**AVCC GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2015**

Apologies: Sacha Green, Rachel Griffiths

Topic: **CLIMATE CHANGE** – Global and Local

**SPEAKERS**:

Simon Terry – Executive Director Sustainability Council

Brent Efford – Light Rail Assoc

Nina Atkinson, Generation Zero

**NATIONAL ACTION**:

Noted that on a local/individual level, although changing to solar energy or electric vehicles is a great thing to do, it will not do much to reduce greenhouse gases. The average household/consumer is only responsible for 19% of carbon emissions. 2/3rds of greenhouse gases come from farms. Wellington transport as a whole accounts for 35% of the city’s emissions.

The biggest change must come from government strategy. The only way for citizens to make a real impact on climate change is to vote for people who will do something about it. We need to use our networks to drive action.

**LOCAL ACTION**

ARO VALLEY TROLLEY BUSES

The Trolley buses are soon to leave the valley. If you oppose this move, vote for those council members who agree– Paul Bruce and Sue Kedgley are 2 of them.

You can also sign the petition on Generation Zero’s website.

<http://www.generationzero.org/keepitclean>

At the same time, congratulate the local government for positive initiatives, including the new cycle ways.

FONTERRA

Fonterra is considering powering its plant with coal. There are 2 initiatives opposing this action – Coal Action

<https://coalactionnetworkaotearoa.wordpress.com/>

and Action Station <http://www.actionstation.org.nz/>

**INDIVIDUAL ACTION**

* Eat less meat
* drive less
* have meaningful conversations with people about climate change.

Read “Time of useful consciousness – Acting Urgently on Climate Change by local author Ralph Chapman.

Engage with businesses that are trying to be sustainable.

Realise you can’t live a completely zero carbon emission, fat free, sugar free, organic, eco friendly, sustainable life all of the time. Do the best you can to live an active, happy, healthy, happy life within a system that makes sustainability difficult.

**MOTION**: *AVCC promotes and encourages actions to reduce emissions and mitigate the effects of climate change*.

Seconded by Karen McIntyre – Motion carried.

**OTHER MEETING ITEMS**:

1. Minutes of the last General Meeting – topic the Constitution – no quorum – no minutes.
2. AVCC Committee update:

* The e-newsletter contains all the relevant information – anyone can sign up to it through the web page or by calling in to the office.
* Current major project is the upgrade of the community hall and facilities. The WCC is spending $1.3 million over the next 3 years. The AVCC a developing a consultation process to get feedback from the community.
* Fair preparation is underway and will be held in March 2016.

1. Dates and items for 2016 general meetings

* April 2016
* June 2016

Items suggested:

Discussion with WCC on:

* rental warrant of fitness what this means for landlords,
* overcrowding in houses,
* how the community is served by the WCC
* rubbish in Devon Street

Refugees/Migrants in the Aro Valley – what do we think?

Transparency of the AVCC:

* How they spend their money
* What is their plan? - could include this in a discussion on the constitution.

The Planned Upgrade