



Marahau / Sandy Bay Ratepayers & Residents Association Inc.

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Welcome to the last edition of the Newsletter for the year. The Newsletter is a great way for the community to be informed about things that will affect all of us. It also gives members of the community the opportunity to provide feedback and input on issues of concern. We are always interested to hear back from you about this Newsletter on any of the matters touched on by contacting the Secretary at: marahau.sandybay@gmail.com.

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Committee Meetings / Agenda for 2019

The committee have regular meetings every 5 to 6 weeks split between either a Sunday or a Monday at 7 pm at the Marahau Fire Station/Community Hall. All residents are welcome to attend these meetings to raise an issue or provide feedback to the committee. We encourage anyone who wants to raise any matter to come along. The committee's areas of focus for 2019 include:

- Continue to support the TDC's 'Feasibility Study' which commenced late 2018
- Progress the Beachfront 'Promenade Gardens' development
- Progress cell phone coverage
- Progress & investigate 'Dark Sky' status for Marahau
- Progress the proposal for a sculpture at the entrance to Marahau
- Speed limits in Marahau

1. Committee Members 2018/19

Deb Skelton (Chair) - skeltondeb@hotmail.com

Chris Rutledge (Treasurer - chris.kim@xtra.co.nz)

John Ayling (Secretary) – split.ridge@xtra.co.nz

Gavin Alborn - gavin.alborn@aquataxi.co.nz

Lynette Freeman - eandlfree@gmail.com

Dave Gunter - davidheather@xtra.co.nz

Phil Hodges - philandrebecca100@gmail.com

Sarah Rees - sarah23rees@gmail.com

Renee Thomas - renee26rat@hotmail.com)

Tim Wraight - sealevel@ts.co.nz

Please contact any of these people with things you feel are relevant to the Association.

2. Join the Association

If you aren't currently a paid up member of the Association we would strongly encourage you to join up.

To join the Association please contact John Ayling at Marahau.sandybay@gmail.com.

The Secretary and Treasurer are presently reviewing the payment status of all members with reminders being sent to those who have yet to pay their 2019 subscriptions. The subscription is \$20 and enables the Association to fund and support various activities. Payment can be made by direct credit to our bank account at Westpac 03-0693-0166109-00. Please enter your name as the 'Reference'.

3. Revetment Gardens

The significant planting program undertaken earlier in the year is showing good results. Local residents are replanting a few gaps, maintaining the gardens with shell replenishment and spreading crushed shells. Thanks to all involved.

How can you help? Our approach is 'a little often by many'. We encourage everyone walking on the revetment to pull a few weeds as you wander along the revetment, it all helps with the long term goal of a tidy foreshore.

4. Fire Station/ Community Hall

The Hall continues to be available for community use so if you want to use it get hold of Ginny Strong at 527 8099 or 027 528 4467.

5. Tourism Infrastructure Fund [TIF] and the current Feasibility Study

The previous Newsletter noted that the TDC successfully applied to the TIF for funding to undertake a Feasibility Study “to identify and respond to parking and visitor beach/water access facilities and issues”. An initial workshop was held in late November '18 and a follow up workshop was held in late March '19 to address options from the issues raised. The options were formally considered by the Council in July '19. A summary of the Council's decisions follows, the Council agreed to:

- Create a Parking Signage board at the entrance to the Marahau Village
- Install simple barriers to prevent egress by vehicles onto the rock wall footpath and adjacent to the present recycling/toilet block
- Work with the tourist operators to encourage use of their car parking areas
- Install a 10 min limit outside toilets and the rubbish/recycling facilities
- Work with DoC and tourist operators to minimise beach domination at the Otuwhero Spit by operators at high tide and encourage set up only when conducting final beach briefing and launching
- Work with tourist operators to create informally designated briefing zones on the beach – away from the entrance to the Otuwhero beach
- Use painted lines and signs to formalise pedestrians access crossing the area at the top of the boat ramp and install signage to indicate to pedestrians that boats and vehicles have the right of way
- Delineate two lanes on the boat ramp to assist with the efficient use of the ramp by vehicles
- Retain and enhance the boat trailer parking and loading zone signage at the ramp

A number of other proposals will be considered as part of the Annual Plan 2020/21 and long Tern Plan 2021 – 2031. Note was made that a number of members reject the proposal to establish a larger vehicle/campervan parking zone at the entrance way to the Marahau Bridge on the grounds that the DoC carpark provides such space and is nearby.

6. Cell Phone Coverage

Spark has yet to advise of an alternative site to establish a permanent cell phone tower.

7. Dark Sky

The proposal for 'Dark Sky' status for Marahau is still on the table as it requires consideration by a large range of interests. We may have something more tangible to report for the AGM.

8. Pre Xmas BBQ

The Association will host a pre Xmas BBQ for the Marahau community so please save the date – Saturday 21st Dec 2019 at Newhaven Crescent. Details will be advised.

9. Annual General Meeting [AGM]

The AGM will take place in the Fire Station/Community hall on Sunday 15th December at 1.30 pm. This is your opportunity to contribute to the interests of the membership by considering standing for election to the Committee. The agenda etc. will be distributed separately.

10. C.P.R.

The Committee at its last meeting considered a matter raised by a member asking whether there was a local “register of people who are skilled at CPR plus the locations of the AED machines in Marahau /Sandy Bay/Tokongawa.” There doesn't appear to be one so if people who have this skill and are willing to be included in a register could please contact the Secretary. There are two AED's in Marahau, one at the Abel Tasman Centre and one at the water taxi base.

11. Wetlands

A number of members recently assisted in planting parts of the Wetlands destroyed by Gita.



A photo showing accumulated debris in the Wetland

The Committee have made available \$3,500 from the earlier grant of \$10,000 from the Motueka Community Board, towards clearance and remediation.



Bent backs seen recently planting out in the Wetlands

12. The year in review

It has been a busy year for your Committee of which the more significant items include;

- Commissioning of the children's playground in Newhaven Crescent
- Organising and undertaking with members the replanting and tidying up of the foreshore gardens
- Making a submission on the TDC's review of reserves and parks within the Motueka Ward, with a focus on the limited reserve land at Marahau
- Participating in the Council sponsored forums on Coastal Hazards
- Joining and assisting Wakatu in two beach litter clean-ups and planting on the Sandy Bay Road frontage
- Submitting successfully to Council for a 30kph speed limit throughout Marahau
- Making a successful representation to Council for a pedestrian walkway to be attached to the present Marahau River road bridge – provisionally planned for 2021
- Organised and participated in the Council's review of parking and beach access at Marahau [See Item 5 above]
- Negotiated and signed a further 5 year lease from the Crown for the Wetlands and approved further funding towards post Gita remediation
- Met with the developers for the Stage 2 of the Newhaven development and made representations to Council on other development projects within Marahau

- Continued to support the proposal for Dark Sky status for Marahau.
- Approved in principle the commissioning of a gateway sculpture to Marahau and successfully applied to the TDC's Community Grants scheme for contributory funding
- Supported the Marahau Volunteer Rural Fire Force with a \$500.00 donation

13. Flag – Looks as though Marahau may have one?

14. In conclusion this is the last Newsletter for the year. The Committee hopes that these have been useful to recipients of events and activities undertaken by the Association.

ENDS