

POKENO COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of Pokeno Community Committee held on Tuesday 21 February 2023 at 7.00 pm at Pokeno Hall.

Present:

Allen Grainger (Chair), Helen Clotworthy (Deputy Chair), Ginny Bullock (Secretary), Ric Odom, Barry Birchall, Tricia Burns, Janet Baillie, Bronwyn Heath, Cecilia Heta

Councillor: Kandi Ngataki

Visitors: Mayor Jacqui Church, Clive Morgan (WDC), Jason Marconi WDC, members of the public

Apologies

Doug Rowe, Community Patrol

Moved Ginny Bullock

Seconded Barry Birchall

Confirmation of Status of Agenda

Moved Janet Baillie

Seconded Bronwyn Heath

Confirmation of previous minutes 06 December 2022

Moved: Ric Odom

Seconded Barry Birchall

Disclosures of interest

The register of disclosures of interests is no longer included on agendas but PCC members still have a duty to disclose any interests under this item to the Chairman

PUBLIC FORUM

Speeding vehicles from Susan McDougall. These are happening on motorway offramps and between Nikau Road and Razorback Road at all times. She knows who the offender is and has reported them to the police.

Committee suggested that she and neighbouring properties report the offending every time it happens to the police on *555 or 105 reiterating that the offending has been reported before on a number of previous occasions.

Shirley Robinson (shirlokay@gmail.com 0272555155) advised that she owns 1 acre of land behind Countdown. She lives in a tiny home on the property and it has all facilities (water, etc). She is offering it to the community of Pokeno for use for the next 2 years and is looking for support from WDC.

She is looking for ideas.

She notes that there are a couple of vacant sections by her property owned by WDC and wonders if these can be incorporated into the use.

It was suggested that a community garden could be set up there.

Committee raised the issue of Health and Safety.

Community Patrol Report

Patrol has seen some increased activity over the holiday period and early new year mainly with car conversions.

For those that leave their cars parked on the street the Community Patrol recommend that owners purchase a steering wheel lock, which helps discourage theft

Haupai Montgomery asked whether a Pokeno Civil Defence group should be set up in view of the recent flooding around the country. He advised that the Civil Defence Group could be based at the site of the future marae in Pokeno. Helen Clotworthy is to find documents which she has at home from old CD brochures for Committee.

They will form basis for a meeting to be held of interested parties in future weeks coming up and will all need updating

CORRESPONDENCE

In:

Various emails from WDC forwarded by Secretary Ginny Bullock to all committee members.

Out: Nil

COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cr Kandi Ngataki introduced herself as our new Councillor for the Pokeno area. She reported on the flood damage to the road to Port Waikato and the damage to the township. Residents had to be evacuated and some houses are red/yellow stickered. The road is being repaired but it is a long process. She advised she is available for any issues PCC may have – her contact is kandi.ngataki@waidc.govt.nz and her phone number is 0212468475

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Jacqui Church advised she is pleased to attend the PCC meeting and will try and attend as often as possible all future meetings. She said that community groups such as Civil Defence are important to maintain. Particularly in view of recent catastrophic weather events. Central Government is offering assistance for damage to infrastructure. A focus on climate change and health should be front of mind. She asked what Pokeno needs will be in 10 years' time, a pool, etc? Meetings should take place to make Strategic Plan for Pokeno for our community future, bearing in mind that population may increase to as much as 20000 in that time.

WORKS AND ISSUES

Clive Morgan requested that Works and Issues Agenda is taken as read
Moved Allen Grainger
Seconded Ric Odom

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Strategy and Growth

Ric Odom advised that the appeals to the WDC are still in progress.

It is important that all WDC issues are advised to PCC in a timely manner. Point of contact for all communications to PCC is Secretary Ginny Bullock (ginnyb2108@gmail.com)

Finance

Helen Clotworthy asked how funding from WDC is happening now as the old system has been abolished. No new funding information has been advised by WDC. Report from Helen attached.



She advised that the Committee still has not received payment of \$20700+ from the Council in compensation for the removal of a protected oak tree dating back to 2015.

Moved Helen Clotworthy
Seconded Allen Grainger

Communications

Helen Clotworthy advised that website went live in October 2022 as previously noted. She commented that it has been a bit quiet over the holiday break but she will be in contact with the web designer to update and increase number over hits (in particular overseas). She also said she will be approaching new local businesses with a view to getting them to advertise on the PCC website

Facilities

Pokeno Sports Park Stage 2

400 trucks of dirt from Ridge Road and behind Yashili will be laid in next 2 weeks or so weather permitting. There will be an invitation to PCC members to inspect once complete.

Access still being discussed. Concern was raised at narrowness of Munro Road. Although Joel McKinley advised that probable foot access to the park should be possible from Helenslee Road subject to swamp at the bottom of the hill which may need a bridge or similar crossing.

Next plan should be available at the end of July 2023 re ground improvements.

Events

Allen Grainger advised the following events are in the pipeline:

“Round the Pokeno” Fun run/walk/ 5 kms approximately.

4 groups : Running, Walking, families with pushchairs, children

From Totara Park at the top of Hillpark Drive around walkways of Pokeno, return to Totara Park for Community Get-together confirmed for 2 April 2023

Lions, Community Patrol to be marshals

Gold Coin donation

Allen Grainger noted that parking may be an issue.

Anzac Day Parade 25 April 2023 9.30 am

Santa Parade 2023 now 9 December 2023 at 6.30 pm

Ice Cream Day postponed until 2024 due to unavailability of resources

NEIGHBOURING COMMITTEE REPORTS

No communications from Mercer Board. Tuakau not operating at the moment due to insufficient members

KEY WORKS PROGRAMMES

Clive Morgan advised the following
Council project manager is Darryl Woodhouse

Sports Park

Carpark to be done in October 2023
Drainage/stormwater works to be completed by October 2023

Pokeno Main Street

02 March mini meeting to sign off the plan for redevelopment

Market Street Hub

Work is going ahead looking at flooding etc

Toilet Block

Attached is a suggested improvement to the gardens around the new toilet block.

Work is in progress to check all underground pipe work and infrastructure



Pokeno Toilets
2.pdf

Point of contact is Crystal Walker at WDC and suggestions are welcomed.
A discussion took place about the naming of the garden. It was felt by the PCC that as the park was originally named O'Neil Memorial Gardens, this should be reinstated and antique farm equipment should also be included in any improvements.

Street Cameras

These will be looked at once new Main Street upgrade is approved. WDC is providing Cameras into five areas in the Council District. A plan of how many Cameras required in each area to be completed prior to installation

OTHER BUSINESS

Ric Odom brought up street vendors in Pokeno. Do they have permits because traffic is an issue in the main street?

Community Garden

It has come to the attention of Ginny Bullock that there is another plan (as per Facebook announcement) to apply to WDC to use half of the playground on Mark Ball Drive for use as a community garden.

This is opposed by local residents. Reasons given are removing play area from children who use it to play football, picnic etc. There is no water to this area or toilet facilities, noise, compost and vermin would be an issue and due to bus stops, there is no parking

In view of the offer from Shirley Robinson (see earlier) for use of her land behind Countdown, it is felt that Mark Ball Drive should be refused by WDC.

Proposed Ginny Bullock

Seconded Janet Baillie

As there was no other business, the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Meeting dates for 2023 are below. 7.00 pm at the Hall

- Monday, 27 March 2023 – an update from Waka Kotahi re SH1 improvements Papakura to Drury
- Monday, 8 May 2023
- Monday, 19 June 2023
- Monday, 31 July 2023
- Monday, 11 September
- Tuesday, 24 October
- Monday, 4 December.