

**MINUTES**

**ARO VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE**

**Date: Thursday 24th June, 7:30 – 9pm**

**Location: THE MEETING ROOM ADJACENT TO HALL,**

**ARO VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Present: Roland Sapsford (Co-chair), Sarah Jane Parton (Secretary), Rachel Griffiths, (Treasurer), Jo Brien (Acting Community Administrator), Lexi Goodman (Community Developer), Lisa Thompson, Cindy Jemmett, Luke Allen, Jadwyn Lowe, Josephine Brien, Julia Stace Brooke-White, Mattie Timmer, Madeleine Rashbrooke, Sacha Green (Aro Valley Pre-school Representative), Tony McGruddy (Te Aro School Board of Trustees Representative), Iona Pannett (WCC Councillor).

Apologies: Jay Buzenberg, Bridget Stocker,.

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| Opening Round | |
| The meeting started with a quick opening round where AVCC Committee members were invited by Roland to describe the way they keep their house warm and dry.  Roland has a heat pump and insulation in his ceiling and will soon have a wood burner. Jadwyn’s house has extreme insulation, and double-glazing. Jo has ‘double skinned bricks’ and a low ceiling, batts, and velvet curtains. Contrary to what Luke would like, he has draughts, substandard curtains, and no under floor insulation and he tends to stay in one heated room. Lisa has gas central heating. Julia has a heat pump and is situated in the sunniest spot in the Valley. Mattie has gas heating. Cindy has a wood burner and rubbish insulation. Lexi has insulation in the ceiling and under the floor and a heat pump. SJP has no insulation and lives in a wooden tent. Rachel has insulation and lives in a house close to others that keeps it warm. Iona has insulation in the ceiling and gas central heating. Sacha lives in an insulated and double glazed Council flat and uses heaters. | |
| Minutes: Aro Valley Community Council Committee Meeting | |
| Minutes amended slightly then passed unanimously.  Changes: Luke did give his apologies. Pre-school Report had names mispelt – Sacha, Keryn, Jasmina. | |
| Aro Valley Community Centre Staff Report | Action Points |
| **Roland** welcomed **Lexi** Goodman, the new Community Developer.  **Lexi** introduced herself. She’s a Wellingtonian (born and bred) who spent some of her life in Belgium where she developed an interest in languages. This led to study in linguistics at Victoria University. She has three children and has lived in the Valley for 10 years.  Since she started at the Community Centre less than a fortnight ago she has predominantly worked on the School Holiday Programme (which starts in a week and a half), and has been learning the ropes off **Jo** Brien, who has been filling in. The numbers of children enrolled are steadily increasing. She has also met with the other Wellington City Community Centre Coordinators.  **Sarah Jane** asked how much the School Holiday Programme staff are paid.  Answer: The staff on the School Holiday Programme are paid $18 (the supervisor), and $15 (the other staff).  **Sarah Jane** said she felt it was an issue that the amount didn’t match the Living Wage. **Roland** suggested this could be on a future agenda.  **Mattie** asked about the number of hours that the report indicates the hall is in use. **Lexi** said there were some issues with the method used to calculate those hours, and that the report is erroneous.  DECISION: The coordinator’s report was passed, noting that the hours reported were incorrect. |  |
| General Agenda Items | Action Points |
| **Ten Year Plan/Hall Upgrade**  **Iona and Luke** discussed the hall upgrade that the WCC intends to carry out as part of its ten-year plan.  DECISION: **Luke** and **Iona** will follow up on details of the ten-year plan regarding the hall upgrade with Jenny Rains.  **Drainage on Aro Street/Flooding issues**  **Iona** has met with residents on Aro Street to discuss flooding and drainage issues on Aro Street. She has suggested a community meeting could be held. One of the issues is that people have built basements on homes that are lower down in the Valley. One suggestion was lifting homes, which would be a major project. She indicated that this process is still very much at a research/information gathering stage, but that the flooding/poor drainage is not acceptable.  **Closure/Moving of Patel’s**  Mrs. Patel intends to build at 100 Devon Street and has told **Julia** that building permits have been granted. She is disappointed that she will have to be closed for a fortnight. She still has the Four Square franchise, although there may be issues with the reduced capacity of the new shop.  Jayesh Patel (no relation) intends to fully renovate the original shop and reopen. He has the support of the landlord (another Patel, not related to Mrs. Patel)  For a fortnight or longer Aro Valley will have no superette.  The long-term impact might be that both businesses collapse, or have an adverse effect on other businesses. Alternatively there may be enough capacity for both.  **Homelessness in Aro Valley**  **Sacha** is concerned about the people sleeping in the back verandah at the pre-school (which is fenced off but cannot be locked). The teachers have found them there in the mornings. The weather is very cold at the moment and potentially driving people to find somewhere more sheltered. There is also someone (or multiple people) living under the Abel Smith Street garages.  **Lexi and Jo** have arranged a meeting with Downtown Community Mission.  **Lisa** thinks we need to do a survey of how many people are living rough and where they are living, then to enlist the support of Downtown Community Mission to resolve the issue.  **Roland** thinks that the community needs a Community Worker.  **Iona** confirmed that DCM are the appropriate agency to deal with this. She pointed out that the WCC has put more funding into Te Mahana – the WCC homelessness strategy. She supported the AVCC actions thus far. The WCC want everyone to be housed.  **Jo** pointed out that water is collecting in front of the wall at the end of the basketball court and that this could be adversely affecting the person’s health who is living in that space.  DECISION: **Jo and Lexi** to contact Jenny Rains about the drainage/water collecting by the basketball courts and cc Iona in.  **Mattie** mentioned that there is an AVCC Homelessness policy.  DECISION: **Mattie** to find the Homelessness policy.  **Julia** asked about the houses on Aro Park land that are currently in a terrible condition and not tenanted. The houses are uninhabitable and all agree that they should be demolished.  DECISION: **Iona** to contact Jenny Rains about these houses.  **Iona** asked about the condition of St John Street. **Tony and Jadwyn** have both asked WCC to look after it/clean it but they have not managed to have this task carried out. When the job has been carried out it has been done poorly.  **The Garage Project Bar**  The Garage Project is opening a bar at 91 Aro St (Ron Barber’s former shop). **Tony** is concerned that they didn’t engage the community in this project. Others feel that they did. Liz Barnard, a resident on Aro Street, is concerned that this has happened without consultation. There was public notification (The Wellingtonian, a notice in the window).  **Lisa** suggested that she meet with The Garage Project to discuss this. **Lexi** will join Lisa in this discussion. **Julia** suggested that we ask them about the container that they have installed in front of the electricity substation. **Luke** suggested we invite them to the AGM to discuss the bar.  DECISION: **Tony** will forward Liz’s email to **Lisa. Committee Members** will forward all thoughts on this to Lisa, who will collate these and consider them. **Lisa and Lexi** to meet with Jos, Pete, and Ian at The Garage Project. If it seems like a good idea they will invite them to speak at the AGM.  DECISION: **Iona** will contact the secretary of the licensing committee to get the licensing report. She will send this to **Lisa**.  **Jo** left the meeting. **Lisa** thanked her for her work filling in between coordinators.  **Offices and Committee Members 2015 – 16**  **Madeleine** will be stepping down from the committee. **Sarah Jane** will be stepping down as secretary. **Cindy** will step down but continue to volunteer on a project-by-project basis. **Mattie** will remain on the committee. **Bridget** will step down. **Julia** will be stepping down. **Lisa** would like to suggest that the secretary role be reconsidered in terms of the tasks expected – especially minute taking. She is on the fence as to whether she will carry on. **Luke** is very keen to stand again. **Jadwyn** is keen to stay on. **Roland** will stay on provided a co-chair is elected with whom he can work effectively.  DECISION: The members of the committee will talk to people in the community about joining the committee, especially for the co-chair role.  **Solar Update**  It is going to cost $1200 to have the three meters (hall, offices, and pre-school) re-merged.  DECISION: The committee approved $1500 + gst for this job.  **Meetings**  The next **General Meeting** will be held on Tuesday 7th July at 7:30pm on the topic of “The AVCC Constitution: Where to from here?”  The **AGM** will be held on Wednesday 15th July at 7pm. | **Iona and Luke** to meet Jenny Rains.  **Jo and Lexi** to contact Teresa regarding the water collecting at the end of the basketball court and cc Iona in to the email.  **Lexi and Jo** have arranged to meet with Downtown Community Mission.  **Mattie** will locate the Homelessness policy.  **Iona** will discuss derelict WCC houses with Jenny Rains.  **Committee members** to email opinions on The Garage Project Bar to **Lisa**.  **Lisa** and **Lexi** will organize a meeting with The Garage Project.  **Iona** will contact the secretary of the licensing committee to get the licensing report. She will send this to **Lisa**.  **Committee Members** to talk to people in the community about joining the committee, especially for the co-chair role. |
| Pre-school Report |  |
| **Sacha** delivered her report.  The pre-school’s Matariki event is coming up.  Jasmina, the new head teacher, has started.  The pre-school property seems to have fallen off the council maintenance review schedule.  The pre-school is reviewing its philosophy and is looking at incorporating community perspectives. |  |
| School Report |  |
| **Tony** reported that the school won the decile review and are back down to Decile 7.  The school had a great Matariki event. |  |
| Financial Report | Action Points | |
| **Rachel** presented the May financial report for review. During May the majority of the income came from the WW1 events, and that this was also the reason for most of the expenses.  DECISION: The committee approved the May financial report. |  | |
| Any Other Business |  | |
| No other business. |  | |
| Meeting Closed | | |
| **The meeting closed at 10pm**. | | |