

Minutes of the
Rongotea Community Committee

Held at 7.30pm on Monday 6th July
at the Rongotea Community Centre

Present: (10) L Berry, M Munn, A Hodge, B Proctor, H Wheeler, B Thatcher, S Manley, Mayor H Worboys, Cr A Short & Cr A Quarrie.

Welcome: Chair Lance Berry welcomed all those present. This was the first meeting since March and wasn't the world a different looking place now.

Apologies: T Ross, S Liverton, J Liverton, J Hawthorn

That the apologies be accepted.

Moved: B Thatcher / L Berry

Minutes:

That the minutes of the 2nd March 2020, as amended, be adopted.

Moved: L Berry / A Hodge

Matters arising:

Please note continual problems with potholes at the Kopane Bridge. Unfortunately when one is fixed a new one appears.

Correspondence:

Inwards: 1. Rongotea Tennis Club. Thank you for letter of Letter of Support.

2. Email from J Hawthorn requesting post-covid catch up.

Outwards: 1. Reply to J Hawthorn confirming time & date. Lance & Teri.

Community Projects:

After meeting with J Hawthorn, it was agreed to:

1. The Walkway Project will be completed by a paid contractor using money from the Rongotea Community Plan fund. Work would commence starting at the bus stop and proceed 100m up Waitohi Rd. The landowner there had very kindly offered to donate a bus shelter. Then 600m further up would be completed.
2. Phoenix palms. These will be taken down, initially to stumps using Community Committee funding.

3. "Teri's tree" would be removed. Also to be funded by Community Committee funding.
4. Public Art Project. Permission has been given to "trial" a sheet of mounted plywood in the position proposed for a rusty steel artwork to see if the community feel the location is suitable and that it does not block sight lines.

General Business:

1. Rongotea Community Centre refurbishment. Lance gave an update of renovations and members looked around. Suggestions for a display cabinet for village memorabilia, the art space, the library space were explained and it was agreed to proceed.
2. There are some maintenance issues to be fixed please.
 - the toilet cistern needs fixing
 - the hand basin tap is leaking
 - the lock in the outside door is jamming
 - the hot water infinity is overflowing.
 - could the phone jack be relocated to the new library space too.
 - the electrician did come and look at the reported kitchen electrical issues but has not been back to complete the work.
 - The front step is slippery when wet. It is the painted section of the step.
3. Heating. Now that the centre was being refurbished could it be heated by a heat pump or other suitable heating. It was agreed that this could be a future grant application to Central Energy Trust or Eastern & Central Community Trust. CET's next round is November. ECCT has a round every 2nd month. Who will co-ordinate?
4. Internet at community centre. Would it be possible to get the centre connected as it is a satellite library and many more services could be offered if it was online. Is this something council would consider funding?
5. Rural Connectivity for cellphones. Lance was keen to find out where Rongotea features in this space. Mayor Helen said council was due a post-covid update and she would ensure Rongotea was mentioned.
6. The Rongotea Community Committee's independent bank account. Aside from council funds, the committee has its own funds in a separate bank account which has to get administered with signatories etc. Lance suggested that this separate account be closed and that the funds be transferred into the council account to streamline administration.
 - That the Rongotea Community Committee's own bank account be closed and the \$3000 in it be transferred to the council's Rongotea Community Committee fund.

Moved: L Berry / H Wheeler

7. Trees planted on road verge. H Wheeler asked if property owners were allowed to plant trees on the roadside in front of their property? There were some examples of this nearby.
8. Tree trimming by roundabout. B Thatcher asked if the tree trimming by the cenotaph was still programmed to happen?
9. Pipe damaged by contractor outside 4 Douglas Sqr. B Thatcher has reported this PVC pipe broken by contractor to council but it still has not been repaired yet.
10. MDC 2020 Community Honours – nominations close on Fri 31st July.

Council report:

Mayor Helen and councillor's Alison & Andrew gave a comprehensive report on what's been happening in the district both during lockdown and post-covid. (attached).

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

The next meeting would be held on Mon 3rd August. Council would like to give the District Plan presentation that was postponed by Covid, so please note the earlier start time of 7.00pm.