

HERNE BAY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.

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NEWSLETTER UPDATE JULY 2023

PLAN CHANGE 78

In the May 2023 update HBRAI highlighted Kianga Ora and other submitters wished to have the “Qualifying Matter” of heritage much reduced thereby increasing the size of the medium density housing zoning in Herne Bay. In addition, these submitters wish to have the Link bus service definition upgraded as a “Frequent Transport Route” and that the “Local Centre” shops (the Herne Bay shops designation) be made to include a walkable catchment designation which would make the surrounding residential areas subject to high-rise (6 storey) development.

HBRAI proposed to hold a meeting to discuss these issues, have available a highly experienced leading planning expert to answer questions, and if appropriate decide on action to counter these proposals.

Since then, the Government provided Auckland Council breathing space by extending the requirement for completing the Plan Change proposal by one year. This was to permit the Council to relook at its infrastructure and make changes after the floods of January/February. Given that the plan could well be amended our expert advised that such a meeting should wait until the Council unveils its new plan. This is expected soon.

HBRAI will advise when the meeting is to be held.

STORM DAMAGE

In the May newsletter we advised of damage in the Coastal Marine Zone from slips. Many Herne Bay beaches are affected. We have had complaints from members. Our legal advice is that Auckland Council is the authority responsible for the Coastal Zone so complaints for the unsatisfactory state of the foreshore should be made to Auckland Council. Safety is a major issue. We have included a photograph of broken timber debris etc. on Herne Bay beach **HERE**. Our concern is that children playing could well be in danger from exposed nails etc. We have been in touch with the Council who say the landowners of the slip properties are responsible for the cleanup.

HBRAI believes the Council as the responsible entity should remove any dangerous debris pending agreement with those it says are responsible.

HBRAI also believes Council needs to get the responsible parties to clean up the coast immediately or do the cleanup itself. There has been enough time to make cleanup arrangements.

If you are unhappy with the state of the foreshore HBRAI suggests you make a complaint to Council on its website or by telephone.

YOURS SINCERELY,

Dirk Hudig – Co-chair

Don Mathieson – Co-chair