



MINUTES
30 MAR 2015
Meeting opened:
7:00 pm

NO:	Item Discussed	Outcome/Info to follow up	Follow Up By
1.	Apologies: David Miller, Laressa Shenfield, Jessica Bagge, Suzie Harris Gladys Tillard and Mike Van Loon		
2.	Present: Deedee Bancroft, Sallie Bancroft, Jamie Arbuckle, Dave Oliver, Peter Chapman, John Maffey, John Thompson, Neville Miller, Adam & Brenda		
3.	Confirmation of previous minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none">Copy of the minutes were read, Cn Arbuckle needed to change Item 4 to remove Jeff Powells name as it was not in the right section. Alterations to be made. <div>Confirmation of Previous Minutes<div>Moved: N Miller Confirmed: Cn Arbuckle</div></div>		
4.	Matters arising from previous minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Submissions are to be brought to the April meeting for approval to go to council by the 7th May.A long term draft won't be adopted until next week from CouncilSubjects for submissions: Core Infrastructure, Major storm water, Library.		
GENERAL BUSINESS			
5.	Inwards Correspondence Nil		
Deedee Bancroft welcomed 2 newcomers from Seddon, Deedee had been contacted by Brenda who was interested in starting their own Ratepayers Assoc in Seddon. Welcome Adam & Brenda			
6.	Item 1. Submission to Annual and 10 Year Plan Cnr Arbuckle explained that the Annual and 10 Year Plan will not be ready for viewing until next week. Cnr Arbuckle also informed the residents that all ratepayers will receive a copy of an outline of where to go and get information.		

	<p>Item 2. Seddon – Water Rates Bill and Irrigation Problem – effects on Blenheim Residents.</p> <p>Adam filled us in on what is happening in Seddon with their water rates bill. It was extremely alarming. They are working closely with other people to fight this bill. Currently the Seddon area irrigation system is costing them in the vicinity of \$7M to be paid to Council. Seddon residence have been seeking help regarding the cost and how absurd it is. An outside engineer has visited and cannot believe that this is so far-fetched it is a cruel case of greed. It should only cost \$1m a more realistic figure.</p> <p>Blenheim people have no idea on what is going on with the residence of Seddon and it is about time they knew. It is encouraged that we all look at the details on the Seddon Facebook page and share with all our friends to get this out there.</p> <p>A kind and generous suggestion from John that perhaps we could pay a levy to alleviate the cost for Seddon, Adam thinks it should not have to fall back on the Blenheim ratepayers. We are talking about, drinking, cleaning, toilet water.....not water for grape ventures etc.</p> <p>What infuriates Seddon residence is the Council have offered 50 Awatere valley farmers a chance to take a portion of a loan of \$30.5M. Where does this come from? Why can't a small bit of that help Seddon's Waterbill?</p> <p>The costs may fall on Blenheim residents if the council go ahead with the \$5.5million plan.</p>	
	<p>Item 3.</p> <p>John showed an article from Marlborough Express dated Feb 2015. It points out Picton township have formed a steering group to get things done in Picton. This is driven purely by local personnel who have decided they no longer want to wait around to get things done, they want to act now and get things done yesterday.</p> <p>Discussion took place about the future of this group, whether we are taken seriously or not and how some groups are contractual (paid by council). This is not the road we want to be taking.</p> <p>Item 4. Continuation of BRRA and thoughts of appreciation</p> <p>Deedee expressed the need to think if we should stay open. Deedee has committed her own personal time to do minutes, speak to people about the BRRA and also be here to chair every meeting for the last 2 years. She has had enough of doing it alone. If we can see a light at the end of the tunnel is it worth continuing.</p>	

	<p>It was agreed, the BRRA will continue, with perhaps everybody at the next meeting to bring 2 other people with them. Let's get Busy, Wise and Ready. Let's prove we are here for the long haul.</p> <p>What is it we want? Community input, 30 to 50 people, strong spokespersons Great ideas Sponsorship Advertising</p> <p>Deedee will put up a poll on FB to see if people prefer an alternative day.</p> <p>Advertising seekers: This n That – Sallie Bancroft The Sun – John The Express – Peter Radio FM – Dave ? – Neville Miller Website & Facebook – Mike Van Loon Marl for Fun – Deedee</p> <p>Deedee mentioned we needed to give a big thank-you to Michael Rea from First National, he has been a sponsor helping donate some vests for us to use at events. Michael isn't able to attend meetings so much as he is busy being a volunteer firefighter that trains on Monday nights. We are now on the hunt for another sponsor or two for us who is able to attend meetings.</p> <p>Also a big thank you to our counsellors who have been with this group from the start, your selfless time and energy you have given to us and to clarify on certain subjects have been wonderfully appreciated. You explain situations really well and although it must be pretty tough sometimes, you are always positive, open and not scared to say what needs to be said. For that we say THANKYOU. Cnr Arbuckle, Cnr Shenfield, Cnr Bagge.</p> <p>Dave Dave wanted to thank Deedee for all the time and effort she has put into this group. It is a wonderful group and it would have never got off if it wasn't for her and a few others who are not here this evening. But more for Deedee who already has an extremely busy life to do this as well we are extremely thankful.</p>	
	There being no further discussion the meeting closed at 2100hrs	