

GREAT BARRIER LOCAL BOARD QUARTERLY REPORT JUNE- AUGUST 2017

Shirley Johnson

GENERAL BOARD WORK

Over this period we have continued to work on finalising the Local Board Annual and Long term planning and budgets.

EDUCATION

- **Lifelong learning action plan-** I have continued to develop the action plan, gather photos and actively encourage local community members to forward through information on the learning/teaching/coaching/mentoring activities they are involved in. A decision has been made to hand the work over to Mary Dawson, Manager Strategic Brokers who will break up the document into 1) strategy, 2) action plan and 3) Stocktake of activities.
- **Aotea Learning Hub-** I have continued to support the learning hub set up, including attending steering group meetings, assisting with clarification of roles and responsibilities, trouble shooting and the writing of a significant number of operational policy and procedures.
- **Aotea Education Ltd-** In process of developing governance policy and procedure.
- **ECE- Playcentre-** met with Eve to talk through an area of development at the Kaitoke Playcentre. Researched a range of alternative options to expand ECE provision on island.
- **Boarding Allowances** I have continued to maintain regular contact with MoE to advocate for movement in progressing decision-making on Boarding Allowances. It now appears that we are looking at late September for a decision. There has been a definite confirmation of an increase. The size of increase will determine whether the increase is initiated from Feb 2018 or whether a new budget bid will be needed to cover payments, in which case the increase will begin 1 July 2018.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- **Wharf: Shed-** Slow progress towards the possible purchase/build of a small and quirky shed at Shoal Bay which could serve the multi -purpose usage of a visitor information space and an office for Teresa to manage cargo paperwork and logistics. Good to see that if we build/purchase a building Auckland Transport (AT) will pick up the ongoing OPEX.
- **Claris Car parking-** I facilitated a workshop with a small number of Claris business owners and AT to discuss ongoing and growing issues of car-parking. A proposed solution was agreed with the understanding that a rough estimate of costing would need to be developed as a next step, prior to any future actions being considered.
- **Sealink Workshop-** I have set up a workshop between principle users of Shoal Bay wharf to consider future needs and issues, through the lens of future proofing our infrastructure. This is scheduled for 21 October. An agenda will be finalised in the next week.
- **Shoal Bay Wharf-** I have continued to work with the user group to find an agreed plan for all user groups. It appears we are nearly there. The situation is that the public pontoon that was removed by Auckland Transport last December 2016 when it was deemed unsafe is still

scheduled for replacement by Total Marine Service. The date keeps being pushed back but it is hopefully now scheduled for late September. The height and size of the pontoon is similar and is the only pontoon in Tryphena designated as a public pontoon and suitable for berthing most local vessels. There is also the work scheduled following the meetings last year to have alternative dinghy storage.

Coastguard GBI has wanted to have a more secure and accessible berthing arrangement for the 12.5m vessel Awhina at the wharf. This is to avoid the time to retrieve the boat from the mooring which would save approximately 30 minutes in an emergency, which, of course, is often associated with high winds and rough seas. The proposal is that once the old pontoon is replaced, the Coastguard vessel occupies the berth on the south side of the new pontoon and would also allow good access for launch/retrieval of the coastguard vessel as it cannot get blocked in by another vessel. Reasonable security can also be achieved by a gate on the pontoon itself between the pole barricades. I am planning to ask Phil and Brent to present to the Board at a convenient time in the near future.

- Puriri Bay roading, sea walls - Post a weather event, which included very high tides, Puriri Bay road was severely damaged, along with the bridge and seawall that is 100 meters up from the Lady Isla. While AT has done an excellent job fixing the bridge and a temporary job on the road, significant work remains to repair the road and seawall more permanently.

- I site/Information Centre- I am in discussion with Auckland Tourism, Events and Economic Development (ATEED) and Destination Great Barrier Island (DGBI) re the next workshop to further discussion re the Information Centre. As the visitor strategy is now being initiated this work will be put on the back burner until this is completed.

- Whangaparara wharf- I had a meeting with the locals re requirements for a new dinghy pontoon, relocation of the telephone booth and a new dinghy ramp. These are now being considered as part of the LIP's fund.

LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/TOURISM

- Visitor Strategy – I have advocated to be part of the visitor strategy advisory group and have had several conversations with DGBI on this. First meeting 12 September.

- Dark Sky Sanctuary- I was part of the organising group for the Dark Sky Launch. A very successful launch.

-DGBI- I attended the quarterly meeting. Considerable celebration about recent on island achievements including launch and website. Also, conversation re capability and capacity of the DGBI management group. Work is needed to attract others to step up.