

Date: Tuesday 20 June 2017
Time: 3.00 pm
Meeting Room: Ground Floor, Council Chambers
Venue: Auckland Town Hall
301 - 303 Queen Street
Auckland

Great Barrier Local Board

OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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Making Movies - James Heyward

From: Making Movies - James Heyward
Sent: Tuesday, 7 March 2017 1:29 p.m.
To: 'jacqueline.fyers@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz'
Subject: GBI Rubbish Collection
Attachments: RE: Great Barrier Island - Bins; RE: Great Barrier Island - Bins

Hi Jacqui

James Heyward here. I'm a Bach owner on the island - 13 Primrose Hill - understand the GBI Board meeting is on 11 March. I'd like to attend however unfortunately am busy and won't be able to make it. I'm advised you may be able to assist me ;-)

I have concerns about the use of plastic rubbish bags for collection on the island and have expressed my views (as below and in attached emails) to Hazel Durkin.

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*Hazel Durkin | Senior Waste Advisor (Contracts)
Waste Solutions - Infrastructure & Environmental Services
Mobile 021 716 516
Auckland Council, Level 1N, 24 Wellesley Street West, Auckland*

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I would greatly appreciate your review and advice as to how this matter might be considered by the GBI Board. The ongoing use of plastic bags for waste collection is totally out of step with current best practice and in my view, the issues arising could be quickly and effectively addressed by Council with the application of \$\$s towards cost of wheely bins and trucks fitted with appropriate hardware.

Kind regards

James Heyward
021 367 360

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Leaving plastic bags on the side of the road is a relic of a bygone era. It's a really bad look, especially on 'the jewel in the crown' of the Hauraki Gulf. Many visitors and Bach owners don't depart from the island in sync the rubbish collection cycle - ie the day before collection - and have no means of delivering plastic bags to one the rubbish skips (assuming they know where they are) which means rubbish bags are left on the road side where it sits, or not, until collection day. Pickup is often delayed by public holidays which means Bags stay out longer with the increased risk of rupture. Not everyone ties the bags correctly . . I've even seen them left completely open on the roadside with no attempt to close them up.

Hazel, the reality is that plastic bags simply don't provide a robust solution to rubbish collection which of course is why collection of plastic rubbish bags went extinct in most of greater Auckland years ago. They frequently rupture releasing unsightly and assorted waste including plastic which is often transported by wind, polluting the environment and adding yet another hazard to the various threatened GBI wildlife species including Pateki ducks and Dotterel populations. Council may wish to discuss the wildlife aspect with GBI based ecologist, John Ogden. +64 9 4290 980

You said you would discuss with GBI contractors and suggested I should engage with the local board. Not sure what this would achieve . It's not rocket science and has already been under consideration for some years evidenced by the attached FAQ. I suggest if council were presented with a compelling reason to require use of wheelee bins next week, the necessary hardware including, trucks, bins and planning could be rolled out in a very short period of

time. A simple 'compelling event' might be a change in Council tendering requiring tender submissions to allow for the associated costs including trucks with the necessary collection technology, staff and training. I imagine contractors in Auckland city have to comply with similar regulations - why not on GBI? I appreciate there would likely be an increase in cost however I can't accept that would be obstacle too great to overcome. Certainly council has been able to resource projects with far less immediately visible outcomes. In saying that, I appreciate there may be a valid reasons why wheelie Bins could not be rolled out on GBI in the near future and would appreciate understanding what these might be.

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Hi James,

Sorry for the delay in getting back to you.

Thanks for forwarding that document and for summing up your position on an email. I will forward your email to the Local Board Advisor (Jacqui copied in) who you can also contact for assistance. I spoke with Jacqui and she advised that Local Board members Sue Daly or Luke Coles would be best placed to assist you with your queries regarding waste and also threats to wildlife. The Local Board are available to meet on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at their offices on Island. LBM Shirley Johnson is also based in Auckland and can meet in town if this is more suitable for you when you're not on island.

I have made some enquiries and can update you with the following:

The attached link / document from 2013 is out of date and I'm not sure why it hasn't been taken down. I will arrange for this to be done as could cause confusion.

The only way for our contractors to currently collect from bins is to reach inside and retrieve sacks of waste. There are some issues with reaching into bins, particularly with deep bins such as wheelie bins. In terms of protecting the Health & Safety of contractors working on behalf of the Council this should be avoided wherever possible. Small barrel bins can be used by residents and this arrangement is in place for a handful of residents who are not able to present sacks on, or the night before, kerbside collection day (Monday).

I have spoken with the Contracts & Compliance Manager here in Waste Solutions and he advised the question of wheelie bin roll out has been considered previously and reportedly vehicles with bin lifts were not deemed suitable for Great Barrier terrain. This was echoed by the collections contractor on Island, Great Barrier Cartage. I was over on Barrier last week for a collaboration meeting with Council representatives across several departments and I raised this issue at the meeting. Their feedback was also that wheelie bins / refuse trucks are not suitable for Barrier.

Council budgets and services are planned and set in place months and years in advance and use of public money must be sufficiently considered and justified which can take time. Input from / consultation with the Local Board and the community who they serve is an important element in the democratic process. I believe the Local Board are best place to assist in supporting you with in regards to potential roll out of wheelie bins, which if supported and found to be feasible would require budget re-allocation.

Presenting waste for collection in sacks certainly comes with issues, however further investigation into the level of animal strike needs to be done as only one or two cases have been reported to Council in the past year. I am not implying it doesn't exist but I need to react appropriately using data and information I have available. I urge you to report any instances you find to the service centre. I will arrange monitoring in the Midlands area personally and also look into any other causes of loose litter both on public land and on beaches.

Holiday home owners and visitors are required to take responsibility for their waste and there are options available to them outside of the weekly kerbside collection, including multiple bring sites, both at Claris airport and Port Fitzroy which cater to users who are leaving the island before collection day. Dumping sacks outside of scheduled collections is illegal and is never acceptable. Work will be done to better

educate visitors which should achieve some improvements as well as some tweaks to the current service at peak times in key areas.

The impact on the bring stations (including Midlands) during peak summer months was recently raised to me by my collections contractor and, as mentioned over the phone, we were due to meet along with the contractor for education / outreach to discuss improvements for next summer. This has been scheduled later this month.

I'd like to thank you for raising this issue. I will continue to monitor litter and waste out at the wrong time and I will keep in mind your comments when planning improvements for next summer.

Please let me know if you have any further questions or comments in regards to current services / contracts.

Kind Regards,
Hazel

From: Making Movies - James Heyward <info@makingmovies.co.nz>
Date: 16 February 2017 at 12:32:19 NZDT
To: Hazel Durkin <hazel.durkin@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz>
Cc: "johnogden@farmside.co.nz" <johnogden@farmside.co.nz>, Lance Dixon <Lance.Dixon@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Great Barrier Island - Bins

Thanks Hazel

attached is the FAQ regarding service changes on GBI.

<http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/EN/environmentwaste/rubbishrecycling/Documents/gbirubbishrecyclingchanges.pdf>

You will find the line regarding pickup of bins on page 5 which theoretically means if everyone on the island was to acquire by whatever means, wheelie bins tomorrow, the contractor would pick them up.



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