**Hibiscus and Bays Local Board**

**OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>TABLE OF CONTENTS</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 8.1  | Dog Park, - Hibiscus and Bays  
A. 21 November 2018 - Hibiscus and Bays Local Board, Item 8.1 - Dog Park, Hibiscus and Bays - presentation | 3 |
| 8.2  | Cars on Stanmore Bay Beach  
A. 21 November 2018 - Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Item 8.2 - Cars on Stanmore Bay Beach - presentation | 9 |
| 8.3  | Mairangi Bay Surf Life Saving Club  
A. 21 November 2018 - Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Item 8.3 - Mairangi Bay Surf Life Saving Club - presentation | 17 |
| 9.1  | Mairangi Bay Surf Life Saving Club  
A. 21 November 2018 - Hibiscus and Bays Local Board, Item 9.1 - Mairangi Bay Surf Life Saving Club - presentation notes | 43 |

**Note:** The attachments contained within this document are for consideration and should not be construed as Council policy unless and until adopted. Should Councillors require further information relating to any reports, please contact the relevant manager, Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.
More space for dogs needed
- Hibiscus and Bays & Rodney -

Presented on behalf of the Hibiscus Coast Dog Training Club by
Claire Teirney – Committee Member
21 November 2018
Who we are:
Hibiscus Coast Dog Training Club has been established for over 30 years. We provide a range of dog training classes – including obedience and agility to Hibiscus Coast, wider Rodney and North Shore residents and their dogs.

We are a Dogs NZ Associated, affiliated and recognised club.
- Each year we train 80+ new dog owners in basic obedience
- Each term we cannot take all those who apply for training as we do not have enough volunteer instructors.

Green Road Reserve Dog Park & Off leash petition:
Rodney Local Board called for feedback on the 152 Hectare planned Green Road Reserve. We were unaware that the call for public feedback on the reserve had started. As such we only had our online petition running for 16 days and our paper petition running for 13 days.

Our petition called “For the creation of an off leash dog exercise area and a fenced dog park in the planned Green Road Reserve”

In that short period we garnered 1,705 signatures in only 16 days (that’s 106 signatures a day!).
- 585 online signatures & 1,120 written signatures

Many people loved the idea of a petition as it was easy for them to show their support. A lot of people said thank you to us for organising the petition and that it was a great idea to get a dedicated off leash dog exercise area and dog park in the new reserve.

The majority of signatories came from the Hibiscus and Bays & Rodney areas.
Why do we need off leash dog exercise areas and fenced dog parks?

- Of the over 100,000 dogs registered in Auckland, 33% of them live north of the Harbour bridge
  - Rodney Local Board has the largest number of registered dogs – 11,547
  - Hibiscus and Bays Local Board has the 3rd largest number of registered dogs – 9,015
  - Together they account for 60% of all registered dogs north of the Harbour Bridge.
- Many Dairy Flat, Wainui and Waitoki dog owners currently travel to beaches in Hibiscus & Bays to socialise and exercise their dogs.
- According to Auckland Council information there are 41 specifically designated dog exercise areas within only 8 of the 21 local boards (38%), leaving 13 (62%) without.
  - In Rodney there is one at Murawai Regional Park
  - Including Sanders Reserve at Paremoremo there are only 2 north of the Harbour Bridge
  - This lack of area is all the more important given that dogs are restricted from most beaches for 4-5 months of the year during most of the day.
- Many households have dogs; 28% of Auckland HH’s have a dog and HH’s with children aged 9-17 years are the biggest group to own dogs (36%), the main reason why people get a dog is for companionship and 77% of kiwi dog owners consider their dog to be a member of the family.
  - However during the day in summer these dog families are extremely limited in their ability to include their 4 legged family member in outdoor activities. Proposals to change dog hours on beaches for restrictions to continue until 7pm and for another month (March) will make this even harder.
Why should Green Road Reserve have one?

• It will be one of the biggest parks in the Auckland Region.
• The location of Green Road puts it closer to the suburban populations of the Albany Ward (169,800) than it does to the 29,700 in the Kumeu and 20,700 in the Warkworth subdivisions of the Rodney Ward.
• Current travel times show that Green Road is only 14 minutes from Orewa, 21 minutes from Takapuna and 28 minutes from Central Auckland CBD. Auckland Council research shows that the majority of dog owners will travel 20 minutes or more to exercise their dog. This means that Green Road as a location that will appeal to dog owners outside the immediate area.
• The location and current travel time means that the vast majority of the 34,057 registered dogs north of the Harbour Bridge will live within 30 minutes of Green Road reserve.
• In their Dog Bylaw review and 2018 Finding Report, Auckland Council advisory staff have noted that “stakeholders and Aucklanders have expressed that there is a shortage of designated dog exercise parks throughout most of Auckland.” They also wrote that “designation dog exercise areas are a valued resource for dog owners” and that “a regional approach should be considered when identifying areas with local boards.”
• Increasing the number of designated dog exercise areas would lessen the demand on existing spaces.
• New projected growth in Dairy Flat – 30,000 new homes in a similar density to Millwater, continued strong growth predicted in the Albany and wider Rodney wards will mean new residents, of which nearly 1/3 will be dog owners. (Based on current Auckland Dog ownership levels).
• There are currently no fenced dog exercise areas within the Rodney or Hibiscus & Bays Local Board areas where 60% (20,562) of the registered dogs north of the Harbour Bridge reside.
What should a Dog Park and off leash area look like?:

- We believe that the best blueprint for off leash dog exercise areas and dog parks is actually in Christchurch and its surrounds (Rolleston, Leeston, Rangiora) and in Whangarei.
- Christchurch has 38,527 registered dogs (nearly the same number as those North of the Harbour Bridge) and they have 6 dedicated fenced dog parks.
- The best fenced dog park, we believe, is the Groynes in Christchurch. Since 2007 when it was expanded it has garnered 4,000 to 5,000 visitors a week and it has the following amenities for dogs and their owners:
  - 8 fenced in areas, including agility areas (one for small dogs and one for large), a river park, a water park, an exercise park, a cross-country park, and a picnic area.
  - A dog memorial park, a picnic and BBQ area, a wash down area for dogs, doggy poo bag dispensers and rubbish bins.
- In fact it’s been so successful they are looking to expand The Groynes and to develop a further one or two fenced dog parks in Christchurch.
- Many other South Island Dog Parks, and the Whangarei Dog Park, have been modeled on “The Groynes”.
- All of the photos in this summary presentation are from the Christchurch and surrounds dog parks.
- In summary there is already a strong need for more dog space in Auckland, that need will only grow in years to come.
- As local boards with the highest and 3rd highest number of registered dogs, Rodney and Hibiscus and Bays areas will have the highest demand for dog spaces. Both these areas are still in growth with new developments increasing the need.
Issues with vehicles on beaches

STANMORE BAY
WHANGAPARAOA

Presented to H&B Local Board
by Claire Teirney
21/11/18
Issues with Vehicles on Stanmore Bay

- Fun riders – bikes, 4WD's driving 1.3km to 3km along beach – often at speed.
- Vehicles driving 400m+ away from boat ramp to launch marine craft at the swimming end of beach.
- Vehicles driving onto beach to collect beach gear or go fishing.
- Personally sighted 28 incidents of vehicles on beach since Oct 2014.
Why an issue?

- Built up urban area, lots of beach users. Safe swimming areas are both near boat ramp access points as are playground and playing fields.
- Vehicles come onto beach from 3 different points – main boat ramp at Wipond Strand, Cooper Road boat ramp and disabled Langton Road boat ramp. Vehicles often drive 1.3km along beach from main boat ramp to Cooper Road boat ramp.
Item 8.2

Issues with Council

- Have been approaching local board since May 2015. Have suggested ways to prevent – none have been implemented. Nothing has been done.
- Have been told by bylaw staff that they can’t do anything of note with vehicle drivers even if number plate given and it’s best to call police. Police aren’t interested unless it is serious.
- Local beach users are frustrated that council has done nothing regarding this issue for YEARS.
- We are concerned that an elderly person with hearing problems, a child or dog will be hurt. No one expects to have a vehicle drive up behind them when on the beach.
- Signage regarding vehicles on beach at boat ramps is rubbish & cannot be seen. Nothing has been done to improve this.
- No information on council website regarding penalties for driving on beaches or any details of how to notify council of vehicles on beaches.

Driving on beaches

- No driving on beaches other than authorised vehicles or permitted events.
- We ask that you can be vigilant and report any vehicles on beaches.

Council website

- Available at [Council website]”

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Main Boat Ramp Sign

- Signage to be seen clearly when driving on beach.

Cooper Road Boat Ramp Sign

- There is another sign separate from this one. 

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Note: This information is a summary of a document. For detailed information, refer to the original document.
Possible solutions that council should do/look into:

- Main Boat Ramp — install a big sign that can be seen when sitting in vehicle on ramp at entrance to beach stating NO VEHICLES ON BEACH EXCEPT BOAT RAMP AREA. (Or similar)
- On Beach — install a pole sign like the JET BOAT ACCESS LANE signs that are physically on the beach saying NO VEHICLES PAST THIS POINT.
- Ensure that vehicles cannot drive onto beach from Langoom Road pedestrian walkway.
- Close Cooper Road Boat ramp to vehicles with locked chains that council mowing staff have key to. Similar to other parks — room for people to walk, but not a vehicle.
- A handful of boats launch at this boat ramp each summer. Boaters use the main boat ramp. This access point is the only paved access to the beach for pedestrians and is only a car width across.

Drivers view when using main boat ramp onto beach:
Signs are too far RH side — can't be seen as drivers keep left when they approach

Current signs — can't be seen from vehicle.
Item 8.2

Council performance:

- In the last few years of contacting the local board I keep hearing that they are following up with the bylaw people on this. From when I first raised the issues in May 2015 to September 2016 nothing had been done.
- There are more and more people using the beach in Stanmore Bay and vehicles on beaches pose a significant safety threat to people using the beach. There are more restrictions and controls on dogs on beaches than there is on vehicles.
- Why does there seem to be such a lack of will and effort from council, as a whole, to make this beach safer & to make the bylaw known?

Cooper Road boat ramp below is also the only pedestrian access from the Cooper-Lea carpark and reserve. It is narrow and Langton Road walkway below is an old boat ramp that is meant to be pedestrian-only but cars still drive onto beach up here.
What has happened since 13th September:

- I presented to regulatory committee on 13th Sept. General consensus was if there was enforcement at beach entry points it would help to stop people. They would then have to make a conscious decision to ignore sign.
- Community facilities did not want to put any new signs up, they want to wait for a ‘sign revision’ planned for 25 Nov. By the time they do something new it will be next year. I pushed to get something up, at least at main boat ramp and they put up tiny signs that will do nothing. Community facilities are treating this as a ‘nuisance’ rather than a ‘public safety’ issue. They are dragging their feet for no good reason.
- Since that meeting on 13th Sept – I have seen 2 vehicles (a ute and a motorbike) driving at speed on the beach. Pads I have seen 14 separate sets of tyre tracks showing vehicles who have driven distances along the beach or for fun (wawing/doughnut turns).
- The “dune” plantings at Stanmore Bay Reserve have more signs to protect them (7) than we do to keep vehicles off the beach.

There are 7 signs to protect ‘dune planting’

THIS IS THE TYPE OF SIGN WE NEED

STOP
NO VEHICLES
ON BEACH

This is what Community facilities have done since 13th
Sept. This photo was taken standing in front of it, you
can’t see it from a vehicle.
Hibiscus & Bays Local Board
Landowner approval request for Mairangi Bay Surf Lifesaving Club

Business Meeting
21 November 2018

Presented by:
Michael Buck, MBLSLC Chairman
Tony Sands, MBLSLC Redevelopment Committee
MBSLSC HISTORY

MBSLSC was founded in 1954 and incorporated in 1961, in response to:

- The opening of the Harbour Bridge in the 1950’s encouraged ‘migration’ to the north.
- The first clubhouse was in the basement of a member’s home on the beach and then later a small clubhouse was built in front of the toilet block.
- The current clubhouse was developed in the 1960’s and upgraded in the 80’s when the boatshed across the road was constructed on what was then East Coast Bays City Council land.
- Other clubs formed on the North Shore (Browns Bay, Milford, Duders Bay etc) but disbanded over time leaving MBSLSC as the sole surviving North Shore City SLSC.
MBSLSC HISTORY

MBSLSC’s purpose:

To promote, develop and deliver Surf Lifesaving as a charitable service and prevent drowning and injury of those swimming and undertaking activities at beaches and other aquatic environments by providing lifesaving, patrol services, and other programs and services at Mairangi Bay and at other locations as determined by the Club for the safety and recreation of the general public.

MBSLSC’s current vision:

Home of the best lifeguards, best athletes, best juniors and best people.

MBSLSC has a membership of over 1,400, aged 5 upwards:

- 600+ 5-14 year old Junior Surf members.
- 200+ Lifeguards aged 14+.
- 550+ associate members.
MBSLSC is New Zealand’s largest surf lifesaving club & is virtually 100% volunteer based!
LIFEGUARDING

MBSLSC’s core function:

- Historically patrolled only Mairangi Bay but extended services to other North Shore beaches in the 2000’s.
- Over the past 10 years MBSLSC have qualified the most lifeguards annually in New Zealand on 7 occasions.
- MBSLSC has over 200 refreshed lifeguards.
- Many MBSLSC lifeguards voluntarily provide assistance to other clubs.
- MBSLSC provides the most lifeguards to Auckland’s weekday paid service.
EVENT GUARDING

MBSLSC’s water safety services at multiple events across Auckland and the wider North Island including:

- Weetbix tryathlons; Takapuna Beach Series; Tough Mudder; School beach days; Villa Maria concerts; Brothers in Arms; Auckland Seafood Festival; Pasifika Festival; NZ Ocean Swim Series.

- These events cannot go ahead without a water safety presence – surf lifesaving is the preferred supplier.

- Provides an opportunity for young members to upskill and earn money.
2017/18 LIFEGUARDING STATS

44 rescues
5 callouts
11 searches
79 first aids

Already since July 2018 we have had a number of callouts, rescues and first aids!
JUNIOR SURF

• Program for children aged 5-14 designed to develop tomorrow’s lifeguards.
• In a fun and safe environment the ‘Nippers’ learn essential water safety skills, rescue techniques and basic first aid together with the importance of leadership and teamwork.
• Parents are encouraged to be involved in the journey which may lead to becoming a lifeguard.
• MBSLSC has New Zealand’s largest Junior Surf program which fills up within hours of being open.
• MBSLSC is one of the top 5 junior surf competition club’s in New Zealand.
SURF SPORTS

- An avenue for members to train to remain fit lifeguards and compete locally, nationally and internationally.
- MBSSLSC’s surf sport team is approx. 100 strong across water, beach, boat, masters and inflatable rescue boat events.
- The program runs year round and provides members free coaching and equipment.
- MBSSLSC has placed in the top 5 Surf Sport clubs in NZ consistently over the past few years including 2nd the past two years.
- MBSSLSC has the greatest representation in New Zealand surf lifesaving teams in the last decade.
OTHER

There are many other avenues for members to gain skills and develop:

• Advanced first aid awards up to pre-hospital care – paid by MBSLSC.
• Leadership and development courses.
• Lifeguards are valuable for Camp America & USA Lifeguard exchanges.
• Beach Education for approx. 5,000 primary school children every summer - MBSLSC is the main venue for Auckland schools.
• Governance experience – Committee members in early 20’s.

Overall outcome is that MBSLSC members become better community members.
Typical Summer WEEK
EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

To support the aforementioned activities MBSLSC owns an extensive amount of equipment:

- Almost no MBSLSC stored equipment is owned by members.
- Boards and ski’s cost in excess of $2,000 and $4,000 respectively meaning barriers to entry are high for a volunteer based movement.
- MBSLSC is able to remove this barrier by prudently using member funds together with community grants to purchase equipment.
- To adequately support a membership of approx. 1,400 our current footprint is necessary, this comprising:
  - **Clubhouse**: patrol equipment (flags, tubes etc); 50+ surf ski’s & 50+ knee boards; boogie boards and nipper boards.
  - **Boatshed**: 5 IRB’s & related equipment; 1 surfboat and related equipment.
  - **Containers**: Most of junior surf equipment; overflow.
RECAP MBSLSC’s REQUEST

• In June MBSLSC requested Local Board approval to temporarily relocate storage containers to the Montrose Reserve during the Watercare project.

• MBSLSC suggested suitable permanent storage location post Watercare project was land vacated by MBSLSC’s boatshed (to be demolished by Watercare) and Watercare’s to-be-removed building.

• Council Land Advisory Services provided some assistance since then and presented a revised footprint (next page) to Local Board in an October workshop. Feedback MBSLSC received:
  • Size of footprint too large.
  • Personal equipment should be stored offsite.
Attachment A

INITIAL REQUEST
REVISED REQUEST

- Based on Local Board’s feedback, MBSSLSC confirms:
  - Minimal personal gear is stored within MBSSLSC storage.
  - The storage footprint per the Reserve Management Plan (“RMP”) is estimated to be approx. 150m² utilising the scale in the document.
  - MBSSLSC’s current boatshed footprint is approx. 75m².
  - MBSSLSC’s current container footprint is 110m².
- Revised footprint proposal is for one less 40ft container and a more condensed layout:
  - This results in a footprint of 140m² vs RMP footprint of approx. 150m².
  - Containers will be sign written / camouflaged in consultation with neighbours to reduce visual pollution.
  - Options are as follows:
TEMPORARY OPTION A

This container will house emergency call out rescue boat and must have close access to the road. Adjacent container houses most used equipment.

Note, a container has been in this front location for over two years, approved by Auckland Council.
TEMPORARY OPTION B

Difference from Option A is locating the second front container at the back of the reserve with the other containers.
WATERCARE COMPLETION

• Once the Watercare project is complete, MBSLSC has proposed to construct its permanent storage facility on the land vacated by Watercare’s old building and MBSLSC’s boatshed (refer next page).

• This space appears to provide an adequate footprint with the following benefits:
  • The reserve space will be maximised and not interrupted by a storage building.
  • The proposed storage building will be in line with the Watercare facility with surrounding trees providing some visual cover.
  • There is precedent in terms of this location historically holding buildings.

• Altering the the RMP should be possible. Hibiscus & Bays Local Board website:
  • “The plan will be kept under continuous review so that, if necessary, it may be altered in keeping with changing circumstances or in the light of increased knowledge”.

• MBSLSC’s inability (refer Tonkin & Taylor report) to construct further storage underneath the main clubhouse per the RMP is mitigated by this larger proposed storage site.

• Watercare’s vacated basement may provide additional options.
PERMANENT STORAGE

The blue shaded box indicates MBSLSC’s preferred storage building location. This land is to be swapped with Auckland Council/Watercare
RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Reserve Plan shown to illustrate underground storage concept as indicated by number 11.

Based on Coastal Hazard Assessment this would not be prudent and likely not gain resource consent anyway given sea wall integrity and base depth.
CLUBHOUSE REDEVELOPMENT

- MBLSIC’s position on the Surf Lifesaving / Auckland Council 10.20 rebuild program dictates the earliest start for the redevelopment to commence is approx. 2022.

This creates the need for a staged approach:

Stage 1:
- Temporary storage location request approved and implemented in first quarter of 2019.

Stage 2:
- Work with Local Board, Watercare and Auckland Council to confirm the permanent storage location.
- Design a suitable building for which construction can commence as soon as possible post the completion of Watercare’s project.

Stage 3:
- Over next two years work with Local Board and Auckland Council to confirm reserve layout and scope of new clubhouse.
- New clubhouse construction commences 2022.
ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- MBSLSC does not enjoy operating out of containers and an ageing clubhouse.
- Watercare is demolishing MBSLSC’s boatshed, a building the club constructed in the 1980’s on council land (no compensation provided as yet). Watercare’s disruption of the area is much greater than MBSLSC’s temporary proposal.
- MBSLSC invited local residents (Montrose, Sidmouth, Whitby, Business Association) to a meeting on 12 November 2018:
  - Approx. 30 attended plus emails received.
  - History of the club and overview of activities provided.
  - Challenges with Watercare project implications + MBSLSC’s future and clubhouse redevelopment discussed.

Overwhelming support from locals received!
SUMMARY

- MBSLSC has had a presence in Mairangi Bay for almost 65 years and not supporting this temporary request places the club’s future at risk.
- Over the 65 years we believe we have positively contributed to the local area and further afield.
- Local Mairangi Bay beach residents support the club’s request and future ambitions.
- During the temporary occupation period we will do our best to maintain the reserve in good condition.
- We will work with other groups to ensure minimal impact to their activities, i.e. Food & Wine Festival.
- MBSLSC will continue to investigate offsite storage options for low use items.

THANK YOU
To the chair and local board members

My name is Tom Guisscott, my wife and I live in Sidmouth Street Mairangi Bay and have done so for over 20 years.

Although I am not a SLSC member, it is easy to see the benefit and good this club provides to the community.

Throughout the year and even more so on summer Sunday mornings we see hundreds of children and their families passing our place to head down to the club for beach activities or just to come down to swim under the watchful eyes of volunteer lifeguards.

Throughout the year we also see the older members coming down for training.

All these folk are good spirited, eager, well behaved and have never given us cause for concern or any reason to complain. They are fine examples of model citizens.

These young men and women are our community of tomorrow.

As a resident of Sidmouth Street, we have over the recent years been dug up, tunnelled under, dug up again and will now face further disruption with the redevelopment of the pumping station.

All of this has been for the greater good of east coast bays and as local residents we have maintained our patience, tolerance and understanding even when some projects for the sake of continuity have run noisily throughout the night for weeks on end.

The MBSLSC with its 1200 members and the 5000 thousand visiting school children who are taught water safety awareness makes it probably the biggest water safety institution in greater Auckland, if not in the whole country.

Its membership continues to grow and there are waiting lists for parents wanting their children to actively participate in Auckland’s great outdoors – Hauraki Gulf.

It is imperative for our east coast bays community to have continuity of this clubs equipment, lifesaving and training facilities operating throughout the year.

The club over the years has wisely invested in equipment such as:

IRBs, surf boats, surf skies, and surf boards.
This strategy has ensured an “equal opportunity” for anyone joining the club. By that I mean that there are no barriers or elitist obstacles preventing families and or individuals being forced into debt to buy expensive sports equipment as the club provides these resources to its members.

Last week I attended a meeting of around 30 Plus residents who live in the direct vicinity of the MBLSC.

It was great to see that they unanimously voiced embracement of the surf lifesaving clubs contribution to the community and their need to have a storage area allocated to them on the beach reserve at Mairangi Bay.

For the sake of continuity and for a water safe New Zealand we need assurance that the clubs immediate needs for temporary storage on the reserve will be made available.

And in the long term on behalf of the local residents we want to see this major developer of fine citizens for the past sixty years continue maintain its storage of resources and the club take pride of place on our beach front in Mairangi Bay for many years into the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today.