



## Minutes of the Newtown Residents' Association AGM 7.00pm 19 September 2023.

Held at the St Thomas's Community Lounge 200 Riddiford St.

### Present:

Rhona Carson (Chair), Steve Cosgrove (Minutes), Sam Somers, Carol Comber, Fleur Fitzsimons, Penny Sturgess, David Jenkins, Jane Patterson, Kevin Lethbridge, Tom Law, Steve Dunn, Joyce Gibson, Chris Rabey, Michelle Wolland, Hilary Watson, Don McDonald, Tolis Papazoglou, Graeme Carroll, Cr Nureddin Aburahman.

**Apologies:** DM Laurie Foon, Leonie Walker, Marion Leighton, Martin Hanley, Robin Payne, Jan Gould, Merio Marsters.

### The Minutes of the 2022 AGM were taken as read

**Motion:** That we accept the Minutes of the 2022 meeting as a true and accurate record. Hilary Watson/Steve Cosgrove. Carried.

### President's Report

Rhona reflected on events of the 2022/23 year.

This included thanks to St Tom's for use of their Community Lounge, The Salvation Army for hosting candidates meetings, and Newtown New World for continued support of community events. Rhona particularly acknowledged support from the Wellington City Council through the annual operational grant.

The full report is available online.

The report was accepted with acclamation.

### Treasurer's Report

Michelle read a summary of her report and the annual accounts.

We have been getting more bank interest on our current account than previous years.

Income from memberships and donations was just over \$400.

We have about 40 financial members. [The question was asked at the meeting. The records weren't immediately available - membership numbers for 2022/23 since confirmed as 45.]

### Matters arising from the report -

**Motion:** That we give Rhona an honorarium of \$750 in recognition of her work. Steve Dunn / Hilary Watson. Carried

**History Project** – the Treasurer's report noted History Project funds still unspent, and a proposal to spend them on getting more copies of Laura Rosier's Newtown History printed. It was suggested that efforts should be directed to putting it on the website. There was a discussion about the logistics of this.

**Motion** That we set up a group to work on getting the Newtown History book online. Rhona moved this from the chair. Carried

**Moved from the Chair:** That the Treasurer's Report be accepted. Carried

### Election of Officers

President Rhona Carson was re-elected unopposed.

Jane Patterson and Martin Hanley nominated as Vice Presidents - nominated by Rhona

Michelle Wolland nominated for Treasurer -- nominated by Rhona

No nominations for Secretary. Rhona was willing to continue in the role – formally nominated by Tom Law

Executive committee members:

Sam Somers - nominated by Carol Comber

Carol Comber - nominated by Sam Somers  
Steve Cosgrove - nominated by Rhona Carson  
Marion Leighton - nominated by Rhona Carson  
Penny Sturgess - nominated by Rhona Carson  
Hilary Watson - nominated by Rhona Carson  
(All the above were existing Executive members who were willing to continue.)

A call for any other nominations went unanswered. Accordingly all the above were elected unopposed.

## **Other Business**

### **Constitutional Changes required by the Incorporated Societies Act 2022.**

Rhona foreshadowed that after we have changed our constitution to comply with the new Incorporated Societies Act all officers will need to sign a declaration that they consent to being an officer of the Association and that they are not disqualified from holding office. She circulated a template for such a declaration, including a list of grounds for disqualification. These are set out in Section 47 of the Incorporated Societies Act 2022.

Rhona has drafted changes to the constitution to meet the new requirements. This needs to be considered and voted on at the next year's AGM.

She also outlined some of the key requirements.

Re-registration needs to be completed between October 2023 and April 2026.

**Motion:** That the proposed revisions to the constitution be accepted to be read and modified as suggested over the next year. Rhona Carson / Sam Somers - Carried

In response to a question from the floor, Rhona outlined her processes handing emails to the Association.

## **The AGM ended at 20:23**

### **Newtown Resident's Association Monthly Meeting 19 September 2023**

**Attendance:** Same as for the AGM except that Fleur and Nureddin left the meeting.

#### **Safety & Other Organisation for the Meet the Candidates Meeting**

Nureddin has discussed this with the Police, on behalf of Residents' Associations organising Meet The Candidates meetings for the Rongotai Electorate. Rhona has filled out a form advising Police of our plans. It was noted that other events could also benefit from this process.

There was support from the meeting hiring a security officer for the event. It was pointed out that such a person would not be allowed to touch anyone in the meeting.

Rhona noted that Dave Armstrong, MC for the evening, is confident of handling disruption.

On Tuesday Rhona and Jane are going to discuss all the arrangements with people from the Salvation Army who are hosting the meeting.

Volunteers are requested to be at the Salvation Army hall from 6:30 to help prepare for a 7:00pm start.

#### **Community Police**

It was noted that there are five constables and a Sergeant based at Kilbirnie, serving our wider community.

**WCC consultations on parking, buses and cycling in Newtown and Berhampore, and other current consultations -** see <https://www.letstalk.wellington.govt.nz/>.

Note that the engagement on the Dog Policy and Animal Bylaw starts on September 18th.

The Long Term Plan is also still under consultation.

There was a discussion about the formation of a City Council Citizens Panel.

The Newtown Parking Policy has been viewed as linked to the Cycling Plan. This is not helpful, they are separate issues.

**The meeting ended at 9:04**