

Update on the situation regarding the Clubrooms located in Onepoto Reserve.

Greetings,

You may recall that last year we (the 'Onepoto Residents Association - Clubrooms Opposition Group') tried to get the Clubrooms removed from the park. Many of you have come along to the many meetings held with the Community Board and with Council itself.

Unfortunately, we have been unsuccessful in having the Onepoto clubrooms (the old Soccer Club room building) removed. During 2009, the North Shore City Council purchased the clubrooms, and despite our lobbying, resolved to keep them in the Onepoto Basin and lease them to the AAFL.

At a meeting in December 2009, it was clear that the battle for removal was lost so we decided to change our stance and to take up the opportunity to become involved in the management of the clubrooms together with AAFL and the Northcote Community Board.

On December 16th, the 'ORA - Clubrooms Opposition Group', on being presented with the NSCC resolution met with Council to find a path forward where our concerns could be addressed.

The Council agreed to our direct participation in governance of the Clubrooms lease, as you can see with the below excerpt from the Dec 16 Council Minutes showing the amendment to the resolution.

That the clubrooms on Onepoto Domain remain in their current position on Onepoto Domain.

That the words "(including local residents)" be inserted after the word "stakeholders" in the following resolution passed by the Community Services & Parks Committee at its meeting on 13 August 2009 under item CSP-96 "Auckland Australian Rules Football Club, Request for Lease of Premises":

That the Committee endorse negotiations continuing with the representatives of the Auckland Australian League Football Club regarding the lease of the building subject to conditions being in accordance with the intent of the Management Plan for Onepoto Domain and a management committee being formed with the other stakeholders regarding the use of the facility. All other terms and conditions relating to the lease be as standard and on Council's reserve land lease format, and that the Committee notes that the Birkenhead-Northcote Community Board does not support any application for a permanent liquor licence for the facility.

Here are the key areas of concern that we, the ORA, want to see in the rules of the lease operation:

Park gate: Must be locked at current times by Council contracted Security.

Council be requested to confirm that no alteration to the present security policy be made or condoned. The Park gates must never be opened and left open once security has locked the gate. AAFL and other users must establish clear systems to manage cars to enter/exit once the gates are locked.

Noise: AAFL and other users must respect the tranquility of the Park and recognise that it is a sound chamber (amphitheatre) due to the geography and proximity of many residents' houses ringing the crater with direct lines of sight/sound to the Clubrooms. No loud music allowed. AAFL and other users to be fully responsible for the behaviour of their members and to monitor and ensure responsible alcohol consumption.

Alcohol: No liquor licence will be sought by AAFL "or any other users of the clubrooms" now or at any time in the future. This includes temporary licences. Only BYO to be permitted.

Litter: AAFL will ensure that its activities do not leave rubbish on the fields or near the clubrooms.

Other User Access and Use: A clear process, booking schedule and management system must be established for open access of the Clubrooms to other users and groups.

The ORA considers that the Clubrooms must become a Community asset with no barriers to one-time and regular use by other groups. Basis of access eg. free? small fee? cleaning bonds etc. to be agreed with the Committee.

The ORA's role will be to have formal representation on the Management Committee of the Clubrooms, to ensure that the above issues are covered in the lease to the AAFL and to monitor compliance in the long term.

So, we, The Onepoto Residents Association, are now formally

becoming an Incorporated Society, as is required by Council for us as residents to have an ongoing role on the Management Committee for the Clubrooms & other issues relating to the Onepoto Basin area & Environs .

By good fortune there is an old bank account still active & held over from the Onepoto Residents Assn around 1992 when the local residents Assn was recognised by the Northcote-Birkenhead Borough Council (before incorporated societies were required for a resident group to be recognised).

We ask that you **become a signed up member of the ORA** as a Society so that we can hold elections of officers and present a united and democratic front to our dealings with Council.

This will have the additional advantage that we will be better empowered to deal with any issues arising in the Park with the Parks Department and Parks Committee of Council.

We will be holding a **residents meeting in the near future to elect officers and representatives** to the Management Committee. At that time we expect to be able to provide information on our progress to date with Council on our key concerns.

Please complete the attached Membership form, and mail or drop it into the letterbox at the addresses below, or scan and return by email to gresham@e-cast.co.nz

A voluntary Membership fee of \$5 will help but is not required.

Mail: 32 B Sylvan Ave., Northcote.

Thanks from your ORA Interim Committee:

John Overall, Mike Morris, Glyn Tyler Davies, Gresham Bradley, Shane Brannigan