

Greenhithe Residents
Greenhithe
North Shore 0632

16 April 2010

Tauhinu Sea Scout Group Proposed Headquarters Extension

The Tauhinu Sea Scout Group intends applying to the Auckland Regional Council (ARC) for a resource consent to extend our headquarters (the 'Ship') in Rahui Road. The extension will provide a storage facility for our boats and equipment, improved access and our own toilet (we presently have to use the adjacent Council toilets) specifically designed for our handicapped members.

Tauhinu Sea Scouts has been long established in Greenhithe, North Shore since the 1950's and is registered within the Mahurangi, North Island Region of Scouting New Zealand. The Group recently celebrated its 50th Anniversary and was recognised, at a special awards ceremony attended by the Royal New Zealand Navy Chief of Naval Staff, Rear Admiral David Ledson, as offering superior Sea Scout Group management. Tauhinu Sea Scouts has established itself over the years by consistently ranking near the top at both regional and national boating regattas. The Group is considered an integral part of the Greenhithe community and is perhaps best known for its Pancake Breakfast fund raiser held annually in the community hall.

The group owns two sailing Cutters, two Sunburst sailing dinghies and two rigid inflatable boats, all of which are presently stored in temporary sheds located on the old Hobsonville air base. Unfortunately, we expect to have our lease terminated sometime toward the end of 2010, or early 2011, as the land development intensifies in the area. If the Group is unable to find a new home for its boats then we will be forced to leave them parked in the unsecure driveways of our own members where they will be exposed to the weather elements. With more than \$100,000 in boating assets this is not an ideal situation and will lead to a rapid deterioration of our equipment and increased maintenance costs.

The Group committee has investigated four possible plans that would enable the Group to establish a storage facility either on the existing premises or close by. Earlier plans were to extend the 'Ship' by building an additional level on top of the existing structure; however, it would be prohibitively expensive for the Group and may not fit in well with the surrounding environment, being a two story structure on the waterfront. Another alternative was to build adjacent to the Salthouse boatyard, in conjunction with the rowing club; however, the land footprint is minimal and space will be at a premium for storage of all our boats as well as those of the rowing club. In a recent meeting with the North Shore City Council we also suggested the possibility of building a storage facility on reserve land adjacent to the Riding for the Disabled facility at Wainoni Park. Those discussions have intimated that we would have as many consent issues trying to build at Wainoni as we would extending the 'Ship'.

The Group committee is of the opinion that the best option is to extend the 'Ship' by building a single level storage facility onto the side of the present structure, between the south side and the existing boat ramp, so that we have ready access to our boats and equipment. This provides the most affordable option for the Group, and is also the most convenient, as it allows use of the adjacent boat ramp if sailing or just being able to teach our members various seamanship knowledge without having to head off to a different

location each time. The land area between the existing structure and the boat ramp would be used for the extension and would, therefore, have no impact on public access to the beach. There would be a requirement to remove a minimal number of mangroves where the proposed extension encroaches the beach area below the existing sea wall. Draft building plans for the extension and photos of the existing building are attached to this letter.

The Group committee is writing to you in advance of applying for the various resource and building consents seeking your input and support for the proposed extension. If you would like to comment on the proposal then please feel free to contact me directly by e-mail (glsycamore@xtra.co.nz) or by writing to:

The Chairman
Tauhinu Sea Scout Group Committee
P.O. Box 15
Greenhithe.

A copy of this letter will also be published on the website of the Greenhithe Residents and Ratepayers Association. It must be stressed that this initial process does not replace the formal resource consent process that will still be required through the ARC. What we do hope to achieve is 'approval-in-principle' by the residents of Greenhithe as this will have a significant bearing as to the type of resource consent application required by the ARC i.e. publicly or partially notified.

We look forward to the support of the Greenhithe community in continuing a long association with the Tauhinu Sea Scout Group.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G.L. Sycamore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "G".

Glen Sycamore
Chairman
Tauhinu Sea Scout Group Committee







