

## **Ashford Park Quarry Community Liaison Group**

### **Minutes of meeting held in Otaki Racecourse meeting room on 28 March 2017 at 6pm**

#### **Present:**

Residents: Janet Macdonald (JM), Andreas Paxie (AP), Campbell Andrews (CA), Tiana Morgans (TM), Denis Harnett (DH), Derek Kelly (DK), Doug Logan, Otaki Maori Racing Club (DL), Trish Paxie (TP), Paul David (PD),

Otaki Community Board: Shelley Warwick (SW)

Friends of the Otaki River: Max Lutz (ML) Trevor Wylie (TW)

GBH Winstone: Ashton Ulu (AU), Nick Weekes (NW)

KCDC: Richard Hopkins (RH), Paul Busing (PB)

GWRC: Colin Munn (GWRC), Jeremy Rusbatch (JR), Claire Baldwin (CB)

Facilitator and minute scribe: Di Buchan (F)

**Apologies**: Robert Lindsay (resident)

**Non-Attendees**: Caleb Royal, (Nga Hapu o Otaki), Slade Sturmey, Andy Fraser.

**New participants**: RH introduced Paul Busing who will be taking over from Richard in the immediate future as RH is taking on a new position and his replacement has not yet been appointed.

JR introduced himself and CB as CM was late arriving. JR and CB have become involved as a result of the water testing findings. They will continue to attend meetings in the foreseeable future.

SW arrived later in the meeting and wishes to attend future meetings replacing Rob Koefed as the Community Board rep.

#### **1. Minutes of meeting held on 29 November 2016**

Confirmed

#### **2. GBC Winstone progress report**

A written progress report had not been provided. NW undertook to make sure that for all future meetings a written report was available for pre-circulation (one week before the meeting). NW provided a verbal report noting the following:

- i. Wild chickens were still an issue. The tenant had not yet moved out and until this happens, total eradication is problematic. A legal process is currently underway to remove the tenant from the property.
- ii. Replanting of dead trees between the bund and the Paxie property boundary will be undertaken at the end of May. All the work involving trucks which had damaged the original trees is now completed so this damage should not reoccur.
- iii. All the blackberry has been sprayed but it will regrow and so will need constant follow-up.
- iv. E-coli has been found in the bore water. This is a matter which GBC Winstones is taking very seriously and wishes to resolve quickly. They want to be seen as good neighbours.

### **3. KCDC Compliance Report**

RH updated his written report that had been circulated with the agenda. Points made were:

- i. The stump which had been a dangerous impediment on the walking/cycling track has now been ground down and is no longer a problem.
- ii. The Te Roto Road entrance will require ongoing work to address the mud and churn from vehicles. There is no timeframe for the completion of this work as yet.
- iii. The paper road has now been fenced off on the quarry side as required by the consent conditions.
- iv. RH confirmed the blackberry has now been eradicated
- v. The vegetation of the bund has addressed the subsidence issue at this stage. In response to a query from AP, RH responded that while there are indications of some minor slumping, he recommends that the bund be left to stabilise and hopefully the vegetation once it is more established, will hold it together. KCDC will continue to monitor this.
- vi. Bore water – there have been ongoing conversations between KCDC and GWRC and Winstones on this matter. The councils are currently undertaking a review of the consent conditions in relation to this.

### **4. GWRC report on e-coli contamination**

JR reported verbally that conditions on the water quality consents are now going to be administered and monitored by GWRC. The regional council will be responsible for dealing with any issues that arise as a result of sampling results. At this stage the council was intending to undertake monthly testing of the bore. AP expressed frustration at the response he had received from GWRC when he had contacted them about the E-coli contamination. He said it had taken 24 hours before anyone responded to him. JR acknowledged the process could have been better.

The KCDC had sent a warning to all the residents in Te Roto Road (all are on bore water) advising them of the test results. TM and DL said they were not notified. The failure to notify the Maori Racing Club was particularly concerning because of the number of people who use the site. All the residents from Te Roto Road said they were concerned about the potential threat to their water supply. Similarities with the water contamination in Hawkes Bay were made.

In the discussion that followed:

It was noted that the area where the high levels of e-coli contamination were found was in a depression that had been dug out to create the bund. CB confirmed that the second test had been undertaken and that this will show if the e-coli is still present.

It was also pointed out that there were two bores (one in County Road and one in Rahui Road) that had been installed for public consumption but not currently used, should also be tested. RH undertook to get the Environmental Health team to look into this.

As a result of this discussion, the following was agreed:

- GWRC will be reviewing the consent process and will report back on the findings with a month. This is a review of the process, and not a review of the consent at this stage.
- KCDC will investigate ways of ensuring a safe water supply is provided to Te Roto Road residents should the results of the second test (due the next day) indicate that this was necessary.
- KCDC will alert the KCDC team leader for Environmental Health about the need to update the address list for notifications about bore water in this area.
- GWRC will organise the council to test all the bores in Te Roto Road where residents are willing.

- If GWRC find in their assessment of the consent process that it was not completed properly, GWRC may review the consent. A part of this review would include looking at:
  - how the baseline water quality is established
  - the frequency of ongoing monitoring
  - how the council will be responding to water quality issues as they arise in future – this will include a flow chart of who will do what by when.

#### **GBC Winston's response**

NW stated that Winstones wants to have a robust process to clarify the source of the contamination and that they will be relying on GWRC scientists for that. Winstones is investigating its own notification processes in light of this experience and Dan McGregor (Winstone's environment manager) will be preparing a report on this.

In closing this discussion GWRC and Winstones acknowledged the restraint that the residents had shown over this very concerning issue. This restraint was appreciated and the council will now be doing its best to address the resident's concerns.

#### **5. Rehabilitation Plan**

CA asked about progress with the rehabilitation plan for the site as part of the Open Spaces study. CM said Boffa Miskell was working on this but it would be a long time before any rehabilitation could be undertaken. Much material would be extracted for the Pekapeka to Otaki expressway extension. The quarry rehab project would be part of a large scale rehab of the whole site.

CA was concerned that the current site would be an eyesore for people traveling on the expressway extension and would be bad for Otaki's image. ML requested that any plan should stipulate that local businesses should be involved in the planting and other rehabilitation work.

#### **6. Paper Road**

PD distributed an extract from "New Zealand Outdoor Access Code" to the group members. This extract sets out the legal status of paper roads. Most importantly it notes that paper roads are no different in law from formed roads i.e. the public have the right to use them on foot, on horse, or in vehicles without hindrance from the adjacent landowner or anyone else. It also states that it is not lawful to place a gate or fence or other obstruction across an unformed legal road if the road has been fenced laterally, although unlocked gates may be used with the permission of the local council.

#### **7. Quarry dust**

JM raised concern about the potential health risk resulting from quarry dust being blown into residential properties. Her concern arose from a recently reported case with the Winstone Yaldhurst quarry where it has been found that adjoining residents were being subjected to dust containing silicon and were experiencing health issues as a result.

- NW undertook to ask Dan McGregor to prepare a report on the type of chemicals found in the Otaki quarry. NW will send this report to F as soon as it is available so that it can be pre-circulated for discussion at the next CLG meeting.

NW also reported that he had commissioned a consultant to undertake a study of the distribution of quarry dust which will provide a baseline to measure the impacts of the expressway construction on dust levels.

## **8. Quarry Excavation**

AU provided F with a map of the extracted area and volumes taken to date (39,693m<sup>3</sup>) . This is attached. At the previous meeting it was reported that 5,000 cu m. had been removed from the quarry in the past month. It was noted that this information would be more understandable if the volumes of material taken from the site was reported in terms of truck loads. RH agreed to do this in future but this clearly slipped his mind and that of the facilitator!

- PB to note for next KCDC report

## **9. Farewell to Richard Hopkins**

The CLG members noted that this would be the last meeting RH would be attending. They thanked him for his contribution to the CLG work. AP noted that he had done a great job in monitoring the compliance conditions and following up on related issues.

## **10. Next meeting**

In light of the urgency and seriousness of the matters related to water quality, it was agreed that the next meeting should be held earlier than might otherwise be the case. The date was set for **9 May 2017 at 6pm**. This will allow for the completion and distribution of reports and time for members to read the material submitted prior to the meeting.

**Reports to be provided by 27 April to be circulated to members:**

### **GWRC**

- Review of how the Winstone's consent was processed. If the conclusions from that review show that the consent itself needs to be reviewed, GWRC would then look into how water quality will be managed. This would include :
  - how the baseline water quality is established
  - the frequency of ongoing monitoring
  - how the council will be responding to water quality issues as they arise in future – this will include a flow chart of who will do what by when.

### **KCDC**

- What does KCDC have in place to ensure continuity of supply, should it be required.
- Outcome of discussions with the KCDC team leader for Environmental Health about the need to update the address list for notifications about bore water in this area.

### **GBC Winstones**

- A report from Dan McGregor on the type of chemicals found in the Otaki quarry.

