

**Brook Waimarama Sanctuary Trust**  
**Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 29th October 2014**  
**7.00 p.m. at the Student Centre**  
**Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology**

**Present:**

Trustees: David Butler (Chair), Derek Shaw, Dave Leadbetter, Chris Hemi, Craig Wilson, Karen Driver and Mark Davies.

Staff: Hudson Dodd (General Manager), Rick Field (Project Coordinator), Bo Stent (Facilities Development Manager), Raeonie Thompson (Membership Administrator), Naina Mahto (Finance Administrator) and Alison McLeish (Minutes Secretary).

Members: Don Sullivan, Patricia Morrisey, Claire Williams, Richard Owen, Earle Norris, Arthur Jonas, Brian Brasell, Grace Sutherland, Mark Ellery, Tim Tait-Jamieson, Deborah Fish, Ian Holden, Jan Donnelly, Bevan Woodward, Cathy Vaughan, Martin Baumgarten, Deryk Mason, Ardy Gutzell, Margaret Bailey, Dennis Stevens, Wayne Hennessy, Yvonne Kyle, Ann Love, Mika Verheul, Jeff Whitson, Tony Rowe, John Wilson, Dave and Carol Garnett, Gael Montgomery, Jane Stevens, Richard Boyden, Lloyd Obery, Lionel Solly, Ian Price, Tim Day, George Calvert, Tony Steenhardt, Stu Hanchel, Pete Williams, Annette Milligan, Chris Skinner, Don Fraser, Ro and Pam Pope, J. Skurr, Peter Hay, Richard and Babby Joyce, Annie Henry, Mike Milstein, Shelley and Neil Johnstone, Francis Tamau, Judy and Murray McCaskey, Tony Lindsay, Elaine Marshall and Eliot Masters.

**Apologies:**

Philip Woollaston (Patron), John Hambleton (Trustee), Sian Holden, (Trustee), Ian Stockwell, Connie Charlton, Jacquetta Bell, Lien van Wijk, Queenie Balance, Byran and Margaret Hardie Boys, Lindsay McKenzie, Rona Spencer, Sandra Pearson, Pat Holland, Eugene Crowe and Dawn Gauthier.

**Welcome and Introductions**

BWST Chairman, Dave Butler welcomed members and friends of the Sanctuary and introduced the Trustees and staff to the meeting.

**MINUTES OF THE AGM held on 30th October 2013**

The Minutes of the 2013 AGM had been made available to members on line via the BWS website. It was proposed that the Minutes be approved as read, with apologies for the misspelt names of some attendees.

Moved: Dave Butler

Seconded: Carol Garnett

Carried

**MATTERS ARISING**

None

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

- Dave Butler referred the meeting to the BWS Annual Report which was given out to all present and highlighted significant points from the Chair's Foreword on pages 3-4.
- Dave Butler welcomed the year that we had all been waiting for, with funds now secured and the fence building able to commence.
- \$4.2m has been raised which has been a major effort for the region. This would not have been possible without a strong vision since 2001 and with the support from local individuals and businesses, NCC and TDC. Regional donors, in particular the Canterbury Community Trust and latterly national funding through the Lottery Grants Board, Air New Zealand Environment Trust and DOC.

- Considerable work has been undertaken with NCC to negotiate the sanctuary lease. Dave Butler paid tribute to the staff involved and thanked also the Mayor and NCC councillors, as well as McFadden, McMeeken and Phillips for their pro bono legal assistance.
- The ground breaking ceremony in September marked an emotional and shared celebration with the whole sanctuary family.
- The Board has farewelled the following Trustees during the year: Eugene Crowe, Fiona McLeod and Bruce Thomas.
- Dave Butler welcomed new Trustees: Karen Driver (former monitoring volunteer), Mark Davies (tax/management background) and Sian Holden (lawyer).
- Thanks were also given to Hudson Dodd, Bo Stent, David Kerr, Rick Field, Raeonie Thompson, and Naina Mahto for the huge commitment they have given to their respective staff roles.
- Alastair Wiffen of Opus International Consultants is project manager for the fence construction.
- The fence building has been contracted to Xcluder Pest Proof Fencing and Taylors Contracting.
- Eradication planning will require a resource consent process including community consultation.
- Plans for the re-introduction of species are also being developed.
- Dave Butler thanked everybody involved for the sustained effort to create the sanctuary and enable his thirteen year dream to become a reality.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

- Annual Accounts and Supporting Statements for the year ended 30th June 2014 were given to all present as part of the Annual Report.
- Mark Davies, Interim Treasurer gave a brief synopsis of the accounts.
 

Balance Sheet	- Total assets	\$2,607,994
Income Statement	- Total income	\$511,067
Net Surplus	-	\$131,072
- Target for fence project was \$4.6m not all pledged amounts are showing as they have not yet been received.
- Page 13 of the Annual Report shows cash held and written commitments.
- Dave Butler thanked Naina Mahto and John Hambleton for their work in preparing the accounts.

**Motion** - *'that the Annual Accounts be accepted'*.

Moved: Karen Driver

Seconded: Derek Shaw

Carried

## **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

Hudson Dodd, General Manager gave a presentation of highlights from the past year, his written report being available as part of the circulated Annual Report and available online.

- The trappers have crossed the 30,000 pest threshold.
- The weed control team have successfully accomplished the resource consent condition to control invasive weeds.
- The track construction team are on target to provide operational tracks once the fence is completed.
- 5,000 visitors signed the book last year, and there were many more who came to the site.
- Over 6,300 school children visited during past year.
- Finalising the 33 year lease with NCC was a highlight for Hudson.
- The Trust is still exploring options for shortening the fence line with a potential saving of \$150k.
- The future of the Conservation Education Centre and the Camp Site are still subject to ongoing processes and discussions with NCC.
- Fence construction will be in five phases.
- Fundraising is near the \$4.7m mark.
- Fence posts are still available.
- Admission fees still to be decided, to be successful the sanctuary must be affordable for locals. There will be at least one Open Day a year.
- There will be temporary track closures during the construction period during working hours.

There will be ongoing liaison with NCC and local user clubs to mitigate closures.

- Announcements on access will be made available through the newspapers, website and visitor centre.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

### Renewal of three year Trustee term

- Two Trustees, namely Dave Leadbetter and John Hambleton, have completed their three year term and are both willing to stand for a further term.
- At the Chairman's request the meeting agreed to endorse the roll over of both those Trustees.

### Vacancies

- There are currently nine Trustees with two vacancies.
- Seats are held for representatives from NCC, DOC and Tiakina Te Taiao should they wish to nominate a Trustee.
- The Board is seeking a Trustee to act as Treasurer.
- Nominations were invited from the meeting, but none were forthcoming.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None

## **PEST PROOF FENCE CONSTRUCTION**

Apologies were received from Mike Fahey of Taylors Contracting.

**Alastair Wiffen, Project Manager of Opus International Consultants** gave an illustrated presentation.

- Construction of the fence commenced in October 2014 and is scheduled to take 16 months to complete.
- Alastair stressed the importance of Health and Safety issues, now that the site has been given over to the contractors, so everyone will be excluded from areas where work is being carried out.
- Video clips will be posted on the website of work in progress.

**Tim Day, General Manager of Xcluder** was welcomed to the meeting.

- Tim said he was 'thrilled' to be involved with the Brook Sanctuary. He and his technical manager, George Calvert, who was also present, have worked together on similar projects, around the world for 18 years.
- Research has shown that 6mm mesh is needed to exclude the smallest predator, the mouse.
- The hood is design to an optimum width and distance to prevent animals climbing or jumping over the fence.
- Likewise foundations have to prevent digging under the fence.
- Fence construction is due to start mid January 2015, with 9.5 km being completed by the end of the summer season. There will follow a final push to finish by March 2016.
- Installation of components, alarmed gates, pedestrian access, surveillance system etc will follow.
- Surveillance and incursion risks will be ongoing, with physical inspections always necessary and a critical element.
- Tim thanked the Trust for many years of involvement and the ongoing partnership.

## **GUEST SPEAKER**

**Tony Lindsay, co-author of 'Paradise Saved'** was welcomed by Dave Butler (co-author). Janet Hunt the third co-author was not present.

- Tony offered his congratulations on the start of the fence building.
- The sanctuary movement was started by Don Merton.
- There are now hundreds of community projects around New Zealand.
- Most sanctuaries struggle for money but the Brook Waimarama Sanctuary shows signs of being able to create a model for other sanctuaries to follow.
- With the hope that one day New Zealand could be pest free, projects such as the Brook Waimarama Sanctuary will keep species available to go out into the wider community.
- The sanctuary movement is stemming the tide of extinction.

The AGM ended at 9.03 p.m.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_