



POKENO COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

Minutes for the six-weekly Pokeno Community Committee meeting held by Zoom meeting on Monday 6 September 2021 commencing at 7.00pm.

Committee Members Present	Ric Odom (Chair), Helen Clotworthy (Deputy Chair), Ginny Bullock (Secretary), James McRobbie, Brenda Roberts, Kris Hines, Allen Grainger
Guests in Attendance	Mike Lyons (WDC) Matt Kofoed (Downer), Tony Whittaker (WDC)
Councillors in Attendance	Cr Jacqui Church, Cr Stephanie Henderson
Apologies	Doug Rowe, Nick Johnson (WDC - Council)

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed attendees.

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Agenda Item 1

Moved by Ric Odom
Seconded by Kris Hines

The apologies from Doug Rowe and Nick Johnson be received.

CARRIED

CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA

Agenda Item 2

Moved by Allen Grainger
Seconded by Ginny Bullock

The agenda was confirmed.

CARRIED

PUBLIC FORUM

Agenda Item 3

Matt Kofoed advised that they had found a power cable under the road, so are waiting for Chorus and COVID lockdown Level 4 to change to Level 3 for access. Hoping to do all work in one seamless action once work resumes. Brenda advised that Chorus have been at intersection of Ford Street and Pokeno Road taking photos of each lamp post regarding power installation.

The Committee was advised that different barriers to prevent illegal access to Pokeno Road are not possible and that the current barriers are joined together, which should prevent through access.

Brenda wants barriers narrowed on temporary walkway on Pokeno Road to prevent motorcycles using it as a quick way to/from Great South Road. Tony said he would look into this.

Helen Clothworthy needs a timeline for two options for Great South Road as discussed at earlier meeting. Tony to advise on where these are at. Once again, this is COVID delayed. Specific maps to be advised to Pokeno Community Committee.

Totara Park

Tony to check with Megan, as barbeques not connected and park still does not have rubbish bins or the agreed playground equipment. Improved lighting needs to be installed. No basketball court installed or other facilities for teenagers. Dines have not reported back to the Committee regarding upgrade.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Agenda Item 4

No disclosures of interest.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Agenda Item 5

Moved by James McRobbie
Seconded by Kris Hines

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Pokeno Community Committee held Monday 26 July 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

Agenda Item 6

Inwards

Agenda Item 6.1

Gull asked for extension due to COVID lockdown. New hearing date set 10 September for appeals. Ric Odom to represent the Committee.

Outwards

Agenda Item 6.2

No outwards correspondence.

REPORTS

Agenda Item 7

Pokeno Community Committee Schedule

No update, but this will be an ongoing agenda item. Update on Trust application deferred until next meeting due to COVID delays.

Need to set up Annual General Meeting and date for elections.

Subcommittee reports

Agenda Item 7.7

No reports.

Community Committees / Boards

Agenda Item 7.8

No reports.

Councillor Church

Agenda Item 7.9

Cr Church gave her report which included:

- Wanting to know about \$20,000 held by Council for Pokeno. What is it for? Agreed by meeting to remove the word 'planting' from remit.

Moved by Allen Grainger

Seconded by Kris Hines

- A community working bee planted 300 plants on the wetlands walkway by Galston Court, some of which have already been stolen.
- Funding came from Momentum and a private donor for Pokeno Lions and Catholic community to provide pataka (food banks) around Pokeno. Allen Grainger felt that Pokeno Community Committee should have been advised in advance, as there are several different agencies around the district which would have been interested in assisting with this and Pokeno Community Committee is invested in representing Pokeno.

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Item 7.10

Street Names

Helen Clotworthy has a list of street names for Council to review. She is getting histories of local Pokeno people to put forward to Council. It is not easy as many suggestions are rejected by Council.

James McRobbie wants to know criteria for street names. Helen advised that often names are rejected if there are similar or the same names within the Waikato area. Two extra names, Cyril Martin and Percy Harris were put forward by Allen Grainger on behalf of Doug Rowe. Ginny Bullock suggested native trees or bird names.

Cr Church suggested Norman Watson who attended Whangarata School in 1920's. She suggested QR Codes be posted to poles in Pokeno to give details of local history and historical people of interest. There is a process for Maori names. List of current names in north Waikato sent to Committee members by email.

Ric Odom wants Council to advise Committee on the reason for rejection of names put forward.

Kowhai Downs

Allen Grainger asked Council about who is responsible for maintenance in Kowhai Downs. It has been divested to Council and nothing has been done since. Storm water drainage is a major issue, as some reeds (which are integral part of this) have been removed, cut down by new residents. Ditches are the responsibility of Watercare. Berms to be mown by residents. Tony said to log this with Council and copy both himself and Cr Church to be followed up.

Speed restrictions

Ideas sent to Ric who passed these on to Cr Church. Cr Church to send map of North Waikato limits to Committee members. Most Pokeno Community Committee members thought 40 kms in residential areas and 50 kms in rest of district including central business district. However, James McRobbie felt that 50 kms, at roundabout at Dean Road, might be problematic for trucks coming from State Highway 1.

Communications

Website

Helen has found original web designer who is happy to continue for a fee. There is a website building tool which is relatively simple to use. It was thought an annual fee of \$500 to set up and maintain a reliable website might be all that is needed.

Tony advised Council has \$500 to assist setting up Pokeno Community Committee website, but this has to be maintained by Pokeno Community Committee and needs someone experienced in websites to keep it updated.

ACTION POINTS FOR OCTOBER MEETING

Agenda Item 8

- Ric Odom to:
 - Confirm Annual General Meeting and date for elections (held bi-yearly).
 - Provide update for Pokeno Community Committee Schedule and update on Trust application.

- Tony Whittaker to respond to items listed under Agenda Item 3:
 - Brenda Roberts request for barriers to be narrowed on temporary walkway.
 - Helen Clotworthy's request for timeline with two options for Great South Road.
 - Totara Park – Barbeques not connected, rubbish bins, playground equipment, basketball court and improved lighting not installed along with other facilities.

- Tony Whittaker to respond to item listed under Agenda Item 7.9:
 - Pokeno Community Committee's request to understand more about the \$20,000 held by Council for Pokeno.

- Council to provide reason for rejection of streets names put forward (Agenda Item 7.10 – Street Names).

- Allen Grainger to lodge Kowhai Downs issues with Council and to copy Tony Whittaker and Cr Church in for follow-up purposes (Agenda Item 7.10 – Kowhai Downs).

- Cr Church to send map of North Waikato limits to Committee Members (Agenda Item 7.10 – Speed Restrictions).

Chair Ric Odom thanked visitors and the public for their attendance and contribution.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8:30 pm.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Pokeno Community Committee is Monday 18 October 2021 at 7.00 pm at the Pokeno Community Hall.