

## Hikurangi Sports Coalition

Meeting Held Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 6pm @ Hikurangi Rugby Club

Meeting Commenced: 6.05pm

Present: Sharlene Morris-Ross, Vicky Humphreys, Linda Vanstone, Des Coutts, Greg Martin, Alex Smits, Lynette Wharfe.

Apologies: Ryan Maraki, Kasey Hindrup, KristaLee Freeman, Peter Craven.

Introduction: Alex chaired the meeting tonight in Ryan's absence. The agenda set for tonight was to elect officers for a steering committee and address the proposed timetable, however due to insufficient representation of all Hikurangi sports clubs this agenda was postponed to the next meeting. Free flow conversation began regarding the future of Hikurangi sporting:

1. Notice of Intent - Discussion took place around the communication and collaboration of sports clubs and what they want the future of sporting to look like in Hikurangi. It was agreed a "notice of intent" needs to be circulated and promoted to draw more people in to the process. A vision needs to be created based around the question "what does a sport coalition look like?". Some areas of concern need to be addressed, such as clubs being "cash strapped" and "volunteer strapped". How can coalition address these issues and support a change in a positive direction?
2. Council's Long Term Plan - Greg raised the discussion of the Hikurangi Sports Facility idea going to the Council's LTP meeting this coming Wednesday. Greg queried whether there is adequate community support for this idea, it was agreed by all members present that yes the coalition fully supports a Sports Facility going into the LTP. The idea behind this would be to create a hub that supports all community sports clubs as well as brings extra sporting opportunities such as a gym etc. Something like this could potentially be accessible to the community 24/7. Greg informed us that we won't know until around the middle of next year whether it has been successfully added to the plan or not. Commitment has previously been described as "fractured" from the clubs due to a lack of collaboration and vision. However this has changed in 2020 and the idea has progressed and been widely encouraged. Budget wise, how the LTP works is if approved by council they will commit to a certain amount being spent on the facility in a particular, this allows other funding opportunities to be explored in the meantime so everyone is working towards a target goal being met by a certain time frame.
3. Community Exercise Areas - A brief discussion took place around proposed cycleways, walkways, and exercise routes becoming available around Hikurangi. The Council's Placemaking Plan has proposed one through town that goes up past Lake Waro, and Greg has proposed one that goes down alongside the river adjacent to SH1 that runs around the rugby grounds. Greg pointed out that these types of initiatives are well funded under the current government.
4. Public Statement about Sports Facility - When a steering group is elected it is advised that a two tiered statement goes out to inform the community (including the wider community which incorporate various other sports clubs) of the vision of the sports coalition. It will include something similar to:
  - First tier - A description of what we are trying to achieve for sports in the Hikurangi community, and;

- Second tier - A description of the short term/mid term/long term ideas, goals, and outcomes.
5. Civil Defence Centre - The query was raised as to whether the Rugby Club or the Fire Station is the current Civil Defence Centre for Hikurangi. Lynette to follow up and inform.
  6. Hikurangi Tennis Club and Multi Sports Complex - Des informed the group of a delay in the outcome of the AGM and said another meeting is required to finalise the details. Currently the executive committee remains the same as it did prior to the AGM due to the AGM not being completed. Des advised the tennis club needs more support and needs younger blood coming through to take it to the next level. There is two years left for the complex to be used to its potential before the council takes it over. The AGM will be recalled and completed before the next sports coalition meeting.
  7. Phone Tree - It was discussed that key to the concept of clubs collaborating is that a list of all club contacts needs to be created and circulated. Between Sharlene and Ryan this has been started, it would be good if this could be completed by the next sports coalition meeting.
  8. Next Meeting Invitation - It was agreed some key decisions will be made at the next meeting and it is imperative all clubs are attending to ensure their input and involvement. It is proposed an invitation go out that asks for a minimum of one member per club attend. The original meeting dates were agreed upon to try and stick to for 2021, ie: sports coalition meetings to be held on the last Monday of every month. Therefore, next meeting date is **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 6pm at Hikurangi Rugby Club.** A draft invitation statement was created to send out:

*“The Hikurangi Sports Coalition requests all sports and community groups to come together to develop a long term sports strategy, with a vision to build a new sports facility, and increase sporting opportunities within the urban and rural Hikurangi district. Our goals also include increased funding, improved volunteer support, and effective communication”.*

Advertising for this meeting shall be promoted on the Hikurangi website, in the bulletin, on all appropriate facebook pages, and via posters displayed around the community and sent out in emails. Lynette to design posters.

**Meeting Closed: 7pm.**