland City Centre Residents' Group was in attendance to present on issues of concerns that the group has relating to a range of regulatory functions/dysfunctions experienced by residents living in the city centre, including; resource consents, LED screens, road/street works operating hours, events and use of public spaces and urban trees.

Noelene expressed CCRG's concern regarding the following:

- a) consents given with no notification and amendments that cumulatively bring many changes to the initial project. CCRG requested the board to require all consents to be notified.
- b) LED screens flashing lights into residents' houses as they try to sleep. CCRG challenged the assessment that deemed the effect of this light as minor and felt that a health and safety assessment should be taken. The need for 24 – hour illumination was also questioned.
- c) Sought for consideration of residents when agreeing the timing of road works, loudest road works seem to happen during the night, undervaluing residents' sleeping hours and family environment.
- d) the need for quiet green spaces in the city as it was felt that private events are taking over public spaces, particularly Albert Park, Aotea Square and the waterfront. CCRG questioned the resource consent given to the container selling alcohol located in Aotea Square and requested the board limit the number of events in public green spaces in the city, including pack in and pack down days.
- e) Trees that have been removed and not yet replanted, particular mention of the three Pohutakawa trees removed in the city centre area. CCRG requested these trees to be replaced.

The Waitematā Local Board thanked Noelene for her attendance and verbal presentation. The board requested a copy of the presentation to be emailed to Local Board Services staff and other relevant Auckland Council Staff.

- Item 8.4 Brigitte Sistig and Grant Hewison from Grey Lynn 2030 were in attendance to present the Low Carbon Network Summary Report 2017/2018 to the local board and to provide an update on the group's COVID-19 recovery projects and plans.
- A powerpoint presentation was provided. A copy has been placed on the official minutes and is available on the Auckland Council website as a minutes attachment.
- The Waitematā Local Board thanked Brigitte and Grant for their attendance and presentation.
- Item 9.1 Gael Baldock, resident, was in attendance to present on concerns regarding access for the mobility and visually impaired around the city centre, the findings from a survey undertaken by Gael Baldock on the the loss of business reported by retailers in High street, and concern regarding a sharp curb on Karangahape Road cycleway. Gael also proposed the replacement of an island to island crossing to a zebra pedestrian crossing in front of 121 Ponsonby Road.
- A document was tabled in support of this item. A copy has been placed on the official minutes and is available on the Auckland Council website as a minutes attachment.
- The Waitematā Local Board received the presentation and thanked Gael for her attendance.
- Item 9.2 was first allocated to Deborah Manning to present on the Western Springs Pines. Deborah, however, was unable to attend the meeting.
- Item 9.2 Frederick Conquer was in attendance to introduce Beam e-scooters as a low – carbon neutral sustainable model to the Board. He acknowledged Auckland Council for widening footpaths during COVID-19 lockdown.
- The Waitematā Local Board received the verbal presentation and thanked Frederick for his attendance.
- Item 9.3 Glenn Wright was in attendance to present on the negative effect on local businesses and residents' from Auckland Transport's use of road cones to create extra space for social distancing in its response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Glenn spoke about the confusion it had caused to residents and the reduction in the number of car parks as a result of the cones.
- The Waitematā Local Board received the verbal presentation and thanked Glenn for his attendance.
- Item 9.4 At this point, the presenters for Item 9.4 were absent. Item 9.4 was taken after Item 11.
- Item 10.1 Richard Northey requested the board to consider the report to provide feedback on the Auckland Council's draft submission on the Basel

Convention Amendment consultation as extraordinary business. The convention deals with the treatment of plastic waste, a matter of major importance to the Waitemata Local Board.

The reason this item was not on the agenda was that the report was received after the close of the agenda.

It was agreed by the Board to consider this item as extraordinary business as the Waitemata and other Local Boards are requested to consider the report and the council's draft submission and provide its feedback by Tuesday 19 May 2020.

- Item 10.2 Richard Northey sought agreement by the Board to include a report that was received following the Emergency Committee meeting on 14 May 2020 as extraordinary business. The report was regarding the updated position and savings options to the proposed Auckland Council emergency budget (to help manage the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic).

The reason this item was not included on the agenda is that the report was received after the close of the agenda.

It was agreed by the Board to include the confidential item as extraordinary business as the Waitematā Local Board was requested to consider the information received and provide its feedback on the proposed Emergency Budget by close of business Tuesday, 19 May 2020 so that it can be included in a report to the Governing Body's 21 May 2020 meeting for consideration.

- Item 11 Ward Councillor Pippa Coom was in attendance to provide a verbal report. Councillor Coom thanked the local board for its meaningful involvement in the process leading to the consultation of the Emergency Budget. Councillor Coom also mentioned the water restrictions that were already in place with hosepipe and water blaster bans for residents. Lastly, Councillor Coom thanked member Alexandra Bonham for her Notice of Motion on Incentivise a Climate Resilient Water Strategy.

The Waitematā thanked Councillor Coom for her attendance and verbal report.

- Item 9.4 Wendy Gray and Bruce Summerville were in attendance to present on their initiative (Wild Initiative) which sought for a pilot to be undertaken in Grey Lynn Park and Western Park that would mean no-mowing in designated areas for 4-5 months. The following benefits were highlighted:

- a) less cost to board for mowing
- b) keep soil from washing away
- c) better water retention
- d) better biodiversity outcomes
- e) Opportunity for education and awareness

A powerpoint presentation was provided. A copy has been placed on the official minutes and is available on the Auckland Council website as a minutes attachment.

The Waitematā Local Board received the presentation, thanked

Wendy Gray and Bruce Summerville for their attendance and requested Auckland Council staff to investigate on the no mowing in designated areas of Grey Lynn Park and Western Park proposal and report back to the Waitematā Local Board.

- Item 12 Paul Thompson, Business Improvement District (BID) Senior Advisor was in attendance to speak to the recommended BID targeted rates for 2020/2021.

Paul Thompson informed the Board that the six BIDs are fully compliant with the BID policy. BIDs have worked hard with ATEED and Auckland Emergency management and Auckland Council's Community Empowerment Unit on COVID-19. By 19 May 2020, nearly all BIDs had reported to the Board, but Ponsonby Business Association attendance had been postponed due to COVID-19 lockdown.

The chair Richard Northey informed the Board that K'Road Business Association has re branded itself to its full name, Karangahape Road Business Association due to its location on an important part of Māori heritage.

- BREAK The chair declared a 15 - minute break at 3.30pm after Item 12 was carried.

The meeting was reconvened at 3.45pm and the chair checked for electronic attendance of members, all were present.

- Item 13 Ann Kuruvilla – Grants advisor was in attendance to speak to the Grants programme, who recommended the points given in a, b and c of item 13.

The Waitematā Grants Programme 2020/2021 was adopted by the Board. Member Sarah Trotman commented on the high caliber of organizations applying for grants and the great work done by Auckland Council's grants team in pulling the report together.

The Board intended to simplify its funding programme by not having the events development fund as a separate grant. The Board was still hopeful that some of the major events deferred at this meeting could be picked up in the following month as a separate report.

Chair Northey also added the amount to be spent on events partnership is still to be determined at subsequent meetings.

- Item 14 Ann Kuruvilla – Grants advisor was in attendance to speak to the Waitematā Local Grants and Multiboard Grants Round Two 2019/2020 grant allocations.

At 3.40pm chair Richard Northey vacated the chair in favour of deputy chair Kerrin Leoni as he had declared a conflict of interest in item 14 a) due to being a member of YMCA of Auckland and he attends the express fit and gold fit classes.

The local grant application received by YMCA was considered by the Board and item 14 a was considered and carried by the Board while the chair, Richard Northey, was absent and did not take part in the decision.

At 3.42, deputy chair Kerrin Leoni vacated the chair and Richard Northey resumed the chair.

The Board requested that some of the events applications received be deferred to the following month for consideration separately. There was no further discussion or debate in this item. The recommended grants for approval and decline was moved and carried by voice.

For information on grants declined and/or approved, please see the official meeting minutes.

Item 15 Ann Kuruvilla – Grants advisor was in attendance to speak to the Waitematā Accommodation Support Fund 2019/2020 grant allocations.

At 3.47pm the chair Richard Northey vacated the chair in favour of deputy chair Kerrin Leoni as he declared two conflicts of interest in item 15 a):

- a) Chair Northey is the patron for The Foundation for Peace Studies Aotearoa/ New Zealand and chairs their International Affairs and Disarmament Committee.
- b) The Auckland YMCA Marathon Club Incorporated as he is a member of the YMCA's Express Fit and Gold Fit programmes

Item 15 a was considered and carried by the Board while the chair, Richard Northey, was absent and did not take part in the decision.

At 3.48, deputy chair Kerrin Leoni vacated chair and Richard Northey resumed the chair.

There was no further discussion or debate in this item. The recommended grants for approval and decline was moved and carried by voice.

Item 16 Ben Halliwell – Elected Member Relationship Manager, was in attendance to provide Auckland Transport May 2020 updates.

Ben Halliwell introduced Caroline Tauevihi as his replacement as the Elected Member Relationship Manager for the Waitematā Local Board.

A verbal update was added to the report, advising that a consultation for a signalised pedestrian crossing Broadway outside the Newmarket Train station was going out for public feedback on 20 May 2020.

Member Graeme Gunthorp spoke to the recommendation points b to e reiterating that he believed in quality separation on roads, not just cones, particularly on Queen Street. Member Gunthorp also urged Auckland Transport to continue improving the transport network.

Member Sarah Trotman suggested that an amendment be made to include additional wording "if separation on roads were proven to be necessary and practices were safe". This addition was not

supported.

The board voted on items b to e separately and all items were carried. Member Trotman requested that her vote against resolution d be recorded.

The Board expressed their thanks to Ben Halliwell for his contributions and support over the last three years to the local board.

Item 17 Carlos Rahman – Senior Local Board Advisor, was in attendance to speak to the report from Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency Innovating Streets for People pilot fund.

Members Alexandra Bonham and Graeme Gunthorp stated that they felt it was a worthwhile process, albeit the small funding available for the entire country to apply.

There was no further debate or discussion on this item.

Item 18 Craig Cairncross – Team Leader Planning and Matthew Gouge – Principal Planner, were in attendance to provide information on the proposed plan change and seek the Local board feedback on Plan Change 22 and Plan Modification 12 – additions of places of significance to Mana Whenua report.

33 sites of places of significance to mana whenua were introduced of which six are located in Waitematā Local Board. A representative of the Waitematā Local Board was invited to attend the hearing to be held in June 2020.

Auckland Council officers clarified that the list was based on the principle that there is no opposition or competing claims. A site that was originally proposed to be included in the plan change has now been removed from the list of 33 sites due to it currently going through commercial redress and a number of iwi had opposed its inclusion..

There was no further discussion.

Item 19 There was no discussion or debate on this item.

Item 20 Members acknowledged the work undertaken by libraries and other organisations to support community connection and homeless during COVID 19 level 4 and level 3.

Member Trotman updated the board on her concerns and response regarding the Ponsonby Road cones and securing Western Springs Pines Forest. Sought for a future workshop to be held on the West Lynn steel ramp.

A debate was raised on a social media interaction. As the matter was not referred to in any of the board members report it was recommended that members discuss outside of the business meeting.

There was no further discussion.

Item 21 There was no discussion or debate on this item.

Item 22      There was no discussion or debate on this item.

Item 23.1    There was no discussion or debate on this item.

Item 24.1    The board carried a resolution to move this item into a confidential meeting.

The recording and proceedings notes were stopped, and the public were invited to remove themselves from the meeting.

At 5.11pm the meeting was moved from confidential back to public.

The chair declared the meeting closed at 5.12pm.