

# MINUTES – ICW 13<sup>th</sup> AGM 2021

Monday 25th June, 6 -7.30pm

St Peters Church, Willis Street, Wellington

- 1. Welcome:** Stephen King (Chair) introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the meeting
- 2. Present:** Stephen King, Wendy Armitage, Shona Butterfield, Clive Moon, Melissa Moon, Grant Firth, John Albertson, Robyn Alberton, Neil Pryor, Geraldine Murphy, Mike Thompson, Richard Norman, Sarah Webb, David Webb, Grace Carr, Joanna Li, Deepak Nair, Eugene Doyle, Carol Comber, Alison Robins, Jill Wilson, Nicola Young, Margaret Thompson, Richard & Nicky Darlow, Jo Griffiths, Judith Dewey, Mark Noyles, Marion Kiddle, Julie Daysh, Nigel Hubbard, J Harris.
- 3. Apologies:** Tamatha Paul, Iona Pannett, Carol Brown, Stella Bridge
- 4. Confirmation of Minutes of 12th AGM held on 1 May 2020 be a true and correct record.**  
*Moved: Shona Butterfield*  
*Seconded: Geraldine Murphy*  
*Motion carried.*
- 5. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the 12th AGM**  
Nil
- 6. Annual Report (2020-2021) – as circulated to all members.**

Grant Firth spoke to the Financial Report as shown in the Annual Report. He advised that due to Covid subscriptions were down, we accessed WCC Funding under the umbrella of New Crossways Community Trust which covered costs for our events, our new website and to cover hours for Trish Given and Kate Saint George as support. We missed out on the WCC Residents Association fund this round but will be applying for the upcoming round of funding.

*Stephen King moved the Financial Statements contained in the Annual Report be accepted.*  
*Motion carried.*

Stephen King then presented his Chairman's address.

Stephen expressed his regret that Grant Firth and John Albertson had decided to step down from the committee and thanked them for their years of unstinting support and friendship. Stephen also welcomed Joanna Li who has joined us since she relinquished her post with VUWSA.

Part of Stephens address was a presentation (2021 Civic Square Framework -green space AGM presentation) on the possibility of losing Jack Illott Green in the Civic Square and the ongoing serious lack of Green Space in the inner-city which is a major concern for ICW.

Stephen acknowledged the good relationship we have with our Lambton Ward councillors but lack of responsiveness from some officials responsible for major decisions.

Stephen told the meeting that the work ICW does to represent the largest suburb in Wellington in terms of population is becoming increasingly important as major decisions are being made that will impact on the city for years to come.

*See the full report = appended.*

## 7. Question time:

Questions and discussion from the floor centred around the following:

- **LGWM** and the problems now faced by the city. Stephen advised that it has not been a pressing issue for ICW as there have not been any real decisions to engage on but ICW will engage more fully when the opportunity arises.
- **Cars in the city.** Stephen suggested that current development and lack of utilities for inner city residents is creating vertical streets whereby the occupants will have to go out of the city to do things and lack of comprehensive public transport will mean cars will be around for a while.
- **Diesel buses** and what was happening with them – the meeting was told that these were being phased out but would be taking longer than expected.
- **Seismic issues.** Geraldine Murphy advised the meeting that the Select Committee's report on the two petitions submitted in September 2019 (Review the earthquake-prone building provisions of the Building Act 2004 and compensation and support services) were presented to Parliament on 20 May 2021. Sadly, the [recommendation](#) was that Parliament note the contents of the report. The lack of substantive recommendations means that the Government is not required to respond to the Committee's report. This is very disappointing. We will now start working on the next steps to keep this issue in front of politicians.
- **Waste Management.** Discussion around what is being done and how to get communication going with apartment buildings in the city.
- **Library.** Nicola Young advised that the council officers have now been directed to consider viscous damper technology for the library which will reduce the cost considerably. These are already being used for St James, but council officers had discounted an earlier request to consider them regarding the library. Beca, the engineering company that initially proposed these has laid a complaint and councillors are now set to be given an update on the feasibility next month.
- **Civic Square.** Lack of consideration of the needs of inner-city residents, loss of large green space and the bridge are all concerns being tackled by ICW.
- **Connecting city residents:** Discussion around the problems of communication with the various stakeholders in the city. Jill Wilson offered to discuss this after the meeting.

## 8. Election of Officers and Committee

The following members were elected:

**Chairperson:** Stephen King

**Secretary:** Wendy Armitage

**Treasurer:** David & Sarah Webb

**Committee:** Shona Butterfield, Richard Norman, Mike Thompson, Joanna Li,

**Co-operation Partners:** Grace Carr, Michael Turnbull (VUWSA)

**Community development:** Trish Given, Kate Saint George

*Moved: John Albertson / Seconded: Grant Firth*

*Motion carried.*

## 9. General Business

Nil

## 10. Meeting closed: 6.56pm

## CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS: ICW 13<sup>th</sup> AGM 25 May 2021

The necessity of our advocacy for the residents of Te Aro and the CBD – has never been more vital. The Housing crisis has placed the focus clearly upon intensification, and all forecasts from Council, AND from Central Govt. assume that the greatest degree of intensification in Wellington will be in the area that this organisation represents.

This is not news to residents of the inner city and Te Aro. BUT still whenever we engage with planning process the Open Spaces the Public Amenities – WHICH are essential to the development liveable urban neighbourhoods ARE not seen as necessary prerequisites for development.

I believe that increasingly our focus as a group will be on fighting for the expansion amenities that intensification of residential development in the CBD and Te Aro demand – AND fighting to retain what we already have...

An Example of this challenge is the presentation we made to the Civic Trust presentation on the redevelopment of CIVIC Square.

### POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

In the annual report I noted ... that our Treasurer Grant Firth, and committee member John Albertson are retiring from the committee this year.

They have both been dedicated and hard -working members of the committee for many years, and we will miss them, their contributions, and their friendship. I thank them for their unstinting support and involvement over the years and am happy to know they remain as ICW members and will be available for advice if/when required.

Like many organisations ICW committee has been sustained by the efforts of a dedicated core of long term members, and like many organisations there comes a time when these key personnel move on to other things.

This transitional space is a challenging and difficult time for any organisation and as current chair of ICW navigating this transition well is a key priority for me.

This time of transition for ICW coincides with the work being done to ensure that the views and interests of our constituents are adequately represented in the submission process supporting the development of the Cities Long Term Plan, The Regional Councils Long Term Plan, as well as a number of legislative reviews that directly effect our members.

The issues that confront our neighbourhood are complex - the issues around Seismic strengthening and the Body Corporate functions, are technical AND UNJUST but impact every single person living in AND considering a move into our inner city.

These issues and the urban planning and design challenges of intensification will require ongoing engagement by an active residents organisation, ICW needs people who can assist in writing submissions, researching issues, and engaging with other advocacy groups who share our concerns.

This year we have been delighted to have Joanna Li join us informally on the committee since she relinquished her post with VUWSA. She has been instrumental in the delivery of our new website and we look forward to her continued and very valuable contribution to our work in the future.

Please consider if you or those whom you know, might have the time and capacity to assist ICW in our ongoing work.

The good news is that ICW has excellent access to the politicians – who I believe value and trust our input. BUT the officials who are responsible for the decision points placed before our elected officials are by and large not as responsive (with a few exceptions)

SO we have much work still to do... We represent the largest residential suburb in the city, we represent the area where the most intensification of housing will occur in the future – and at moment it feels like we are one of a very few voices that actively advocate for the people who NOW live here and who WILL live here.

Decisions are being made that directly impact the quality of life that inner city residents will experience now and in the next 20 years ... AND too often the needs of residents are being subsumed beneath aspirations for vibrancy in events and hospitality and culture... all important - but not more important than the quality of life for the 10's of thousands of people who will LIVE AND work and PLAY in our suburb.

Thanks for coming out tonight... ICW needs you and your friends and Whanau's support more than ever.... Thank you.

**Stephen King**  
**CHAIR**