

## Hikurangi Steering Group for Council's Placemaking Plan

Meeting held on Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at Lighthouse Playgroup

20 George Street, Hikurangi

**Meeting opened at 7.15pm**

**Present:** Sharlene Morris-Ross (HBA), Lynette Wharfe (RFC), Ian Hodgson (HBA) Tony Horton (wdc), Injoo Riehl (WDC), Alicia Lawrie (WDC), Alex Smits (FH), Mary-Ann Vogt (golf & maori wardens), Greg Martin (councillor).

**Apologies:** Nil.

### **General Business:**

Prior to the meeting commencing, a round table discussion took place regarding the latest update on the Hikurangi Sports Coalition. It was discussed that there was a variety of feedback given after the last meeting and the general consensus is that the community sports groups are keen to work together to promote each other's clubs. The idea of a series of open days to promote the sports was not received well as it is more work for the same volunteers. Summer sports coming into Hikurangi was discussed. Security issues at the current clubs were discussed.

Alicia then opened the meeting by discussing various topics raised within their findings to date as well as their plans for the "next steps":

1. Walking/Cycleway: Alicia queried whether the group thought there was need for a cycleway/walking way around Hikurangi. The benefits of this was discussed and it was generally agreed that a cycleway would be an asset to Hikurangi. So maps were presented of the area and people were asked to draw where cycleways could possibly go. The general consensus was wherever the cycleway starts from, it should be created to include the Lake Waro area.
2. Signage for "Gateway to Tutukaka Coast": It was raised and discussed that there is a lack of signage on SH1 promoting Hikurangi, the Hikurangi website, and especially Hikurangi as the gateway to the Tutukaka coast. It was suggested signs should be placed at the north and south entrances to Hikurangi, as well as on Marua Road. There should also be signage for travellers coming into Hikurangi from Valley Road promoting Hikurangi township as a place to stop off and explore. It was discussed that there is a lack of accommodation in Hikurangi for travellers/campervans to stay. Sharlene informed that there is around 3 airb&b's opening up on Marua Road. Mary-ann informed us that the Golf Club often allows campervans to stay there overnight as the campervans prefer to stay somewhere where there are locked gates at night. Lako Waro was also a location mentioned for campervans to stay with the gates locked at night. Mary-ann said the current airb&b's in Marua recommend to travellers who stop in looking for somewhere to stay that they should inquire with the golf club. The golf club is happy to continue doing this for campervans. Is this something that should be advertised or have signage for?

3. Hikurangi Key Themes: The survey results returned three key themes that are the focus of the council's planning. The key themes are: Connectivity, heritage and character, and destination. Queries were raised as to how this will be modelled to the community for ideas and feedback. Does the FH umbrella/hub model apply here? Ideas such as "controversy creates conversation", involving children, and identifying Hikurangi's culture was discussed.
4. Scope of area being considered: Two maps were presented by council for the purpose of querying which areas of scope should be considered for the Placemaking Plan. The first map was a zoomed in scope of the Hikurangi township which showed coloured areas of interest such as high visitation zones, local rivers/nature areas, where the railway/roads go, etc. The second map was a zoomed out image of the whole Hikurangi district and beyond which went from Piano Hill to Hukerenui and out to Whananaki Coast. This map was to show the wider Hikurangi area and who council should be engaging and communicating with. Council asked attending people to describe which areas they believe to be part of the "Hikurangi Zone". It was generally agreed that the wider Hikurangi area for consideration should be from Piano Hill, out to Hukerenui, up to Towai, out to Helena Bay, around the Whananaki coast, and somewhere between Whananaki South/Sandy Bay along the Glenbervie forest line back to Hikurangi. It was noted by Greg that the Hikurangi Rugby Club is the current base for Civil Defence emergencies that would cater to any of those outer district to go to should they require emergency help. The metaphor of "Hikurangi as a Hand" was developed, meaning Hikurangi is the hub & service town to a variety of smaller suburbs that branch off it, similar to a hand with its fingers.
5. A theme for Hikurangi: It was discussed that Hikurangi has a strong identity/theme amongst the town itself of the mining history within the area. A variety of old mines were discussed and the history held within the museum was acknowledged. The council plans on visiting the museum to gain further knowledge into Hikurangi history. Discussions took place around the mining themed entrance to Hikurangi, the paintings relating to history in the Hikurangi township, the heritage buildings within the area that require attention, and the possibility of a historic walk/tour through Hikurangi.
6. Next round of engagement: Council has informed that there will be a few more engagement opportunities within the community over the coming 6 weeks, being:
  - There will be a community workshop held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> Nov, 6.30pm at Friendship House/Hikurangi Hall. The purpose of this workshop is to introduce and discuss the three key themes, and receive input and ideas from the community;
  - A series of drop-in opportunities will be provided for the public to meet the Placemaking Plan team and have their ideas/input heard. The Placemaking team will make themselves available at Miners Rest. This will be on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> November from 10am to 11.30am. People are invited to pop in and talk to them about the Placemaking Plan;

- The Placemaking Plan team from council will be present and walking around to talk to community members at the Hikurangi Fireworks display on Friday Nov 6<sup>th</sup>.
- The Placemaking Plan will also come along to the community dinner being held at the firestation on Wednesday Nov 18<sup>th</sup>. This is for local community groups/clubs to attend to network, and club members present will be asked to share information received on the night back to their club/group members.

Alicia thanked everyone for attending and pencilled in details for the next meeting. Details to be sent out to attendees at the same time the minutes go out, meeting details to be left out of these minutes incase they change. Details will be uploaded onto Hikurangi.co.nz website as soon as they are available.

**Next Meeting: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> Dec 7pm @ Lighthouse Playgroup**

Meeting closed 8.40pm.