

## WAIPU COVE RESERVE(S) BOARD

4<sup>th</sup> February 2019, 7pm

Camp Waipu Cove all-weather room.

**ALL WELCOME**

### **AGENDA (E & OE)**

**PRESENT:** R. Pullan, A. Trist, L Trist, A. McCulloch, K. Baker, P. Baker, R. Stolwerk, J. Henderson, B. Hopkins (minutes secretary), R. King, E. Cook,

### **APOLOGIES:**

### **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:**

### **MATTERS ARISING:**

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

#### **Inwards:**

**12/12/2018 – Tempist Fujit – Request to plan on reserve on 2<sup>nd</sup> January**

**07/01/2019 – Angus McCulloch – Dog owners at Waipu Cove**

#### **Outwards:**

**07/01/2019 – Angus McCulloch – Acknowledgement of email**

### **REPORTS:**

- **Management report**

This summer was the best yet operation-wise. This was Anton & Lucy's 7<sup>th</sup> summer as managers. The new booking system has proved to be a huge success. One of the benefits was that it allows full payment prior to arrival. Customer complaints were minimal. Staff were excellent and did a great job. There was great weather for the most part. John pointed out that smooth running starts from the top so would like to recognise Anton & Lucy's efforts.

### **CARRIED R. King/R. Pullan**

- **Financial report**
- **WCSLSC Report (verbal)**

Rick said that this has been the best summer for years. 'How summer used to be', many said. Yesterday was the 51<sup>st</sup> day of patrols. The regional guards changed every week as at most beaches. Club day was fantastic. 52 participated in the swim – the most ever. Hopeful it will be even bigger next year. The club's teams did very well at the Northern Region IRB champs at Ruakaka and last weekend at the Omaha competition. They will be competing at 6 carnivals in the next few weeks. The Easter dinner is coming up and as usual the Board are encouraged to attend.

An issue has been raised regarding the recently published book associated with the surf club. The surf club and Board have great relationship and the board have provided sponsorship for the book and have recognition on the back cover. Rick advised that it's now been made clear that there were some errors found in the book. He made clear that this is one person's story but he apologises, as if things are incorrect the surf club should have picked it up. In hindsight someone from the Board should have been asked to read and check. One error noted was that the Board, camp managers & local farmers weren't fully recognised as funding the seaweed clean-up operation.

John asked whether the author was generally unhappy with the Board's work. Rick feels he is not and reiterated that the book is the opinion of the author, not that of the Surf Club or their committee.

Roger pointed out that the Board has supported this endeavour financially and there are segments of the book that belittle what the Board works towards.

John asks what the Board feel is the right thing to do to rectify the situation and offered to write to the author.

Angus mentioned that when he first joined the Board the relationship between the Board and Surf club was not as favourable as it is now, and this may explain some of the discrepancies. There were many ASH on

board as well so there was a great deal of conflict. Angus feels that since Rick has taken over the relationship is now as it should be.

Peter Baker expressed an alternate view that past friction was primarily due to previous management of both organisations.

Peter pointed out that the current camp management has also been integral in the great relationship. Peter feels we should write to author as he has influence over readers.

Rick suggested an amendment can be added to the back of the remainder of the books that have not yet been sold. Rick acknowledged that the Board is the clubs biggest sponsor and allows the club to function well while many other clubs are struggling.

John appreciates Rick coming tonight to explain the situation. He will write to the author to express the Boards grievances and Rick will put a correction note in the remaining books.

Rick supplied the Board with a few copies of NRC's vision for the next few years. John complimented NRC on the rate-payer contributions towards predator control. The Board are keen to work more with the pest control groups.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **• Dog management**

After the November Board meeting John wrote to local councillors Phil Halse and Shelly Deeming asking them to send ranger a few times a week to investigate people that were not following the rules but as yet there has been no response. John included an offer of funding in his letter. John will go back to them again. Evan mentioned that he did see a ranger here quite a few times over the summer. The managers held off erecting related signage whilst waiting for a response. These signs will now be put up.

Angus sent the council details on a colour coded lead scheme being used successfully elsewhere in the country (also supplied to Board). This relates to dog control as well as proximity to wildlife.

Angus pointed out the By-laws specify dogs are to be on leashes. John agreed but pointed out that the problem is with enforcement. He feels it shouldn't be the responsibility of the camp staff, managers or Board members to confront people. Peter feels that most people have seen the signs and have chosen to ignore them. Roger spoke about aggressive confrontations on the beach this summer with dog owners who were not controlling or cleaning up after their dogs. There is more pressure on the beach at the moment due to increased visitor numbers. Roger questions whether we are at the point where we want to enforce the by-law. But how? The council does have dog rangers but Roger suggested camp security could be used.

The problem times seem to be early in the morning and in the evening – outside peak times. Dogs are allowed at these times as long as they are under control but this rule is not being adhered to by everyone.

Roger feels it should be made clear that dogs must be on a lead. The camp has purchased bag dispensers for dog owners to use. Peter suggested an article in the paper for when they are installed. Anton will draft something for Marilyn Cox to publish in the Bream Bay News. These machines may lead to some people leaving the used bags however feel this is the lesser of 2 evils – the camp will try to monitor this.

John pointed out that the pig hunting lobby is currently very strong and they are putting pressure on politicians not to crack down on dogs. Kiwi coast have funding to put up billboards but they see Waipu Cove as urban so they see dogs on the beach here as more of a public concern than a threat to wildlife and haven't been forthcoming with funding for billboards etc. The Board would like to re-educate people as most effective way to change behaviours. We have a lot of signage at the cove but something on the roadside might be a good idea. John will approach them again for funding for a billboard and kiwi education events.

We are so close to the bird reserve it is not acceptable for dogs to be chasing the birds. Education is the key and for those that disregard it there needs to be enforcement.

At the moment people are probably unaware that the by-law states dogs must be on a leash. Roger feels signage should be erected to make it clear. Rowan agrees.

This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Waipu wildlife reserve this year.

- **Site Fees**

To be discussed at March meeting. Anton & Lucy will survey other camp grounds site fees in preparation for this discussion and circulate amongst the Board members.

## **IN COMMITTEE: (8pm)**

### **Exclusion of the public**

That the public be excluded from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting on the following grounds – Agenda items: **ASH site arrears & WCRB management plan**. The general subject matter of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows: General subject matter: Inwards correspondence Reason for resolution: Protect individuals Ground(s) under s 48 (1) for passing resolution: 48 (1) (d) and 48 (2) This resolution is made in reliance on section 48 (1) (a) of the LGOIMA 1987 and the particular interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act or section 6 or section 7 or section (9) of the OIA 1982 as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows: s.7.(2) (a) protect privacy of natural persons.

**Board came out of committee at (8:30pm)**

### **Upcoming events on the reserve and local area**

- **Waipu Saturday Market:** First Saturday of the Month in Presbyterian Church Hall 9-1pm
- **Waipu Boutique Sunday Market & Café:** 2nd Sunday of the Month, Waipu Coronation Hall 9-1pm
- **Waipu Street Market** - Saturdays of long weekends 9-1pm
- **Waipu Antiques and Collectables Fair** – Sunday of Long weekends 9-4pm

**Next meeting 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

Meeting Closed at 8:35pm

## **Managers' Report December 2018/January 2019**

January is almost over, bringing the Christmas holidays to a close. Aside from some bad weather around Christmas time, we have been lucky enough to have hot, settled weather throughout January. This fantastic weather we've had lately has made for very happy campers!

We had a huge downpour on the 24<sup>th</sup> of December, which resulted in surface flooding (particularly in the north end car park) and a very soggy Christmas day for the campers. This didn't deter the campers too much, with the majority preferring to stick it out until the better weather arrived.

The tennis court has proved to be extremely popular this summer. The court has been booked out all day, every day. Generally, those wishing to use the court would need to book it a day in advance to be able to secure a time. We've had a good mix of campers and locals booking the court. A professional tennis coach Grant van Delsum was onsite offering free coaching sessions to campers on certain days, which was well patronised. We received positive feedback about the coaching, so will look at offering this again next summer.

The red algae made a couple of appearances this summer, first showing up on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December. It returned in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of January, but so far has had minimal impact (compared with other years) so not

worth removing. Unfortunately the algae has appeared again 21<sup>st</sup> January but hopefully moves on soon.

Our new reservation system Newbook has proved its worth many times this summer by streamlining our check-in procedure. Customers have been able to pre-register and pay in full online prior to arrival if they wished, thereby speeding up the check in process significantly. In the past, customers would have to pay their balance and sign their registration form (with any amendments to their booking made on the spot) on arrival. By enabling customers to fast-track this step in the process, the customer has a more efficient experience and reception can process check-ins more quickly. Also, we have moved to a paperless check-in, so instead of having customers sign a paper registration form, they now either complete these online prior to arrival or complete this electronically via a tablet at reception. Several customers have mentioned how easy and convenient the whole process has been compared to the previous system.

Summer has gone very smoothly so far this year. There have been few issues of any sort, and as the algae has mostly stayed away and the weather has been fantastic, we have had a very happy campground overall. We've had even more positive comments than usual regarding the cleanliness of the camp and how tidy the grounds are looking. This is a huge credit to all the staff and their hard work.

We met with Trevor Murray and Shaun Curtis from Arise Builders on the 17<sup>th</sup> of January to finalise details around the new cabin build that will take place after Easter. It was agreed for building work to commence on the 29<sup>th</sup> April.

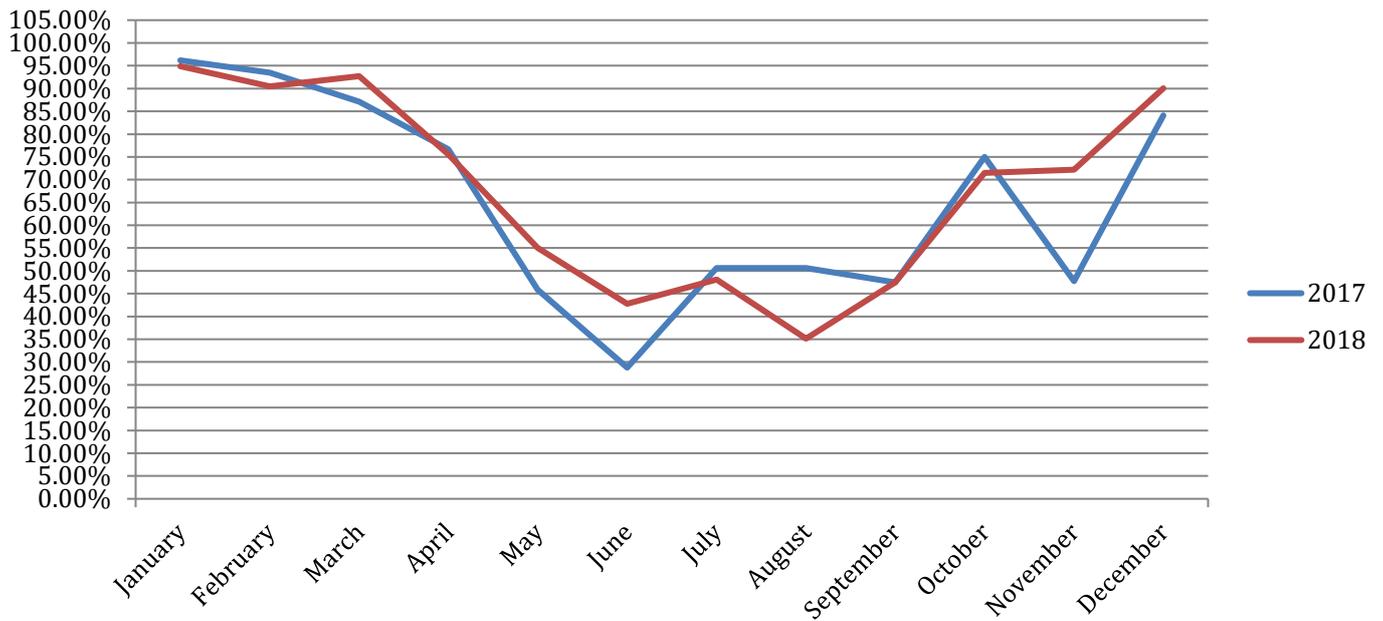
Currently we are gearing up for the school camp season that takes place every February and March, ensuring we keep busy until Easter. There is also an upcoming wedding ceremony on the flat patch by the surf club on the afternoon of February 9<sup>th</sup>.

Regards

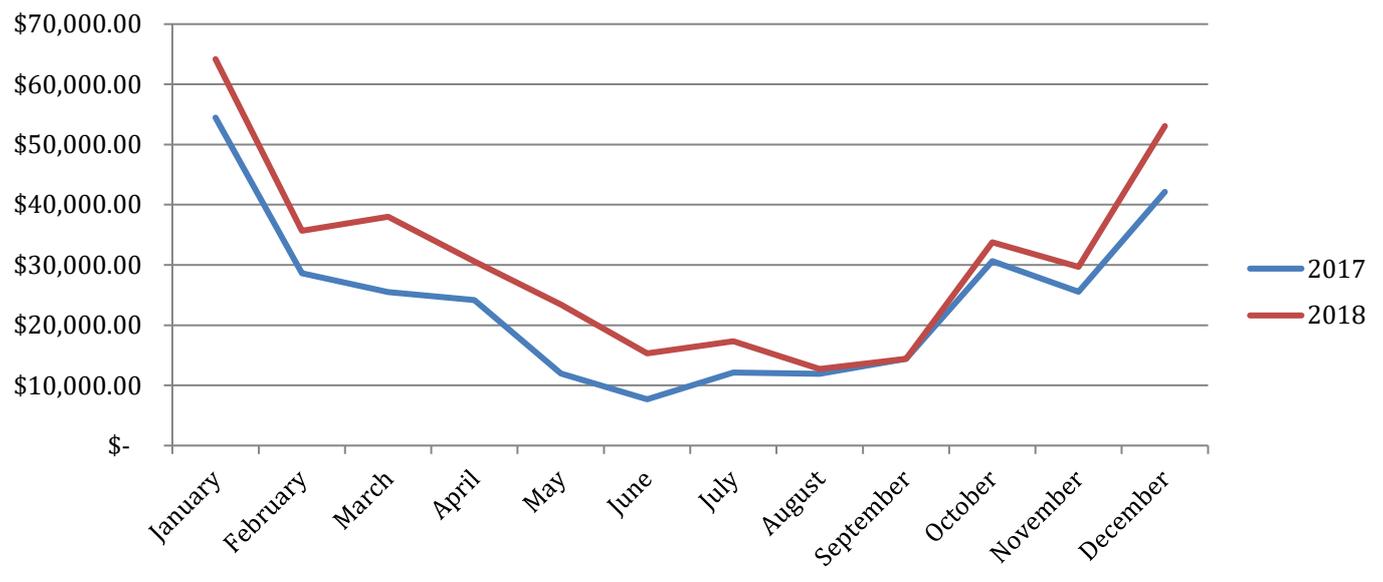
Anton and Lucy

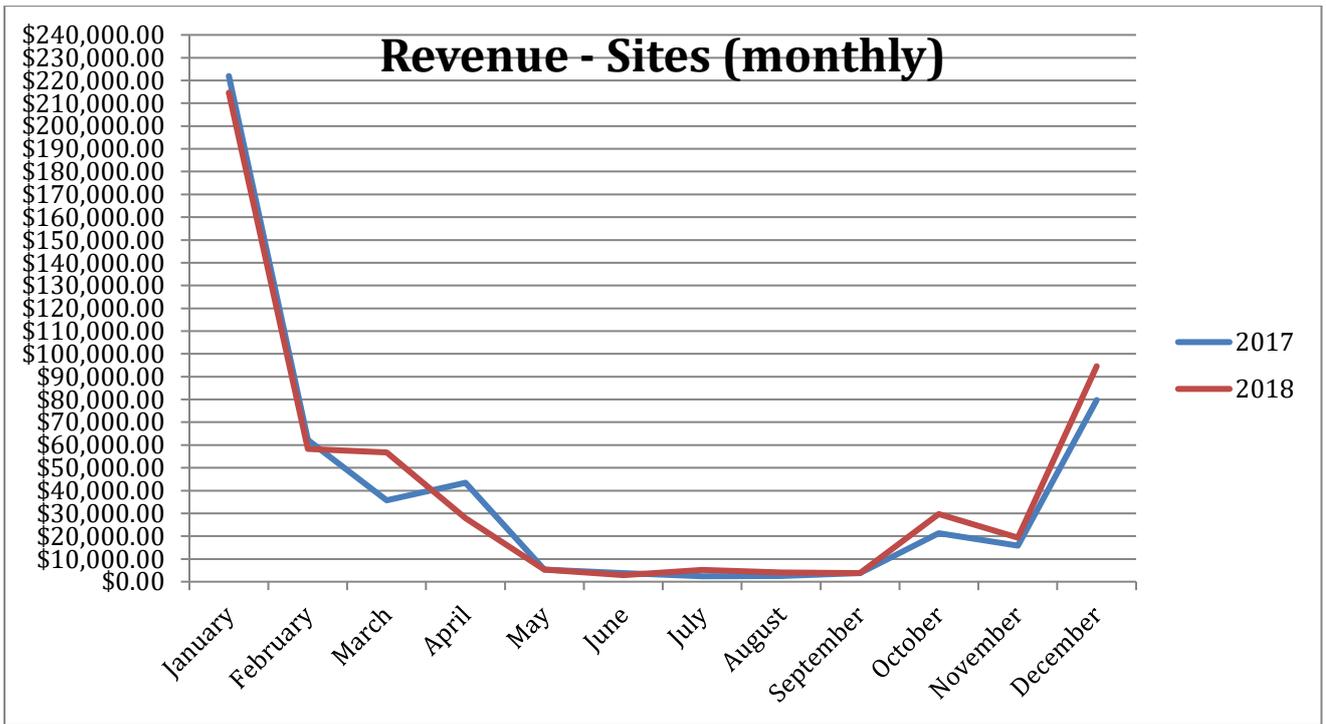
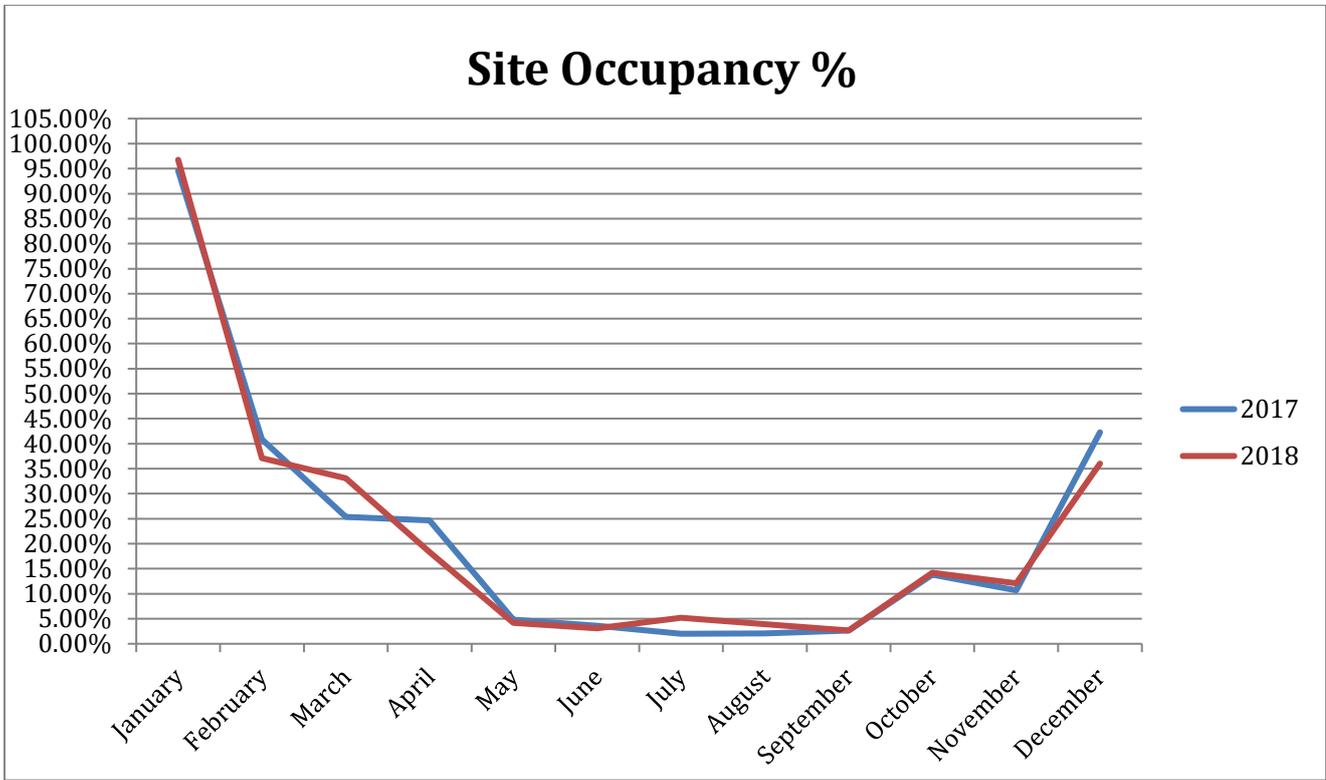
## **Occupancy and Revenue – November/December 2018**

## Cabin Occupancy %



## Revenue - Cabins (monthly)





Cabin occupancy and revenue in November and December was up when compared YOY with the same period in 2017, as was site revenue. This was due to having average higher yield on powered and unpowered sites, plus heavy cabin bookings over this period.