

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018/19

### Chairman's Report

Good Morning ladies and gentlemen. Thank you all for joining us at our Annual General Meeting for 2018.19

I would particularly like to welcome Your Worship the Mayor, Sandra Goudie, TCDC Councillors Murray McClean Tony Fox, and Dal Minogue, our Councillor on Waikato Regional Council. You will be hearing from them soon.

I would also like to welcome members of the Mercury Bay Community Board and TCDC Staff.

Firstly, I would like to thank all members of our committee, The last year has been very busy and we have accomplished more than I thought possible. It was only by working as a team that progress was made.

Secondly, I would like to thank TCDC Mercury Bay Team - Allan Tiplady, Heather Bruce and others in the Whitianga Office. I know you have done your best to help Hahei.

Of course, we would not have made progress without our Mercury Bay Councilors - Murray McClean and Tony Fox. I know you have worked hard for our community and I thank you both for your efforts.

I would also like to thank YOU, our members. It is only through your support and encouragement that we have been able to get some things done.

Over the last 12 months we have been focussed on the three key issues we discussed at the last AGM.

- Traffic Management,
- Long term management of our environment, and
- Engagement with the next generation.

I will not go through each issue in detail as this has already been communicated via our newsletters and website during the past 12 months. However here are a few key points I would like to make.

As we all know, Traffic or Visitor Management is **THE** hot topic in Hahei. Everyone in Hahei has an opinion on what should be done – from “we don’t have a traffic problem” to “we must keep the cars out”.

With leadership from Gilbert Bannan, we have attempted to find solutions that work for most. I think we have made great progress.

The Visitor Car Park is now being used extensively; many people walk to the beach and Cathedral Cove. And traffic in some streets is significantly less and more controlled.

But we are a top tourist destination and we must plan for continually increasing visitors. Fortunately, the expanded Visitor Car Park will future proof the village for a number of years, and hopefully the Lees Rd car park will be a success.

Thank you, Gilbert and John North, and for your hard work.

Every three years, local councils throughout NZ update their Long-Term plans. This occurred last June. On your behalf, we made an extensive submission and I am pleased report that many of our recommendations were included in the updated LTP.

Most importantly, our recommendation to develop a plan to upgrade our water and wastewater infrastructure in Hahei was included. TCDC intend appointing consultants shortly. We look forward to working with them.

Finally, I will not be standing again as Chairman of the HR&RA. I have held this position for 3 years and I think it now time for a younger, energetic person to take this role. I have always believed that no one should hold the same job for more than 3 years – new ideas and enthusiasm is needed.

I do hope that with a younger person, we can address the challenge which I think we could have done better at – engaging with the next generation.

You are leaders of tomorrow and we need you **now**. Do not leave it to us retirees to determine your future.

And there is plenty to work on. TCDC is updating reserves management plans soon, DoC will be undertaking a Share with Care project, and visitor and traffic management will never go away.

But the biggest challenge we face is the upgrading of water and wastewater in Hahei. Significant of money is involved – as you may have seen, each ratepayer in Emma Place is faced with a bill of \$24,000 to pay for pipes plus an additional ongoing annual cost of \$510 for water and \$832 for sewage. Some are happy, others very unhappy.

The upgrade of water and sewage in Hahei will have a significant impact on us all.

But it must be done if we are to protect our beautiful environment for the next generation.

I wish the next committee all the best in dealing with this and other challenges.

Thank you again for your support. It's been a lot of fun.