

<b>COMMUNITY</b>	Waerenga-o-Kuri	<b>DATE</b>	12/04/2018	<b>NOTES TAKEN BY</b>	Edwina Ashwell
<b>IN ATTENDANCE (15)</b>	Mayor Meng Foon, Councillor Graeme Thomson, Councillor Malcolm MacLean, David Wilson (GDC), Eddie Ashwell (GDC), Cindi Hooper, Mary Charteris, Len Hall, Mark Candy, Jon Harris, Roger Billingham, Tracey Johnstone, Sharyn Johnstone, Nathan Twigley, Mike Croker.				

**ACTION REQUIRED****1. ROADS:**

Resident: Hangaroa Bluff - the big rock: why hasn't this been done?

Response: We currently have 2m for emergency roadworks, and 7.9m worth of works to do. We have organised a seal to go over it, but this is only a temporary solution.

Resident: Over a three year period the roads have deteriorated, response has been slow and minimal. There doesn't seem to be as much maintenance as there use to be. What has caused this?

Response: There are two parts to this, the decline has been happening in the past 7 years, due to logging trucks and a contract that hasn't really worked for this region. Part of this is the type of metalling that we have used that NZTA required us to use, it comes from out of the region, causing further delays when we can actually use our own quarries if we were permitted to do so. We are working hard to get the network up to scratch, 2 extra crews are in, better use of resources and one contractor (Downers) across the whole network.

Resident: It's a shame, we planted these trees 30 years ago but no one prepared for the trucks on the road.

Response: The last government for 9 years said no extra funds for rural roads, this was a great disservice to our community and our needs. Discussion followed.

Resident: Bushy Knoll Rd isn't great and will only get worse when the logging trucks come through. Are there elements within the resource consents that ping them if they wreck the roads? Do they pay?

Response: Roading rates for forestry blocks, road tax, road user charges, forestry classification for rates, these are all ways we get funding from Forestry. Discussion followed.

Resident: Spray paint marks on the road that have been there for five years, but the works not getting done. We pay big bucks for the guy who sprays paint (Road Inspector), but the guy who has to fill it, isn't there. Road inspectors aren't doing their job, they just sit on the side of the road for ages doing nothing. They are hopeless, a job that should have been done in two days, takes a bloody week. Back in the day our roadman would be out in the rain, whether they had the right gears or not. What's the spray painting about?

Response: Prepping for renewals or works, they shouldn't be going up and down the road and sitting out there doing nothing, but I can't comment or respond on behalf of Downers.

Resident: Every winter it floods, no one comes after the rain and cleans out the drains or clears the debris.

Response: We are renegotiating our contracts to better handle water-tabling. There is a lot to do and we are trying to be as proactive as we can while meeting the immediate needs. It's not an ideal situation but it is what we are currently working on.

Mayor: We need to do better with monitoring our contractors.

This issue has been referred to T.Roads and an RFS created from the Tiniroto Meeting

Refer to T.Roads.

**2. OVERHANGING TREES:**

Resident: Why aren't we getting those contractors to clear all the crap right to the road, we've had arborcare there cutting the trees back, why not hook into it and get the whole lot done? Willows, pines, silver poplars along the roadside. (Some of the silver poplars were planted under Cook County to help keep the roads in place.). A limited amount of limbs are removed, more could be done.

Response: Once we have secured funding, we will be able to focus more on roadside trees.

No action required.

**3. RATES:**

Resident: Council is stripping the country communities for the benefit of new buildings, excess staffing and wages, all kinds of extravagances yet we don't see any of it out here in the rural community. We can't just sit here and blame central govt, local govt has a part to play in this and the management of rates.

Discussion followed around rates information in the presentation.

No action required.

**4. RATES REBATE:**

Resident: We have been turned down for our rates rebate, for not meeting the criteria... but we are pretty sure we do. It makes a huge difference to us. Gorse coming on our properties from council land, then to lose our rates rebates is just a kick in the teeth. We all pay rates here. Our license costs have gone up, the so called profit they are talking about barely exists. If bar sales went over a certain amount you would lose your rebate, but beer was cheap back in the day, now it is significantly more but the amount has still remained the same.... Do you take this into account?

Meng: I will look into this.

Send email to His Worship to follow up.

**5. GDC LAND MAINTENANCE:**

Resident: Land next to the school is a fricken mess. Overrun with blackberries and gorse... its council land, what are you going to do about it?

Response: We will create an RFS to get it cleaned up.

Councillor Thompson: The school wanted it for a car park, but nothing has happened since then. Councillor Thompson to follow up. (Email reminder)

RFS: To clean up the property next to the school.

Send email to Councillor Thompson to follow up.

**6. REPRESENTATION REVIEW:**

Resident: Wasn't there an agreement that rural representation was going to stand when we amalgamated?

Response: In essence, what one government agrees to the next government may not uphold.

Resident: Why not ask the city councillors to participate more in rural communities, rather than increase City Councillor numbers?

Response: There is an opportunity to submit on the Representation Review and suggest these ideas.

No action required. Resident encouraged to make a submission.