

Aotea Boardriders Club Public Forum Report

On the 6th of January 2017 ABC held a public presentation on site at the council reserve at the southern end of Sandhills road, Medlands. Five brave ABC committee members presented Aotea Boardriders Club history, Clubhouse proposal history and current proposed site plans for the ABC clubrooms. The meeting was advertised publically and was open to all . There was turnout of around 40 people. During the question and answer section of the presentation there were two or three people voicing their concerns but the majority of people present were supportive of the new proposed section and ABC in general. As we had anticipated, the new site has a new group of concerned landowners and relevant issues.

The main concerns raised at the meeting were:

- Increased traffic
- Parties / noise / alcohol use / loitering
- If accommodating a Surf Lifesaving group is a good idea or not.

At the meeting we gathered emails from interested people (around 20) and added them to an existing email group for clubhouse feedback. A total of 69 recipients were emailed a detailed outline of the concerns brought up, intentions for the clubrooms, attachments of pre-app meeting, public forum notes, rules and GIS maps of area and notice of the Public Opinion Survey to be available to sign for the following month.

We received a few emails of support and concerns:

- *"I am situated at 9 Sandhills Road in close proximity to your proposed site. I am concerned about the impact on the well appreciated historic, present and therefore future amenity values this proposed development will have."*
- *"I do not agree to have a clubhouse on this site. It has a significant impact on our amenity values."*
- *"You guys have worked hard to get here- and I agree ABC really does a great job and deserves a decent base/club room somewhere at Medlands – it's the obvious choice!"*
- *"It is a provisional YES from me however I do have big concerns around the issues of alcohol use which will need to be very carefully thought about and addressed .I do not support this - why not an alcohol free surf club for our young ones and adults can do their drinking elsewhere esp if it's mostly a storage/education facility. Also how will you guys manage and police loitering and its ensuing issues of general nuisance/noise/littering etc. etc."*

Mid January we distributed the Public Opinion Survey at three key locations, Stonewall Store, Claris Store & Port Fitzroy Store. We felt that this sufficiently covered the islands key areas.

We asked the public if they supported the clubrooms in the new purposed location. These were in the stores for around five weeks and we gathered 312 signatures in total, 299 supporting the proposal and 13 who ticked NO.

We asked those who said NO to list reasons for concern:

- 1) wrong end of the beach
- 2) should be closer to the beach
- 3) dusty / traffic
- 4) should be at surf end of the beach, crazy to site it at opposite end
- 5) significant impact on our amenity values
- 6) impact on the well appreciated historic, present and therefor future amenity values this proposed development will have
- 7) to many concerns to list
- 8) last site was much better and there is no surf near this location
- 9) board riders do it in the surf, un-needed
- 10) enough underused clubs
- 11) It should be on the Sandhills by memory rock & be a multi-purpose facility for surf lifesaving etc.
- 12) I liked the original spot
- 13) left no reason

Out of the 13 who ticked NO, we feel that seven could be regarded as YES to clubhouse construction, but at a different site.

In conclusion, ABC comnittee members are pleased with the support we have received so far, and feel the concerns raised for this site could be mitigated within a management plan for the facility. We would now like to seek the Local Board's support and advice in taking the next steps toward obtaining consent to use the site.