

Huia Water Treatment Plant

Minutes of Meeting

Community Liaison Group

Date of Meeting: 17 July 2024

Attendees: Name Affiliation/Interest

Danielle Hamilton Facilitator, Watercare
Alistair Shanks Secretary

Angus Cathcart Resident Cliff Morris Resident

Ken Turner Ward Councillor
Sean Freeman Tree Council
Jacquie James Resident

Mels Barton Titirangi Residents and Ratepayers
Liz Manley Waitakere Ranges Local Board

Ross Mitchell Resident
Jessica Meurant Resident
David Meurant Resident

Jason BourhillWaima to Langholm Pest FreeMegan FitterTitirangi Protection GroupBelynda GrootTitirangi Protection Group

Campbell Mcgregor Harrison and Grierson Consultants

Sarah Flynn Boffa Miskell
Jeremy Elley-Brown Watercare
Supun Carthelis Watercare
Tom Scott Watercare
Nikhil Susarla Watercare
Paul Jones Watercare

Apologies:

Fiona Drummond West Auckland Historical Society

Amber Ewing Auckland Council Environmental Monitoring

Anna Fomison Waitakere Ranges Protection Society

Mark Harvey Waima to Langholm Pest Free

Venue: Lopdell House

Titirangi

1. Introductions

The members of the group, the Watercare team and the facilitator and secretary introduced themselves.

2. **Apologies**

These were received.

3. Minutes of Meeting on 16 May 2024

These were approved as a correct record, subject to noting that Mark Harvey is from Waima and Laingholm Pest Free.

4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

The Group would like to see a portal/document repository set up for easy access to the various documents associated with this project and ongoing activities. Watercare is to investigate options to provide this.

Watercare

There was a request for an independent chair. Watercare at this stage considers it should facilitate the meetings.

5. Terms of Reference for the CLG

This document had been circulated to the Group.

There was discussion on confidentiality of statements made at the meetings, and what can be taken back to the various communities represented at the CLG. It was thought that nothing discussed is confidential and comments made by individuals can Watercare be taken back to the various interest groups and communities. Consideration of the wording of the terms of reference may need to be amended to reflect this.

There was discussion on the membership of the CLG. Members will come and go depending on the interests of the members. The membership is by invitation, but Watercare is open to suggestions for invitations.

There was discussion on how people were invited and how they become informed of the CLG. There was discussion on the use of Facebook and of letter drops and if these were effective.

The minutes of the meetings will be posted on the portal/website for the project.

It was thought that Section Five should be reconsidered by Watercare, and the bullet point in Section Six on remuneration removed, noting that there is no expectation for remuneration.

Watercare

6. Huia WTP and Western Water Supply Update

A presentation was given by Tom Scott, Programme Manager for Western Water Supply.

A slide showing the western water supply like a rail tube map was presented. The grey lines showed the existing pipelines and the coloured lines proposed upgrades or new pipelines. These included raw water, reservoir, Huia 1 and North Harbour 2 pipelines.

The Huia 1 replacement pipeline is nearly complete. The May Road Pump Station to boost the pressure is at the design stage. The North Harbour 2 pipeline in places runs parallel with the new Northern Interceptor for wastewater. It is partly built, and follows the Northwestern motorway in many places.

The new pipelines are required for servicing growth in the north and west and to provide resilience to the network, in some cases by duplication. Pipeline routes have been designated and feasibility studies are underway for proposed pipelines.

Photos were shown of pipelines on the Auckland Harbour bridge, over the motorway on the Tirohanga Whanui Bridge and of the Albany Reservoirs.

A slide showed the raw water infrastructure in the Waitakere Ranges that feeds into the Huia WTP, and another slide photos of slips on the pipeline routes. The raw watermain rehabilitation and replacement will increase resilience and reliability of supply to the Huia WTP and reduce the risk of failure in extreme weather events.

Part of the raw water upgrades will include reinstating part of the Upper Nihotupu pipeline on Exhibition Drive, the main aqueduct replacement or upgrade, the Lower Nihotupu pump station replacement, and works at the 40-acre slip that has been monitored for the last 20 years.

A Gantt chart showing the timeline for proposed works at the water treatment plant was shown. The feasibility stage will be in 2024 to 2026, design in 2027 to 2028, and construction from late 2028 to 203. Commissioning is expected in 2034.

The next step in the feasibility stage is undertaking the geotechnical investigations. To do this, the PRMP and two other management plans need to be presented to the CLG and certified by the Auckland Council. Once the plans are to the satisfaction of Auckland Council, the geotechnical investigations will be undertaken, and the preliminary design initiated and completed. The project will then be paused for 18-24 months because of a funding cap. After this pause detailed design will be undertaken. The commencement of earthworks and

vegetation clearance on the site will commence in late 2028. The existing plant will be kept going throughout construction. Once the new plant is commissioned, the eastern end of the plant will be demolished and reservoir 2 constructed.

The CLG is limited to discussions regarding the new plant per the terms of the consent. The raw water upgrades are outside the objectives of the CLG at this time. When more details are confirmed, Watercare will engage with the wider community, at this stage the project is in early feasibility. Watercare is at the preliminary stage of investigating the options for the raw water pipelines.

There was concern raised that the length of the construction of the plant and associated pipelines could extend the overall programme duration. Once Watercare has more detail on future proposed works and timing it will engage with the community and the advise the CLG. The Group would like to see a Gantt chart for the raw water pipeline upgrade programme. At this point in time it would be indicative only, due to being in early stages of the project.

Concern was raised about the overall potential truck movements on the public roads in the area. Truck movements other than those directly associated with the new plant are not a consideration of the CLG, however a Traffic Management Plan is a requirement under the resource consent to undertake the earthworks and vegetation removal. The Plan will be considered by the CLG.

The Group considered that Watercare needs to be working closely with Auckland Transport considering the narrow roads and the number of slips in the area. The question was raised as to what traffic loadings are being used in the ongoing road slip repair work on the Scenic Drive. It was assumed that these are to the predicted traffic loadings. Although the CLG would like to see more discussion on the effects of heavy vehicles on the roads, it is outside the purpose of the CLG other than for the WTP.

7. Management Plans for the Huia WTP

The discussion was led by Supun Carthelis.

Three management plans are required to be presented to the CLG for their comments to allow for the geotechnical investigations to commence. The first is the Phytophthora Risk Management Plan (PRMP) which was presented at the first CLG and members had asked for it to be presented again in a clearer format. The other two are the Pest Management Strategy for Biodiversity Restoration, and the Ecological Management Plan.

Further management plans will be required for the vegetation removal, earthworks traffic management, communications and the Nihotupu Heritage Management Restoration Plan for the bulk construction works which are programmed to commence in late 2028.

There was discussion on the role of the CLG. The remit of the CLG may be expanded and move with the requirements of the works programmes for both the new treatment plant and in the future, the raw water pipeline works, if directed to in the consents for the raw water projects.

There was discussion about the Biodiversity Trust that the conditions of the resource consent requires to be established and the \$8.25 million that is to be provided by Watercare to the Trust. It is anticipated that the interest from this lump sum will generate sufficient funds to ensure that the Trust can operate beyond the 25 years that the condition requires. Watercare confirmed that the Trust must be established as soon as practicable after the granting of the consent and in any event prior to commencement of works being undertaken under this consent. Watercare will share the details of the consent conditions which explicitly excludes geotechnical investigations from being considered the project commencement. Mels Barton and the Titirangi Protection Group had a different recollection and understanding of when the deposit was to be made to the Biodiversity Trust.

Watercare

8. Phytophthora Risk Management Plan

A presentation was given by Sarah Flynn from Boffa Miskell.

Phytophthora agathadicida (PA) is the pathogen responsible for kauri dieback. It reproduces in root systems of kauri and is found in the soil and is transported in water and loose soil material. PA has been found everywhere throughout the proposed treatment plant site, the neighbouring properties, Clarks Bush and all the water courses within the Waima catchment, in many cases a significant distance from a kauri tree.

Maps were shown of the site and surrounding area where PA had been detected. PA is spread are by movement of contaminated soil, animals and water. Containment of contaminated soil and treatment of water is the key to effective management of PA spread.

To manage this risk the PA Risk Management Plan has been developed for the geotechnical investigation that needs to be

undertaken. The draft plan has been circulated to the Group.

The plan as per the resource consent requires a traffic light system. Machinery can only freely pass from lower to higher risk areas. If machinery, equipment or personnel go from higher to lower risk areas they must be decontaminated as set out in the plan.

The plan includes maps of vehicle movements and sample locations, roles and responsibilities, and a risk register.

A new plan will be developed for the bulk earthworks and vegetation clearance. This plan is for the geotechnical investigations only, a plan for construction will be required prior to construction works starting. The next step is that the plan will be peer reviewed by a Peer Review Panel of experts and then go to Council for their approval. The timing for this is expected in September.

The plan will be put onto the portal/document site that is to be created.

9. General Business

There was discussion about properties owned by Watercare in Manuka Road. These are currently tenanted apart from No.13. This is being prepared to be tenanted. If Watercare wants to dispose of unwanted properties, there is a process that it follows.

Watercare was asked how it will undertake the consenting application process for the raw water upgrade works. This has not yet been decided however it will be guided by Auckland Council. The Group encouraged Watercare to publicly notify applications as this is better for the community.

The tunnelling under the homes between upper Konini and Tawini Roads is being reviewed following the preferred route of a Kaurilands Rd route, rather than a Shetland Rd route.

It was asked if Watercare had formed a position on using the Fast Track Bill for the other components and was told no decision or position had been taken.

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting is proposed for 7pm on Wednesday 28th

August.