**Minutes** of the inaugural meeting of the Kapiti Equestrians Advocacy Group held on 30 August at 7pm at the Otaki RSA

**Present;** Sheila Robison, Mandy Robinson, Sarah Malone, Gail McIntosh, Jo Andrews, Mandy Punnett, Nina Hanley, Sarah Kenworthy, Gillian Hayes, Raelyne Macrae, Ruth Halliday, Shelly Warwick

**Apologies** Sam Glazebrook, Abby Letteri, Val Ballinger, Dona tholen

**Welcome;** from Ruth giving a brief background of her role on the KCDC Cycleway, Walkway Bridleway Advisory Group, the submission to the KCDC Long Term Plan and the request by the Mayor to set up a group to advocate for and speak on behalf of equestrians and equestrian businesses. To also make the Kapiti District the ‘go to’ place for horse related activities, especially in the Wellington Region

**Introductions;** Everyone introduced themselves and gave their particular areas of interest

**Nominations for positions;**  Shelly chaired this meeting, Ruth took the minutes; formal decisions about office holders were deferred to the next meeting

**Representatives of various disciplines;** A number of disciplines did not have reps at this meeting. We need to spread the word to have more people involved and committed to spreading information through to all members of clubs and owners of businesses and back to the Group

**Name of the Group;**  after discussion about being an Advocacy or an Advisory Group and consideration of being called theKapiti Equestrian Collective the Group voted for Kapiti Equestrian Advocacy Group

**Vision;**  Shelly read out a draft vision  *To promote and encourage equestrian industry and leisure within the Kapiti Coast District. Being proactive in promoting great facilities and connections for all horse sport and leisure and engaging with local and national bodies to promote and encourage Kapiti to become the horse friendly mecca for tourism and leisure.*

Vision be discussed and decided at the next meeting

**Priorities and goals**

A wide ranging discussion produced the following **goals**; to be reviewed at the next meeting

* To be represented in all local and national decisions around new and existing trails
* Maintain current and develop new tracks and access
* To have representatives from all disciplines and businesses to ensure information flows both to and from all in the local equestrian world
* Assist in the promotion of education and safety issues around horses
* Collect, co-ordinate and share information eg trails, business, accommodation on a public platform
* To establish a KEAG website
* Collate and share any information about the rights and responsibilities of local equestrians

**Priorities**

* Make a submission on the review of the current Dog Bylaw

<https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/whats-on/get-involved/have-your-say-on-a-consultation/dog-control-policy-and-bylaw-> Suggest that information on how to behave with dogs around horses be included with dog registration info

* Consider what we may submit on the Beach Bylaw which will be open for submissions later in the year \*\* ( see below)
* Set up a Face Book Page
* Advertise on social media that we are now a Group
* Go to a council meeting to inform Councillors that the Group has been established

\*\*There was considerable discussion on the Beach bylaw; options for change are either asking for the length of time horses are banned from parts of the beach to be reduced or reminding Council that the beaches are roads and that horses should not be banned at all but should be directed to walk along the water’s edge if there are a lot of people on the beach

[www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/globalassets/your-council/documents/bylaws/beach-bylaw-2009-amended-2017.pdf](http://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/globalassets/your-council/documents/bylaws/beach-bylaw-2009-amended-2017.pdf) ( section 11)

**General Business;**

* Shelly read a letter from the President of the Waikanae Pony club which clarified the purchase /ownership/lease arrangement of Waikanae Park; she will ask a rep to attend the next meeting to talk to these points
* The Group discussed options for more equestrian space in the District. Further discussion on these will be on future agendas
* Shelly distributed a list of actions taken from ’ Riding High in Kapiti; the economic benefits of the equestrian industry on the Kapiit Coast and options for Development’, the submission to KCDC’s Long Term plan prepared by Ruth Halliday and Gavin Welsh
* PP2O currently has no horse trail ling from the south side of the Otaki River through to Taylors Rd. Shelly and Ruth to attend a meeting 31/08/18 to hopefully follow through and develop options with Fletchers and KCDC.  **UPDATE**  at that meeting it was agreed that horses would be able to be ridden from Rahui Rd through to the end of the shared path at Taylor’s Rd
* Shelly to draft a letter to distribute to our contacts to encourage involvement in and support of the Group
* KCDC has set up a tourism website <https://kapiticoastnz.com/explore-kapiti/attractions-and-activities/horse-riding/> and has paper maps showing trails <https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/globalassets/your-council/projects/stride-n-ride-trails-dec-2017.pdf>

The meeting finished t 9.15pm. Next meeting 7pm 27 September at 58 Te Roto Rd Otaki

**ACTIONS**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Establish a FB page | **Gill** | **Done** |
| Advertise on social media sites that the Group exists | **All – any that you are on** |  |
| Go to a Council meeting | **Ruth & Shelly** |  |
| Consider an appropriate vision to be decided on at the next meeting | **All** |  |
| Consider Office Holder; to be decided at next meeting | **All** |  |
| Spread the word so we get reps from all disciplines | **All** |  |
| Check KCDC horse riding page and Stride n Ride MapsContact xxx at KCDC if you have any more info that should be included | **All** |  |
| PP2O; follow up on future proofing trail past Otaki to the north | **Shelly and Ruth** |  |
| Draft letter to contacts | **Shelly** |  |
| Invite Waikanae Pony Club to next meeting | **Shelly** |  |