

Kororareka/Russell Community Wharf Kaitiaki Trust

Chairman's Report 1 December 2020

To the Russell Community

I am writing this to the wider community on progress (albeit slow) of the new Kororareka/Russell Community Wharf Kaitiaki Trust's registrations. It is very pleasing to be publishing this first report on the Trust's new Website. Funding for this is being covered by certain Trustees initially as a loan to the Trust. This we all consider will be a major tool and asset for keeping everyone informed and up to date.

Those of you who were at the first public meeting December 2019 will recall we introduced ourselves as the newly elected/selected Trustees and discussed in some detail our initial plan going forward. Our first job was registering the new Trust and gaining charitable status (two separate applications of which one can only follow the other), opening bank accounts, gaining approval from the Inland Revenue as a 'donee' organisation to allow individuals who wish to donate to the Trust's ongoing legal obligations or support a particular project, to claim a donation tax credit.

All the above has now I'm pleased to say been completed, albeit slowly and frustratingly at times due to Covid and other factors.

Our first official meeting with the new owners of the wharf - Far North Holdings Ltd - was delayed again due to Covid, but eventually went ahead and was very positive. We now have a much better understanding and have made significant progress on future maintenance and around certain funding to cover the ongoing legal and administration cost of the Trust. You will find the current Maintenance Schedule under 'News and Views' on this website.

Current projects underway or pending funding:

The Waharoa and Wero Project has been affected by delays but again I'm pleased to say is now actually underway and the order placed with the chosen carver Tony Makiha from Mystix Studio. The project will now be procured and installed in two phases, phase one being the Wero (guard), due for completion by end of March next year with the Waharoa (gateway) coming in later in the year. There is a shortfall in funding however and we are in the process of putting together funding applications which we are confident in securing. This also includes a major prize raffle (\$100 ticket) to go towards costs, to be drawn in time for Christmas with some of the best top prizes ever.

The upgrade and repair of the seaward end of the boat ramp together with some erosion protection is still on the to-do list. A recent application by the Trust to the Provincial Growth Fund was, whilst fulfilling all the criteria unfortunately declined as the funding pot was almost depleted. This will be looked at again in the coming year to see what can be done. Interestingly, we had our first 'public donation' from a member of the public recently - from a Tapeke resident who gave \$50 towards the boat ramp, how cool and very welcome is that!

The Trust Bank Account number for any donations is: 03-0394-0014279-000. Please include your name (if wanting a reply/acknowledgement) and a reference to what the donation is for, ie BRamp for Boat Ramp, etc.

An application has been received from the Russell Boating Club to erect a new discrete but very attractive start box on the Russell Wharf in a bid to resolve an ongoing problem for them as a club and the community in general. The Trust has had some informal and recently a more formal meeting where there was general support from the Trustees to bring this to the community at the Public Meeting held on Tuesday 1 December 2020. Far North Holdings have also given the concept the green light.

Thank you Russell Community for your support and we look forward to celebrating more achievements with you this time next year.

Kind regards

Barry Heath
Chairman
Kororareka/Russell Community Wharf Kaitiaki Trust