

MINUTES OF THE 15TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held on Thursday 29 June, 6.30pm-8pm

in the Garden Room, St Peter's Church, Willis Street, Wellington

1: Meeting opening – welcome and karakia

Reverend Stephen King (Chair) began with a karakia and then introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

He explained the AGM would follow the following format:

- **Chairman's address**
including our activities during the year and priorities for the coming year.
- **AGM business**
including agreeing the previous meeting minutes, ICW's Annual Report and Financial Statement, ICW's proposed Annual Programme for 2023-2024, and the election of the Committee.
- **Hui**
a discussion about ICW's continuation as an Incorporated Society, and about exploring a working relationship with the Civic Trust.

2: Present:

Committee: Stephen King, Jill Wilson, Toni Weir

Associates: Geraldine Murphy

Councillors: Cr Iona Pannett

Financial members and members of the public.

3: Apologies

David Webb, Sarah Webb, Richard Norman, Katherine Blow, (VUWSA), Jessica Ye (President VUWSA), Cr Nicola Young, Ibrahim Omer List MP, Jane Wild, Una Smith, Peter Johnstone, Steve Dunn, Barrie Saunders.

4: Previous minutes

- **Motion: that the minutes of the 14th AGM held on 24 May 2022 be accepted as a true and correct record.**
Moved from the Chair
Motion carried

5: Matters Arising from the Minutes of the 13th AGM.

Nil

6: Chairman's address, 2022-2023 Annual Report and Financial Statement

- *as provided to members*
- *see separate document*

In making his Chairman's address, Rev Stephen King referred to the overview he had provided in the 2022-23 Annual Report.

He advised that ICW strives to be an effective voice for the increasing number of people who live in the inner-city – a population that is very different from those who come to work here and then leave in the evening to other locations.

He noted the growth in new apartment buildings that each bring hundreds more people to reside here and, in particular, he spoke of the discrepancy between population/community and green space/public space available in the inner-city.

He referenced several reports including *A Social Wellbeing Framework for Wellington* (August 2021) and the *Gehl, 2021 Public Space Public Life Study*. These speak of the essential need for amenities to support social wellbeing, and that the green space per capita in the central city had declined. This decline is continuing, given the increases in residents since the research was undertaken.

He continued by explaining that ICW meets with different Wellington City Council (WCC) teams which includes the Connected Communities, City Safety and Pōneke Promise teams. These meetings, as well as with other non-government organisations (NGOs), provide the opportunity to continue to bring the message that amenity planning should be a priority. He confirmed that this will continue to be a focus for ICW in order to support our local community.

He also spoke of the submission ICW made to the Proposed District Plan which reinforced the view that successful residential inner-city neighbourhoods depend on Council's willingness to make some challenging decisions that will deliver development with the necessary infrastructure and amenities to support the diversity necessary for those communities to thrive.

In reflecting on the work ICW has done over the year, he referenced ICW's 'Fortress Apartments and Lifeboat Buildings' project which is focusing on emergency response readiness for apartment buildings and the inner-city.

He also mentioned ICW's growing use of Facebook as a communication channel, and that ICW had undertaken some online 'pop surveys' this year. This was a new initiative that invited local residents to share their perspectives and experiences, living in the inner-city. The first was timed to enable ICW to analyse the data for common trends, and be able to

provide verbatim comments (anonymised) from responses received directly to council officers at a City Safety/Pōneke Promise meeting.

In finishing his address, Stephen also took the opportunity to thank ICW associate, Geraldine Murphy, for her continuing work as an advocate and specialist on the topic of earthquake-prone buildings, including her connection with owners tasked with understanding how to progress a complex field. Attendees joined in thanking Geraldine for her work.

Attendees also raised the associated issue of insurance levies that were climbing at a cost that was challenging many owners. Stephen agreed that this was a topic of concern and that it would be added to the 2023-24 Annual Plan.

At this point, Stephen introduced information about a special relationship ICW has with car-sharing company Mevo. He explained that a Mevo representative had wished to attend the meeting but was unable to do so and had provided a written statement. Therefore, on their behalf, Stephen described some of the work Mevo and ICW is doing together - for example, exploring how its fleet of electric vehicles and charger stations might be used as a source of power in an emergency – and making an offer to fit a free EV charger in an apartment building’s car parking area, in return for an publicly accessible car park.

Stephen was then able to share a very special announcement - that Mevo had kindly gifted a \$50 credit for ICW financial members that can be redeemed through the Mevo app. Stephen suggested that this might enable some people to experience a modern electric vehicle for the very first time.

The meeting was then asked to consider and accept the 2022-2023 Annual Report.

- **Motion: that the 2023 Annual Report be accepted as tabled.**

Moved from the Chair

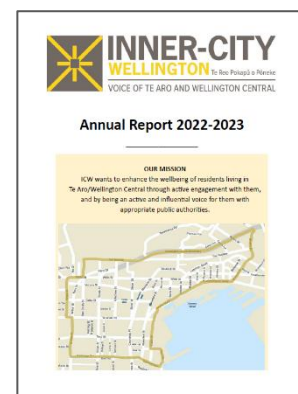
Motion carried

The meeting was then asked to consider and accept the 2022-2023 Financial Statement contained in the Annual Report

- **Motion: that the Financial Statement contained in the 2023 Annual Report be accepted as tabled.**

Moved from the Chair

Motion carried.



7: 2023-24 Annual Plan

The meeting then moved onto considering the 2023-24 Annual Plan. Stephen explained that it followed the structure and content of the previous year’s plan, with some minor adjustments.

Some discussion then ensued about the importance of including a focus on climate change in the Living Environments part of the Plan, and it was agreed that this would be added.

Reflecting the earlier discussions, it was also agreed that the Annual Plan would include a focus on insurance levies, particularly as this may become an election issue.

- **Motion: that the Annual Plan and its associated budget for 2023-24 be accepted with a proviso:**
 - that climate change be referenced more overtly within the Living Environment objective
 - and that the issues relating to insurance of apartment buildings be highlighted.

Moved from the Chair

Motion carried.



8: The Election of the Inner-City Wellington Committee

An invitation to join the Committee was offered to the meeting; no attendees stepped forward.

- **Motion: that the current committee be accepted**

Moved from the Chair

Carried by acclamation.

The following members were re-elected:

- Chairperson: Stephen King
- Treasurer: Sarah Webb and David Webb
- Secretary services: Toni Weir
- Committee: Jill Wilson, Richard Norman, David Webb, Sarah Webb

Geraldine Murphy gave a vote of thanks for the committees' work.

9: Hui

Stephen explained that the formal part of the meeting had been concluded and that this part of the meeting was a hui – in other words an opportunity for the discussion and exploration of two topics about which no decisions would be made in the meeting.

Incorporated Society

He introduced the first topic by describing some of the changes to the Incorporated Societies Act that had prompted ICW to consider whether or not to re-incorporate. He indicated he believed that ICW would be able to meet the changes in the Act through an updated Constitution.

He advised that ICW will be doing some further consideration, including governance-related work, so that this topic could be raised at ICW's Founders' Day in December.

Civic Trust

The second topic for discussion was about a potential relationship between ICW and The

Civic Trust. Stephen set the scene by explaining that he had attended The Civic Trust's recent AGM where exploring such a relationship had been suggested and agreed by Trust members.

It was mentioned that the Chairs of both organisations had had follow-up discussions about opportunities that would enable the two groups to come together in a mutually beneficial way, and that bringing the conversation to ICW's AGM would provide a chance to hear views from the attendees. The Chair of the Trust, Helene Ritchie, was then invited to speak to the meeting.

She began by providing some background about the long history about the Trust, the work it had achieved and its primary goals – many of which she believed overlapped and were complementary to ICW's. Her presentation included

- that The Civic Trust has existed since 1981, with Helen being a founding member.
- commending ICW as the voice for residents of Inner City.
- the issue of a dwindling number of people willing to volunteer for organisations and this being an underlying issue for many groups.
- that there were common interests between the two organisations which lie in each's commitment to increasing and retaining public space, green space, and sustainable living.
- that The Civic Trust brings specialist knowledge in policy oversight and strategic approaches,
- that the organisation had previously offered public talks, seminars, design competitions and Town Hall type conversations.

Helene also mentioned that, constitutionally, the Civic Trust follows these guidelines:

- To promote liveability and prosperity of Wellington
- To stimulate Public interest in beauty of wellington
- To support high standards in design
- To provide a forum for free and frank aspirations of community for the city.

She explained that working together in some way could strengthen each other's work, and perhaps also relieve the load on each, given both organisations undertaken work such as submissions relating to many of the same themes.

Stephen and Helene then spoke of there being 'no language' yet to describe how the two organisations might work together. for example, was it a working relationship? or an associated relationship? or would ICW 'absorb' The Civic Trust and it would live on as an expert group with a special 'portfolio of work' – similar to how the Earthquake-Prone Buildings portfolio of the work is undertaken by Geraldine Murphy.

Stephen noted one of the key issues was to "get the work done and the perpetual lack of 'doing' people", and that working together might help to address this. Both Chairs also

recognised that the meeting might suggest that working together was not a good option at all.

In the discussion that followed, various thoughts were aired. These included how the two brands might remain separate, that it was important for the working relationship not to load governance issues on to one of the organisations, particularly relating to obligations under the Incorporated Society Act.

Helene thanked ICW for the opportunity to consider this idea.

The meeting continued to discuss the idea.

The conversation sparked a range of topics. For example, an additional question was asked - 'whether ICW had a relationship with the retail sector?' Geraldine advised that ICW was originally called 'Inner-city Wellington Residents and Business Association' but that this had been reshaped about 5 years ago to just reflect residents interests because working together with businesses and retailers had been difficult to sustain.

Another topic was the communication channels each have. It was noted that The Civic Trust's website 'was not good', that the ICW website was 'not bad' and that our eNewsletter and Facebook posts of our 'monthly 'wanderings' are great but are unlikely to be reaching younger audiences who are using changing and very different platforms to access media and information.

Accessing younger audiences then prompted Stephen to describe the partnership ICW has with the Victoria University of Wellington Students' Association (VUWSA). He noted their work together to co-host a 'speed-dating style' Mayoral candidates event last year would be repeated this year for the General Election 'Meet the Candidates' event in September.

In summary, it was concluded that there were no fixed ideas held about if/how both organisations might be able to work together. It was noted that, regardless, it is important to have a relationship between the two groups – and also that the two organisations have shared interests.

It was agreed that both groups should continue to think about the options, and a suggestion from an attendee to perhaps find a shared project and see what its like to work together would be a good starting point. The two Chairs will continue to be in touch and ICW will re-address the issue at its Founders' Day event in December.

Stephen then thanked the attendees for coming to the AGM and invited them to stay on if they wished to talk with each other and with ICW team members in the room

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

Reverend Stephen King
Chair, Inner-City Wellington Residents' Association

Documents Attached:

1. Background Powerpoint (PDF)
2. Minutes of previous AGM – 14th AGM held on 22 May 2022
3. The 2022-23 Annual Report including the Financial Statement
4. The 2023-2024 Annual Plan
(revised to include the two additional tasks raised in the meeting)