

# Bike Taupo AGM - 11 April 2023

Held at Taupo Sports Advisory AC Baths Ave Taupo at 5.30pm

**Present:** Pete Masters, Lynette Braithwaite, Bria Jackson, Ian Jensen, Ian Isaacs  
Clarke Munro, Ryan Stevens, Dave Stewart, Nick Forrest, Kevin Taylor, Alan Vane, Sarah Wraight, Ron Bush, Pete Manning, Rowan Sapsford, Clyff Harrington, Susan Osland, Stafford Whitfield, Graeme Linford, Kym Mahood, Rachael Vemy, Jonnie Sinclair, Jonny Clapcott, Jamie Roser, Chas Hutton, Bruce Jaine, Karyn Hutton, Cath Oldfield.

**Apologies:** Amy Crawford, John Braithwaite, Graeme Usher, Jarrod Bowler, Phil Simpson and Marion Ross.

**Minutes from Previous AGM** – circulated to committee prior to the meeting, and member before the start of the AGM.

Moved as being a true and correct account by Greme Linford and seconded by Karyn Hutton.

**Chairmans Report:** Pete's report - copy attached.

**Financial Report for the year 2022:** Bike Taupo Financials for 2022 circulated prior to start of meeting.

Pete spoke on the bottom line of a \$6k profit, with an annual turnover of 400k. Holding no events over the past few years has made an impact in our income (around 30k per year). We have just ticked along over the past 12 months, with the impact of COVID now starting to dissipate. Our accounts are audited each year as part of our accounting procedures.

Financial Report moved by Karyn Hutton and were seconded by Susan Osland. Accepted by all present.

## **Elections:**

**Existing Members staying on** (not in this years turnover): Lynette Braithwaite, Ian Jensen, Clyff Harrington and Amy Crawford

**Existing board members standing for re-election for a further 2 year term:**

Pete Masters, Rowan Sapsford, Garth Beker and Karyn Hutton

Pete, Rowan, Karyn and Garth nominated back onto to the Board by Lynette Braithwaite and seconded by Kym Mahood.

No other nominations were received, unanimously voted back to the board by all present.

**Chairmans position.** Pete Masters stood unopposed, voted back on as Chair for another year. Nominated by Clarke Munroe and seconded by Kevin Tylor. Unanimously passed by all present.

## **General Business**

1. Talk around the change of the Bike Taupo organisation becoming a Trust.

Background of Bike Taupo (Pete)

Bike Taupo came about, as the Council wanted to set up an initiative to enhance biking in the taupo area. This would be have an infrastructure that would enhance the cycling visionary. As there was no-one on Council that was able to take this on, it was given to what is now Bike Taupo. First call of business was to get a track that led from town (Spa Park) to Craters, and with the 20k donation from the Rotary club, the Rotary Ride was made.

During this time, Craters area changed entities, from a State-Owned Enterprise to a Crown owned, privately run commercial forest, managed by LINZ. For the public to continue to use this area for recreational biking, the “entity” that held this licence, needed to have a constitution. Pete M and Alan Vane, together wrote the current constitution document, which is still in place (with one amendment). Our current Constitution is now over 20 years old.

From these first days, the W2K was built (with funding from Bruce Bartley) then the Greatlake Trail was formed years later from money from the Cycleways Bill (with John Keys.)

### **The Future – Alan Van spoke**

The Incorporated 2022 act came into force last year. This means that all incorporated societies need to re-register by 2026. Although that in itself is not a problem, it would be a good time to think if we are in the right structure for Bike Taupo’s part in the community, going forward. We currently have around 3 million in assets, and have had as much as 2.5 million in turnover (during the GLT build). This is not originally what was thought we would be putting through the books when the Incorporated Society was established, but this has evolved over time. (not that it is a problem as it stands).

Do with continue with this model or think about if it would be better to change to a Trust which may serve us better for the future?

A **Charitable Trust** may allow more flexibility and may give better options for funding.

1. The most probable way to set up a trust would be to have 4 appointed trustees. These people would have quite specific skill sets, and these would be put into the new constitution. They would / may have knowledge on different areas of BT. You may have one for Track Crew, one for advocacy, one for finance and one for marketing etcetc, and their roles would be more defined.
2. The Appointed model – nominated people who appoint to runt he club. When bigger sums start happening you would need to adopt people with specific skill sets to ensure financial auditability.
3. Or you could blend both of these together, have 4 trustees with specific skills and 3 elected members, who would share their skills and also their passion for biking. This also would provide protection of personal liabilities.

I personally believe the third option; 4 appointed Trustees and the 3 elected members is the way forward for Bike Taupo. All this information on how this would work and skills required, would be in the (updated) constitution. With the increase in money through Bike Taupo, there is also an requirement to preform to a higher level, and to future proof.

What are the risks for BT moving forward under the new Trust model?

Not many that I can think of.

You will continue to be able to claim tax credits for donations. With this model, you would have more control over who is appointed. The skill set matrix for trustees would be very important to get right, and the balance on the Board.

You will continue to have AGMs and audited accounts annually.

This is for our members to ponder, and any questions or ideas are always welcome. To do any change to our constitution or to becoming a Trust, this would need to be taken to members at a special meeting.

## **Questions from the floor:**

### **What do the members of Bike Taupo do in their roles?**

*We all have portfolios that we hold and look after. Track Crew, Assets, Advocacy, Kids Bike Taupo, Financials, Secretarial and Trapping all fall under our umbrella.*

*Rowan is currently doing an impact statement for Tourism on the effects of biking in Taupo. Recently a survey was sent out to our members to get feedback on this.*

*\*\*If you ride the Great Lake Trail, please also complete a survey, so that our funding will continue from government to continue with maintenance etc.*

### **Do we have any ideas to have an evolution of / new Trails, outside of Craters?**

*Mention was made around the great gains in the Norman Smith Street / Control Gates bridge area. Around 360k has been allocated to help with bikers / walkers being able to access these areas safely. Heartland ride from Rotorua to Taupo has been an ongoing 3 year project, which we are hopeful will be given the final green light soon to join these.*

*Another ongoing project is the extensions to the Waihaha Hut track to meet up with the Timber Trail. Currently we are waiting for more info on the CMS movement (3 months??) and need this completed before this connection can happen.*

*\*\*please note – we work with DOC, Council and many land owners to have access to land for cycling. There are many different land owners that we need to get consent from before we can build tracks.*

### **What is happening in Craters?**

*We are waiting for logging to happen in Craters. Some tracks have been hit worse than others. Forest Managers are in control of this area, and have been busy assessing and getting this underway.*

### **Are we able to take over the horse paddocks?**

*We would need to speak to the current licensee (which is not Bike Taupo). LINZ would like to see more diversity of business in the area. We renegotiated the lease again for recreational riding in Craters around 3 years ago, for a further 20 years. There are certain zones within Craters that we are not able to use. We are very grateful to have this great resource available.*

### **How can I help Bike Taupo as a new person in Taupo?**

*Volunteer for our events that we run / manage would be awesome. If we need specific help, this will be posted, please just get in touch.*

*Keeping an eye on the tracks when riding is also beneficial, remove branches off the track, snip back foliage, reposit trees down etc. Some riders look after one specific track or area which is much appreciated by the Track Crew – as this really helps with maintenance.*

Meeting closed at 6.30pm