

Castle Hill Community Association

Minutes: Annual General Meeting 2020

Date: 8th March 2020

Time: 10:35am to 12:30pm

Venue: Castle Hill Community Hall, Castle Hill Village

Present: Rick Hill, Fiona McDonald, Carol Ferrier, Sonia Wakefield, Ildica & Connor Boyd, Anna Boggis, Ron & Liz Hay, James Baines, Alan Ogle, Robyn Ogle, Michael Earle, Susan Newton, Gary Rae, Garry Minnfell, Janet McPherson, Lynda Hill, Peter & Sonia Wakefield, Lin & Dick Moore, Ray & Maree Goldring, Bill Woods, John Reid, Anthony Brown, Anna Thorpe, John McCallum, Willie Palmer, Susan Rowe, Peter Montgomery, John Nicholson, Polly Miller, James & Jackie Broadbent, Tom Broadbent

Apologies:

Liz Dart, Rob & Denise Murfitt, Kim & Roger Reid, Jordan & Alisa Wood, Adrian & Carol Hunting, Rupert Corbet, Diana Reid, Joss McNamara, Mike Gaby, Jan Hann

Rick/James Baines sustained, moved, carried

Minutes of meeting circulated

Taken as read and adopted: Fiona/John Reid, Carried

Approved: Anthony/Anna, carried

No matters arising

Reports

Taken as read: Rick/Peter Montgomery, carried

General Business

Chair Report

- A strong Committee Team have worked cohesively together. Positive, forward, momentum with residents as collective focus of the CHCA
- Audience vote of thanks for Ray & Maree Goldring, and all the many roles they have held (Hall bookings, Secretary, Chair, ERT etc.), and contributed to the CHCA over many years
- Rick to stand down after an enjoyable year as Chair. Best wishes for the incoming Committee.

Rick/James/moved/carried

Reports

Financial (Sonia)

- Increase of \$10K in main village bank account last year, 6K of this was a grant received for trails funding (paid in Dec and not transferred to trails account till the 2020 financial year. A net cash increase in the main account of 4K.
- A local business directory has been added to the CHV website as a helpful resource, these advertisers also feature in the quarterly newsletter, and provide annual income to the CHVA
- SDC would like a comparison of chipping costs versus received firewood donations
- Pump track improvements have been carried out
- Future spending on security cameras for the village entrance, and a Jazz band for a Family picnic (possibly Easter Art)

Sonia/Alan/moved, carried

Reserves (James Baines)

- Many positive developments with ongoing planting around the village and the recent installation of the basketball court
- Huge thanks from the wider CHV community to all volunteers for their efforts around reserves, with special mention to Ron & Liz Hay
- The RMP draft is closer to finalization now that survey results are in (95 responses). Results showed that views were still split.
- Despite the polarized survey results, significant new plantings around CHV of predominantly natives, have been embraced by the majority
- The survey has provided direction for the RMP, and SDC/ECAN will be approached to put together an application for an exemption that reflects the survey result
- Anthony thanked James for his commitment to the difficult task in progressing a result for the RMP on the Wilding trees
- **Tree Removal** (Discussion: Anthony, James, Rick, Ray & Maree, Pete): it was noted that there are several potentially poisoned Larches around the Village and reserves, a probable symptom of the ongoing polarized views within the Village. It was reiterated that people were NOT to take matters/frustrations into their own hands as these actions, and the position of poisoned trees, implicated people that were not the instigators. A strong message was reiterated to desist from taking matters into their own hands, and any behavior of this nature was reprehensible. All current tree requests have been approved by the CHVA, but these tree requests on submission to SDC have been stalled until the RMP is finalized. General frustration was acknowledged at the stalling of tree removal requests by the SDC, and a request for tolerance made, while due process was re-established. Now that the RMP can be finalized, it is anticipated that SDC will be able to once again progress tree removal requests.
- **RMP and Application for Exemption** (Discussion: Connor, Rick, James, Maree, Ray & Pete): clarification is required on what the application for an "exemption" by SDC would entail. This application for an exemption is to be embodied in the RMP (based on survey results), and clearly outline, and justify the conditions for exemption, that

are being applied for. The RMP is submitted to SDC as a formal document, and there will be opportunity for formal submissions prior to SDC adopting the presented RMP. On adoption of the final RMP, SDC will apply to ECAN on behalf of the Village for the exemption. While a lot of the RMP is already in place, there is still work required as the exemption will rely heavily on successfully presenting how SDC intends to “Contain” the spread of wildings in the Flock Hill, Torlesse Catchment, from the seed source (CHV). Concern was registered for the continued spread, and it was noted that seed source trees on private land would be subject to the Resource Management act.

James/Ron/moved, carried

Trails (Anthony)

- Continue to move forward on working Management Plan with DOC, and maintenance and funding applications. Funding based on volunteer hours put in
- Pirate tracks are a source of frustration, and have served to erode relationship with DOC. A good working relationship with DOC is imperative to formalizing and further developing the 5-10-year management plan for the Craigieburn trails
- Currently have a survey out seeking feed back on trails from riders, and event participants from the successful Trans Enduro and Gravity Canterbury Enduro
- Cheeseman Rd counter shows summer bike shuttle traffic, to be double that of winter ski field traffic. This popularity of the trails in summer is echoed by the occupancy rate fo Forrest Lodge
- Prioritizing work on the Hogs Back and Dracophylum tracks as both are badly gullied and side walled with erosion accelerated by water. Needs run off water management, and locally sourced materials flown in for repair works
- The “Easy up” track has been successful and will see some repair works for water management in the upper regions. Drac track has had a redirection, and hopeful to get a bridge built for Coal pit spur, and toilets for Texas Flat carpark
- **Discussion** (Monty, Sonia, Rick, Connor, Anthony): Is it possible to put a resolution to SDC for an annual contribution to trail maintenance? Especially considering the growing support for the trails from SDC, and their promotion of the area (images used in promo material constantly) as part of their highway 73/Selwyn Connect projects. Recently \$6k was allocated to Hogs back maintenance by SDC through the Selwyn Charitable Foundation in acknowledgement that the trails were of regional value

Anthony/Monty/moved, carried

ERT (Ray)

- Confident that all is in place for AF8, SDC have supported training of the CH ERT, and the team are ready to respond
- AED now installed on the exterior of the ICP, with signage

Ray/James/moved, carried

Duncan (Trails)

Committee members were elected from the following nominations:

Ross (Pete/Anna)

Anna Boggis (Fiona/Sonia, withdrawn)

James Baines (Alan/Ron)

James Broadbent (Sonia/Maree)

Rick (Alan/James)

Ildica (Fiona/Connor, coopted)

Suzie (Gary/Janet)

John Nicholson (Peter Montgomery, Fiona)

- One vote per household/sub, or 2 votes if own two sections with 2 attached subs
- Michael Earle and Bill Woods to oversee and count votes

Destroy ballot papers: Rick/Fiona/moved, carried

General/From the floor

Re-establish Reserves Committee

Discussion (Fiona/Rick, others): reserves committee was disbanded 3 years ago to focus on the RMP. Status quo to remain until RMP finalized. Envisaged that an appointee will manage tree removal requests and submissions once RMP finalized. Reminder to submit any tree removal requests to CHVA now, for forwarding to Graeme Densem. Removals on private land are a matter for neighborly discussion. Nobody has permission to cut down trees on reserves. A chain saw certificate is required to cut up any fallen trees on reserves.

Hall Sub-Committee

- Sonia proposed a hall sub-committee to manage hall maintenance, liaise with SDC regarding hall extensions, and promote CHV needs/hall functionality
- Liz Hay & Maree Goldring still available to support Carol Ferrier with hall inspections after private hire

Hall extension working group: formed to feedback to SDC the CHCA community ideas / needs for the imminent hall extension. Interested contributors: Pete Wakefield, John Reid, Maree Goldring, Carol Ferrier, James Broadbent.

CHV Subscriptions/Websites (Discussion: Connor, Sonia, Rick)

- Subscriptions to remain at \$50 if paid by May, increasing to \$60 afterwards, and additional \$20 to list your home as a rental on the web site. Subscription rates to remain as status quo. Due to imminent hall extensions, trails donation deferred to next year.

- Suggestion that \$15 of the \$20 rental listing price goes to the trails fund. Trails fund also aiming for a tee shirt fundraiser. Committee will confirm a trail fund donation and continuing support.
- Thought to be over 110 houses in the village with potential to double. Currently 110 households are paying the CHCA sub. Need reminders to pay, and to recruit new section owners
- Having two Castle Hill related web sites is creating confusion, Castlehill.net.nz gains more traffic over the main chva.org.nz site due to the more search engine responsive domain name

Sonia/James/moved, carried

SDC representative: Bill Woods

- Enjoying returning after 20 years and seeing the progress and developments, and is passionate about the region
- Willing and ready to assist where he can achieve outcomes in both the Arthurs and Castle Hill region

Newsletter & General Business (Discussion: Rick, Liz, Sonia, Maree, Fiona, Ray, Ildica, Janet, Pete, Ron, John Reid, James, Anna)

- **Playground update:** playground still gets steady use (as does the Douglas Fir sited here), post trampoline removal. SDC are currently pricing and exploring replacement equipment. Need sensitivity in equipment choice, that is sympathetic to surrounding landscape. Concern that kids are cutting out branches and compromising structural integrity to trees around Village. SDC have been vigilant about removing play structures constructed in reserve trees.
- **Village Entrance:** discussions in progress with SDC and developers to overhaul entrance landscaping
- **New Subdivision:** request for further information about the proposed commercial development. Monty stated it was a “work in progress” and is open to ideas
- **AGM Sports day** requires rejuvenation, and how to repurpose existing donated trophies. Suggested a family oriented multisport activity may be a suitable replacement. Possible mini-Highland games, and better forward planning and advertising of dates
- **Public Toilets:** new toilet block to be clad in batten over board to match hall
- **Village Hall:** heat pump installation has been deferred until hall extension. Request to proceed prior to hall extension
- **Easter Art weekend:** promotion of (and posters / postcards left) to encourage residents present to distribute to a wider audience

Meeting closed at 12:30pm

Next committee meeting: 16th March, 6pm, Halswell Quarry

Committee: Follow up Actions for discussion next meeting

Finalize RMP & update with survey result
Confirm trails donation from subs, request further trail funding from SDC
AGM family games change to multisport/tri/highland games, repurpose trophies
Confirm Hall heat pump install
Confirm # of houses in village