



Minutes of the Newtown Residents' Association Meeting 21 August 2023

The meeting was held from 7.30pm at the St Tom's Community Lounge, 200 Riddiford St.

Present:

Rhona Carson (Chair), Steve Cosgrove (Minutes), Sam Somers, Penny Sturgess, Rachel Bolstad, Stephen Pritchard, Patrick Morgan, Dave Henderson, Ben Everist, Tom Law, Peter Frater, Michelle Wolland, Don McDonald, Jane Patterson, Tom Law, Joyce Gibson, Bryony Hales, Hilary Watson, Wendy Blue, Steve Dunn, Cheryl Robilliard, Tom Hovey, Jan Gould, Graeme Carroll, Carol Comber, DM Laurie Foon, Cr Nureddin Aburahman.

Visitors - Josh Clarke, Kāinga Ora; Bri Peters, Nicola Mitchell, and Paul Barker, WCC.

Apologies: Marion Leighton, Léonie Walker, Kevin Lethbridge

Rhona thanked those who helped with the Newtown Residents' Association 60th Anniversary Celebration on 29th July, and then introduced the visiting speakers.

Kāinga Ora - Josh Clark introduced himself as the Stakeholder Relationship Manager for the Wellington Area.

These homes are planned or being built in Newtown and the surrounding area -

80 homes at Rolleston St, almost completed.

301 homes at Arlington St - early stages

80 homes at 619-631 Evans Bay Parade - planned to replace 20 homes from the 1950s

36 homes at 175 Owen Street, final stages, open day in November

21 homes at 131 Coromandel St & 9 at 124-130 Coromandel St

29 homes at 457 Adelaide Road - site of Victory Flats

Josh answered a number of questions:

About the work at 124 Coromandel St - final inspection of the civil work this week - completion expected this year.

Open space - outdoor spaces, backyards, etc are planned for most locations.

Sites at 28 and 132 Adelaide Rd - Kāinga Ora has acquired these sites but planning is only just starting.

Initial indications of density at 28 Adelaide Rd might have been exaggerated.

There was a wide discussion about the need for green space. Kāinga Ora were involved in the consultation on the old Bowling Club site next to the Owen St development.

Car parking is another consideration for the Owen Street site.

Josh and a range of people commented on the numerous benefits of building healthy homes and other sustainability considerations.

Newtown to Berhampore transport project and Newtown Parking Plan

Bri, Nicola and Paul talked about improving bus, pedestrian, and cycling amenities and changes to parking management.

A wide range of stakeholders were consulted earlier this year, including the Hospital and Schools.

Council objectives

- Population growth expectations

- Climate change mitigation

The presentation to the meeting was in three parts - Bus services, Cycleways and the Parking Plan for Newtown and Berhampore.

Metlink bus priority plan

- There will be more room for buses to lead in and out of stops.
- Paired stops
- 350-400 metres between stops
- Improving bus stop quality

Cycleways

Nicola went through the route from Riddiford St through Rintoul St, Luxford St and Adelaide Rd. It is expected that a protected cycleway will go uphill along Rintoul St and bikes will share the traffic lane going downhill.

There was considerable constructive comment regarding details of the plans.

Bike safety considerations were outlined.

Parking management plan

Paul outlined this plan, which has been discussed for some time.

A city-wide plan and parking priorities were approved in 2020. Newtown will be the first suburb to get the new plan.

- a large proportion of what is currently unlimited on-street parking will be designated P120, with no time limit for residents holding a residents' parking permit. It is recognised that this will be a big change for hospital staff currently parking on the street, and WCC and the Hospital have been consulting about this.
- Numbers of residents permits will be limited. Rationing will be applied as necessary. Parking will be managed in three zones, a permit will only be valid for the zone where the resident lives.
- Each resident will be allotted 50 guest parking permits available for visitors
- Trades people will need to get longer term permits
- It is proposed that residents living in the commercial areas will not be eligible for a permit - to be discussed during the consultation.

There was significant discussion regarding parking.

Public consultation on all 3 parts of the project will start on September 12th and run till October 8th.

The meeting ended at 9:08