

Go Hororata Minutes

Tuesday 4th April, 7.30pm @ Hororata Hall



Present: Craig Blackburn (Chair), Annabel Freeman, Kate Foster, Penny Oliver, Margaret Cross, Jenni Carter, Jenny Studholme, Megan Craven, Barty Doak, Susan Thornley, Helen Youngman, Marty Gameson, Chris Thwaites, Steph Kimber, Sam Kallen, Peter Snook

Guests: Derek Hayes (SDC), Hamish Shaw, Paul Roper-Gee

Minute Secretary: Cindy Driscoll

1. **Apologies** – Will Freeman, Michael Oakley, Lucy Cookson

2. **Presentation from SDC and HSA on the Hororata Domain Master Plan**
 - a. Derek outlined the purpose of the plan – this plan is about the big picture of activities and nodes on the Domain. Sitting behind this is Reserves management statutory plan. The Master plan will help set projects, budgets and maintenance, this will be the next phase of consultation
 - b. Overview of priorities as listed in the Plan – all agreed these match community aspirations. Paul suggested further priorities of:
 - i. Infrastructure – well, water source at equestrian centre, water, flood management along the boundary
 - ii. Strategy for how the Domain is managed – funding for coordinator for the Domain, and coordinate volunteers/community engagement
 - c. Discussion around priority needs to walkers, runners, cyclists before the horse activity as only 1% of the users are trotters. There is a pinch point on the North/East boundary where there will not be enough space for the walking track. The trotting track needs to be altered slightly here to make room. The committee agreed this was practical and allowed freer movement for walkers etc. Sam confirmed it worked for the trotting trainers.
 - d. The trotting track would be completely fenced. Main entrance would be from the equestrian area. But there would still be the gates along the front straight. The committee questioned if trotting track would be exclusive use for the trotters. Committee felt it needed to keep all areas open to all users, with signage and common sense this could be done safely. This means the track maintenance needs to be done by the SDC.
 - e. The committee felt that the Cross-Country course did not need to be fenced, this was not practical, there had not been issues in the past, there are many examples of areas where walkers/runners etc coexist with horses. The feeling was that it is a wide-open space putting to many fences and restrictions of movement would be detrimental.
 - f. SDC needs a booking system so users can see what events are booked for the Domain. An online calendar was suggested. Also let Sam know if any events will affect the race track and she can let trainers know. Trainers all have other track options they can use; they are just further away.
 - g. The entrances in to the Domain were discussed with the suggestion of removing Gate B and making Gate C the main entrance, this gate will need landscaping and making more appealing. There were no objections to this and again was a practical move as it gets away from the entrance gate B which is on a corner (opposite Duncan's Rd where flags are).
 - h. Suggestion there needs to be a foot path from Café to gate C, street lighting at gate C connecting the village to the Domain, this would also be good for the school
 - i. The consultants were wanting to strengthen the Domain for the whole district but also increase opportunities for the immediate community.
 - j. Questions around the village green area of the plan and if this impeded events. This is to be reconsidered.

- k. Noted removal of the front row of stables. Stables are needed for the trotting trainers and could be rebuild in equestrian area along with wash area and loose boxes. Back row of stables would remain and be reinstated.
- l. Noted removal of administration building as it is at end of life.
- m. With removal of both buildings this is not an immediate action but to be done in the next 10 years. Fencing, walkways, cross country course, Lake are priorities.
- n. Really important to get budget to maintain what assets are on the Domain before adding new things.
- o. Discussion on enhancing the Lake, all agreed this is a special area and needs to be returned to its Edwardian Garden glory. Suggestion from consultants of an accessible island in the middle. There were mixed feelings on this as it is good for birds and wildlife but needs to be maintained. Need to consider how to keep the lake water healthy.
- p. Discussion on where the playground could be located. Existing playground at tennis courts is far away from the village, only for small children and cold in the winter but good in summer and needed for when tennis is on. Other options were discussed of moving towards the Scout den or Millennium Gardens, bordering the foraging forest which is going to be an attraction. Millennium Gardens are currently neglected but a wonderful asset when cared for. The playground did not need to be a 'plastic' type but more wooden, adventure, working with landscape. Further discussion and ideas needed on this.
- q. Phil pointed out the SDC need to put assets back that have been taken out (walking track, fences, cross country course) before getting on with new projects. Derek to follow up.
- r. General feeling of the committee was that the draft plan covered what had been proposed by the committee and the work Phil had done.
- s. Cindy to send consultants details to committee to send further ideas through, considering the questions on the last page of the plan.
- t. Plan will be updated following the meeting and resent. It can then be circulated publicly. Go Hororata reps to send to their committees. Can put out to community. Suggestion there may need to be another meeting.

Paul, Hamish and Derek left

- 3. **Minutes from previous meeting** – taken as read. Moved that the minutes were true and accurate Phil Freeman, Second Susan Thornley
 - a. Matters arising – none
- 4. **Correspondence**
 - a. Reservoir update – Rose Sullivan – question on size is it big enough
 - b. Playcentre Head office correspondence – tabled. GoH is not the landlords yet and cannot commit to anything as yet. Response accordingly.
- 5. Finance – report tabled. Finance report accepted. Moved Margaret Cross, Second Helene Youngman
- 6. **Domain**
 - a. New toilets – Rata panels to be designed, HCT will need to fund, suggestion to put plans out there and ask people to contribute to the cost
- 7. **Community /Village**
 - a. Noted work being done by SDC in the village at the moment
- 8. **Community Hub**
 - a. Discussion on how Go Hororata move to the next stage of planning. Don't want to spend too much on consultants until have the keys but need to keep the vision planning going.
 - b. To help with the HCT suggested engaging Rob Lowry from Studio 3 to work with the committee to develop a bird's eye view plan that can then be used for discussions in the community about the development of the hub. Was suggested that we need to visually show past, present and future to shape discussions. This will help brief the project consultants like architects as to the community's vision.

- c. It was moved that the committee accept the HCT's offer to fund \$8000 towards Rob Lowry. Moved Helene Youngman, second Marty Gameson

9. General Business

- a. Peter Snook spoke – remove the HHG sign from lake, like to see the Domain tidier.
- b. Sam – repairs to boards in the stables, walk around before the Glow with trainers. Track closed Wednesday 10th May – Wednesday 17th May for Glow. HCT will do any remediation needed on track following the event with damage caused by vehicles, this could mean track needs to stay closed longer.
- c. Was confirmed that we don't need an AGM as will have Triannual elections. This will be May 2024.
- d. Kings Coronation 7th May, picnic planned at the Lake. Group would like to plant a tree to commemorate the occasion. Phil and Penny to work on location and type of tree.
- e. HCT has daffodil bulbs to donate. Suggestion of a working bee to plant these under trees on walk way along Hororata Rd. Suggestion to do on a school day with the students. Cindy and Marty to find a date.

Meeting Closed 9.30pm

DRAFT