

AGM Annual Report 11 August 2022

Introduction

A lot has happened since our last AGM and annual report in July 2021. The Executive of Guardians of the Bays and our supporters have worked very hard this year on a number of fronts. We have achieved a lot but the fight is not over and there is still much to do.

Our achievements

- 1. We made a number of submissions to local, regional and central governments. These included submission on the:
 - 1. Civil Aviation Bill
 - 2. Infrastructure Commission Strategy
 - 3. Draft Wellington City District Plan
 - 4. Greater Wellington Long Term Plan
- 2. We lobbied to change the flight paths of both recreational and commercial airplanes from flying over the Miramar to around the peninsula and got wins in the flight path being modified.
- 3. We distributed 4,500+ leaflets to alert the Eastern suburbs of the Airport expansion and got new supporters from this.
- 4. We launched two online campaigns on Twitter, Facebook and Youtube posts. The second one included a give-a-little page to raise funds.
- 5. We launched a new brand image and web site thanks to Jase Colton and his creative expertise.
- 6. We lobbied politicians, leading up to the Notice of Requirements mediation being presented to WCC to publish a public statement opposing the airport expansion.
- 7. We survived the Environment Court mediation appeal process against the airport expansion and came out with a number of wins in our settlement.

Further information on the appeal and settlement of the Main Site Area and East Side Area.

We had submitted on the two Wellington Airport Notices of Requirement of the Main Site Area (existing airport) and the East Side Area (expansion into the southern end of Miramar Golf Course) in early 2021.

At our last AGM the hearing was still open and the Independent Hearing Commissioners had not made a decision. When their decision came out to grant both the Main Site Area and East Side Area. The GotB Executive had got legal counsel to provide advice on an appeal. We made the decision to appeal on the 10 October 2021.

We got experts in both planning Philip Percy from Kahu Environmental and acoustic noise expert Jon Styles from the Styles Group. Plus our very hard working Barrister of Phernne Tancock and Duncan Ballinger. Without these people the appeal would not of achieved what it did in a very difficult mediation.

We worked hard to develop a case to fight the appeal and bring it to mediation on a number of areas. It was hard, expensive and very difficult. We sought funding in a number of areas but it was only through donations both substantial and small from supporters that we got through to the end.

We thank all the S274 Parties to the appeal who helped us including Amanda Thomas and her experts who are going to talk to us later tonight

The settlement includes improvements to the designation conditions that will:



- Provide for a greater level of community consultation on the Airport's plans;
- Require the Council to certify more of the Airport's management plans;
- Require the Airport to make information about its noise available on its website, including details of when unscheduled engine testing has occurred;
- Require the Airport to report on embodied carbon emissions in the construction process;
- Establish a Community and Environment Fund, which is to be funded by the Airport for the benefit of the local community living near the Airport;
- Make the conditions easier for everyone to understand.

As part of the settlement, there is also agreement that:

- Key personnel from the Airport will attend a relationship reset meeting with the community, including Guardians of the Bays and Strathmore Park Residents Association. This meeting is to occur in the next three months and will discuss the operation of the Community and Environment Fund that the Airport is going to establish and fund;
- The Airport will seek to alter its designations to provide for some additional noise mitigation in the future as a continuation of the Quieter Homes Program once rules that provide for the updated "Inner Noise Overlay" and new "Outer Noise Overlay" in the soon to be publicly notified Proposed District Plan are operative;
- The Airport will provide demand forecasts within 12 months that account for specified impacts of climate change on demand for air travel, and publish a summary of these forecasts;
- The Airport will prepare and publish a draft updated Air Noise Management Plan and consult with the community on this key document;
- The Airport will request that the Regional Council undertakes and publishes on its website additional air quality monitoring data from the Airport.

Thank you for your support

Thank you to all GotB members and supporters for your continuing support of the Executive. It would not have been possible without so many different people supporting us in our endeavours. From the people that distributed leaflets throughout the eastern suburbs, to those that sent in donations both small and large.

A big thanks to Jase Calton for taking over our with a clear strategy for our social media and newsletter when we were struggling to keep on top of the preparation for the Environment Court mediation. A big thank you to Jase and Jo's children and friends who what made the video's so amazing. So much better than the Air New Zealand adverts. We look forward to more video's from them of different topics in future.

Executive Changes

The executive is undergoing a major change. Long standing members of the committee are leaving. These members have been with Guardians of the Bays since the start- Richard Randerson and Clive Anstey. In addition Tim Jones is leaving who has been on the Executive for a number of years We are also sad to say goodbye to Benoit Pette who has been an invaluable Co-Chair over the last year and a half with a eye on changing the political direction with lobbying councillors and interviewing future candidates. We also say a big thank you to Jason Colton who made our webpage and social media sing for four months and created with his children those awesome videos.

Joanne Colton has taken over the role of Treasurer and sorting out our financial books.



Our strategy looking ahead

- 1. Maintain a watch on the airport.
- 2. Reset meeting with Wellington Airport in late August early September. There will be things that come out of this meeting.
- 3. Submission on the Proposed District Plan by the 12 September in respect to the Airport Zone and the Air Noise Outer boundary. This links with the work we have done on the NOR's.
- 4. Support of members on the Wellington Airport Air Noise Committee.
- 5. Question candidates of the local body election about their position on the airport candidates and lobbying to stop this airport expansion on climate grounds.
- 6. Possible submission on the Sludge Treatment Plant at Moa Point.
- 7. GotB involvement with other local environmental groups e.g. 4C Climate Change Coastal Communities local community groups looking on adaptation along the southern Wellington Coast.