

Date: Thursday 24 April 2014
Time: 4.15pm
Meeting Room: Waiheke Local Board Office
Venue: 10 Belgium Street
Ostend
Waiheke Island

Waiheke Local Board

OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

ITEM	TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
9.2	Roger Bryant regarding Neighbourly, a free and private neighbourhood website for local communities	
A.	9.2 - Roger Bryant regarding Neighbourly	3

Report back to Waiheke Local Board on *Neighbourly*.

24 April 2014.

Following my presentation to the board on 10 April I went to a meeting at North Shore Community and Social Services (NSCSS) on 16 April which was run by Sarah Moore – Head of Communications for *Neighbourly*.

Neighbourly is a free and private neighbourhood website for your community and details can be found on the web site: www.neighbourly.co.nz or have a look at the video on www.neighbourly.co.nz/video I have also attached a summary of the site and details on how to set up a street group.

Some of the interesting options, to me anyway, for the Waiheke community are:

- Meet your neighbours
- Discuss local council plans
- Engage with community associations
- Crime prevention and community safety bias

There are advantages over Facebook, especially in safety and privacy:

- Real names and real contact information are used
- Addresses are verified for users of the site and you can flag discrepancies
- Local neighbourhood leads – maybe villages rather than streets for Waiheke ?
- Partnership with community organisations – such as the Waiheke Local Board, WICOSS, Police, Fire, Ambulance, Civil Defence, Churches, Health and Education services, Residents Associations, social and recreational clubs etc..

Some fundamentals:

- A community facility and resource for a Neighbours (WICOSS Directory?) Directory and Urgent Alert notifications.
- *Neighbourly* is a perfect platform for community organisations and leaders to connect and interact with local residents – mobile phone is useful but a land line can be used – question of connection with all of the community.
- Calendar of public events
- Share community resources
- Seek consultation from the public
- Support for other organisations – especially in our socio-economic situation.

Further references:

- Auckland Council's Thriving Communities discussion document – the founders are at present in talks with the Auckland Council
- NSCSS Flax Roots Community Approaches and Models – a resource document – North Shore communities could be the next to sign up.

Where to from here:

Waiheke Island has a large number of community assets which could be made better use of. The Waiheke community needs a central focal point. There is no Community Centre or a Community House.

We need to work together to make the best use of our community assets.

There is very little communication between local organisations.

Because of the very nature of being a holiday island there are many properties which are not used as permanent residences.

Socio-economic factors mean that there is a problem providing basic services for a relatively small community.

Funding cut backs from national providers have seen a reduction in the hours of professional services which reflects on the voluntary effort put in by those many of whom now see themselves as the ambulance at the bottom of the cliff.

A web site such as *Neighbourly* could provide a focal point to achieve this.

The WLB is in a position to provide this focal point by hosting the crew from *Neighbourly* to make a presentation to the community. Perhaps there may be an opportunity to do this when the board moves to its new offices at the former Oneroa Bowling Club ?

Roger Bryant
22 April 2014.



Neighbourly is a free website that connects you to your neighbours. It probably makes it easy to communicate with your neighbours about the issues that matter most to your community.

Neighbourly can help you:

- Find and recommend trustworthy local services such as babysitters, cleaners and restaurants
- Report suspicious activity and local crime and send alerts or urgent alerts for emergency situations
- Organise neighborhood events, such as garage sales and street parties
- Find lost pets or locate owners of regular furry visitors
- Sell, give away, borrow and loan items
- Discuss council matters
- Connect with local organisations
- Get to know their fellow neighbours

Who can join?

Every Neighbourly website is password protected and available to you and your neighbours. Members must verify that they live in the neighborhood before they can join a Neighbourly website. You can feel confident knowing that you are talking to people who actually live in your neighborhood.

How is my information protected?

Neighbourly takes privacy very seriously. Each member must verify their address before accessing their password protected, encrypted website. None of the information you share on Neighbourly is available on other origins, and your personal information is not shared with advertisers or third parties.

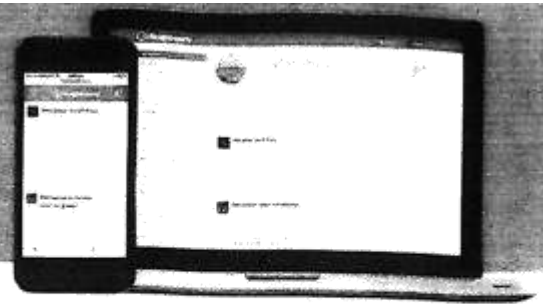
How can I help my neighborhood?

Research has shown that one of the best ways to prevent crime is to get to know your neighbors. When neighbors know each other they look out for one another. Neighbourly makes it easy to meet your neighbors, create watch groups, report suspicious activity and prevent crime before it happens.



Neighbourly Street Groups

A private group just for you and your street



What is a Street Group?

Street Groups are the perfect way to connect with your immediate neighbours. While Neighbourly is great for talking to your neighbourhood, sometimes you might just want to reach a smaller group of neighbours – such as your street or the friendly folk who live immediately around you.

Street Groups can be either public or private allowing you to keep control over exactly who sees the interaction between you and your neighbours.

How do I set one up?

It's easy to set up a Street Group on Neighbourly. Firstly, sign up to Neighbourly.co.nz or log in using your email address and password. Click on the '+Create a Group' button and follow the simple instructions.

How do I invite to Street Group. What next?

That's awesome. Now is the time to let your neighbours know all about it.

First, use the Neighbour Directory to locate those neighbours who live on your street and have already joined Neighbourly, by sending each neighbour a friendly message using your Neighbourly Inbox to introduce your new Street Group. Let them know why you've set your Street Group up and why you'd like them to join.

We also suggest delivering a letter to your neighbours encouraging them to join your Street Group. 'Sound like hard work?' We've made it easy for you. Just send an email to info@neighbourly.co.nz and we'll send you a Street Group letter template to deliver to your neighbours.

All you need to do is fill in a couple of gaps, print a few copies and pop them in your neighbour's letterboxes. (You might even meet a few neighbours in the process!)

If you'd like to know what else the Neighbourly team have up their sleeves to help you grow your Street Group, just send us an email: info@neighbourly.co.nz

Another great way to build a stronger, safer and friendlier place to call home.

www.neighbourly.co.nz