

KOITIATA COMMUNITY COUNCILCHAIRMAN'S NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 1981

On 10 March 1981, the seven nominees for seven positions on the newly formed Koitiata Community Council met. For personal reasons, one nominee withdrew. The remaining six signed the Declaration by Councillors, pursuant to Section 103 of the Local Government Act 1974. The extraordinary vacancy was filled by appointment, of the only late nomination at the July meeting. The seven members are A.J.L. McIndoe, J.H. Richards, D.R. Taylor (Mrs), L.J. Tremaine, M. Burberry (Mrs), N.N. Abbott and B.S. Bayley.

The Community has adopted a set of Bylaws. Each Councillor has a set and the public are entitled to view these on request. Also, all the Councillors are Honorary Rangers. They are all approachable people and will be willing to assist you in any way on request, with information etc.

The Rubbish Dump has reached the end of its useful life and the Council is in the process of hearing objections to the relocating of same just to the north east of the Domain. Hopefully, it will be in use at an early date. We notice that people are reluctant to dump their rubbish in the tip head, thus causing at times quite an unnecessary pile up. With the new tip, we hope everyone will try harder. Also, children use it as a playground. They love smashing anything glass, creating a danger to everyone. Before long someone's child will come home with a badly gashed foot and we are quite a way from a doctor. The remedy is in the parents hands.

Animal carcasses on the river and beach frontage: unfortunately, as long as we have a river outlet and there are farms along that river, we will have this problem. However, in the near future we hope to have material readily available so that this offensive matter can be burned under supervision.

While I am talking burning, we live in a fire restricted area, so if you wish to burn anything, you must obtain a permit to burn from the Forestry Fire Ranger, Mr Noel Abbott. This is important.

The Public Showers and Conveniences on the beach frontage are a target for vandalism quite frequently. A meter miser will be fitted to the showers to give them a timed flow. They will automatically "cut off" if left running. Our thanks must go to Mrs Leighton for her efforts in keeping these conveniences clean and usable and also for looking after the meter boxes at the caravan park. Neither chore being the most relished at times.

Some of you may have noticed a concrete slab on Lot 65 in Wainui Street. By the time you are reading this newsletter, there will probably be a shed erected on this site. This is to house fire fighting equipment for the village and forestry. The initial equipment will be supplied by the Forestry. The Council had hoped to see the building and equipment installed before Christmas. It could possibly still be but more likely to be in the New Year. Of course, equipment will not operate by itself so there will be volunteers called for later to train for fire fighting. But more about this when it is organised.

Unkept and undeveloped sections are a considerable fire hazard, particularly in the hot weather. So what about it you occupiers?

The freeholding of our sections had reached the "Land Settlement Board" immediately prior to the election. The Minister of Lands sits on this Board. Now the election is settled, I would hope the procedure continues immediately.

At a meeting on 14 July 1981, with the Assistant Commissioner of Lands, Mr Muirhead and Messrs Ogle and Briant from his office, also present Mr Henshaw from the Valuation Department, it was pointed out that the price fixing used for such sales was a long established formula followed by all Governments for many years. So our arguments to have the price reduced were of no avail.

Having accepted this fact, the decision of the meeting was to proceed with the freeholdings after the Valuation Department had reassessed the situation.

When the Council has definite information for everyone to consider, a general meeting will be called immediately, everyone receiving due notice. This meeting will discuss acceptance or refusal, along with prices and ways of purchase prior to a final decision being made.

Statements of other relevant information concerning the Koitiata Domain will be made and any questions answered where possible.

This concludes news etc to hand. I trust it will answer some of the questions being asked.

In closing, I would take the opportunity of wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year on behalf of myself and the Koitiata Community Council.

Brian Bayley
CHAIRMAN