

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

### **Minutes of meeting held in Otaki Racecourse meeting room on 29 June 2017 at 6pm**

#### **Present:**

Residents: Carolyn Jolley (CJ), Emily Watson (EM), Frans Joubert (FJ), Campbell Andrews (CA), Tiana Morgans (TM), Fiona Morgans (FM), Denis Harnett (DH), Derek Kelly (DK), Jack Isaac (JI), Andreas Paxie (AP), Trish Bolger (TB), Paul David (PD), Adele Salsta, Robert Lindsay (RL)

GBC Winstone: Douglas Nel (DN) Ashton Ulu (AU), Nicholas Weekes (NW)

KCDC: Paul Busing (PB)

GWRC: Jeremy Rusbatch (JR), Claire Baldwin (CB), Tim Baker (Jacobs Consultancy), Colin Munn (CM)

Facilitator and minute scribe: Di Buchan (DB)

**Apologies:** Trevor Wylie, Max Lutz, Janet Macdonald, Shelly Warwick, Doug Logan

- **Minutes of meeting held on 9 May 2017**

Confirmed

- **GWRC results of water testing**

Jeremy confirmed that the effects of quarry operations on groundwater were not included in the applicant's Assessment of Effects undertaken for the consent application and this had not been picked up by the Council at the time. The finding of E coli contamination in the bore water at the Paxie property had resulted in the Council commissioning a report from Jacobs on the status of the groundwater and the effects of the quarry operation. This report had been circulated to CLG members and Tim Baker from Jacobs was present at the meeting to answer any queries arising from the findings.

In summary, Jacobs found that:

- E coli levels were well below the level that would justify concern. The only bores at risk of pollution were all on the Ashford Park property. Because of the distance involved, the quarry run-off would need to be almost raw sewage for it to pollute any of the residential bores outside of the GBCWinstone area. Current levels of contamination are no higher than those found in the general environment as a matter of course.
- The existing monitoring well was in the best place for measuring any effects on residential bores from activities in area 1B
- GWRC has arranged to meet with GBCWinstone staff to agree on a monitoring regime and this will include a process for responding to the findings.
- TM asked if the dairy farms in the area were being monitored for potential contamination of ground and river water. JR responded that all farms in Otaki discharge to land (as they are required to do) and if anyone has information to the contrary they should report this to the GWRC Hotline 0800 496 734

After further discussion and clarification the GWRC staff left the meeting.

- **Statement from GBCWinstone**

DN made a statement to the meeting in which he acknowledged that the company had "not been at the

top of their game” in the way they had been managing the operation and working with the CLG. There had been gaps in performance (for example the handover to Nicholas Weekes did not include a briefing on the consent conditions set at the hearing and the operations staff did not have a good understanding of what was stipulated in the Management Plan). The company was now working to plug these gaps. From now on the company would be liaising much more closely with KCDC before undertaking any new work and would seek advice on the intent of the conditions where there was any doubt about what was required. The company was also working to ensure that the environmental team based in Auckland was more proactive and contributing their expertise to decision making in quarry management and operations.

PD asked how, if the staff were using the management plan to guide their operations, did the fully grown macrocarpa trees, identified in the management plan to be retained, get removed. This was acknowledged as a regrettable mistake. PD asked what remediation was planned to address this mistake.

CM suggested that in addition to reading the conditions of consent, the staff needed to also read the Commissioners’ report which led to the setting of those conditions. DN undertook to ensure this happened.

- **GBC Winstone Progress Report**

NW spoke to his pre-circulated report responding to questions from the members.

**Pest control** – as far as he was aware, the contractors have only been targeting rodents. He will investigate what is being done about the other pests listed in the Management Plan.

**Paper Road** – KCDC has advised the paper road must be treated as a public road. Signs were erected warning the public of works in progress but these had been stolen. They are being replaced.

**Bund** – NW stated that even if the Marshall Day analysis shows that the allowable noise levels can be met while retaining the gap, GBCWinstone may still decide to set up a monitoring station to double check that the noise levels are not being breached.

Comment was made that the bund does not extend far enough to the north. It was estimated that it was 20-40 metres short of that shown in the Plan. NW and PB agreed to check this out.

AP commented that he was concerned that the modelling should account for the gap being at least 40 m across at the top of the bunds (if not larger).

**Extraction volumes** - By the next meeting of the CLG, Winstone should be able to advise on how much more is able to be extracted from 1A and the period of time it is likely to take to complete this extraction.

Members asked for clarification on what the extracted volumes stated in the progress report, translated to in terms of truck loads. NW thought a truck load would be roughly 20 cubic metres. [If that is the case, the 51,321 cm extracted over the past financial year would be equal

to about 2,550 trucks (5,100 truck movements).]

PD said that he had measured the area of extraction and is convinced that the company has infringed on the stage 2 area by 5 metres.

TB asked what process Winstone would be adopting to ensure there were no further infringements of the conditions. NW and DN confirmed that this would be avoided by maintaining close consultation with KCDC.

NW confirmed that any proposed deviation from the consent conditions or conditions set by KCDC in relation to deviations from these conditions will be discussed with the CLG before proceeding.

DK and JI left the meeting at this stage.

**Tree planting** - AP reported that contrary to GBC Winstones report, the tree planting is not completed and there were still about 60 trees on the western boundary that were missing. NW agreed to look into this.

**Complaints register** – NW pointed out that Winstone has established a complaints register in accordance with the consent conditions and any complainants should be emailed or texted to Nicholas in the first instance or the complaints form on the Winstone website could be used. If there is no response within a reasonable time, or the response is considered unsatisfactory, or the complainant wants to get a second opinion, they should contact Paul Busing at KCDC. If the complainant is still unsatisfied, they can call Di Buchan who will endeavour to get the parties together to resolve the matter. PB stated that if anyone felt uncomfortable making a complaint to GBC Winstone, they can always lay a complaint directly with KCDC.

- **KCDC Compliance Report**

PB spoke to his pre-circulated report and responded to questions.

Resurfacing the entrance to the Te Roto Rd walkway is still unresolved.

The removal of vegetation in contravention of the consent conditions is on the list of issues KCDC will be seeking to resolve with Winstones. PB will report back on this to the next CLG meeting.

PB asked if the group would be interested in having a presentation from the Pekapeka to Otaki roading project (PP20 ) at the next meeting as this project will affect people in the vicinity of the quarry. It was unanimously agreed that this would be a good idea. PB undertook to contact the roading project managers to arrange.

- **General Business**

**Restoration of the old quarry area** – DB on behalf of Max Lutz who could not be present, raised the matter of the need to retain the top-soil currently being removed from Ashford Park for use in the landscaping of the existing lake. Max felt it was important that this high-quality soil be retained and spread around the lake so that planting could commence during next year's planting season. Currently the soil is being used for the building of bunds. CA agreed with this and said using such high quality soil

to form bunds was a waste of a valuable resource – there was plenty of other low-quality material that could be used for this purpose.

CM said it was far too early to start work on landscaping this area as it could be damaged in the construction of the PP2O. Also, the landscaping report commissioned from Boffa Miskell was still a work in progress. He did not know when it would be completed but would report on this to the next meeting. In any event he felt this work was not a priority.

It was agreed that some of the soil should be stock-piled along with an existing pile and that CA and ML should meet with NW to check out the availability of soil that could be used for restoration purposes. NW to organise.

AP raised that the consent conditions were very specific about how the stockpile topsoil should be managed, stored and utilised and that GBC Winstone should refer to these in the first instance. In particular, AP was concerned from a dust management perspective that GBC Winstone will need to take action to address the large stockpile of open topsoil stored on the site. NW confirmed that this would be undertaken.

#### **Surface water at north-west corner of bund**

AP asked about the surface water near the bund extension. NW advised that the cause had been traced to an old pipe previously used for watering stock which was leaking. This has now been repaired.

#### **Summary Management Plan**

The Summary Management Plan had been updated for the meeting.

PD pointed out that in the updated plan section 1.3, the paper road was shown on the western side which seems to be incorrect. DB undertook to draw this to Dan McGregor's attention.

[Dan has responded as follows: what the plan is showing is the northern boundary of the paper road, rather than the southern boundary (i.e. the one that runs between Ashford Park and 72 Te Roto Rd. The reason it was done like this was to show the extent of Winstone's property (i.e. it excludes the paper road.)

The plan forms part of the consented documents and while it could be changed it doesn't really seem necessary.

#### **Next meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting should be held on Thursday 14 September and that the venue should be changed to the Otaki Community Centre supper room which is warmer and more comfortable.

[This has since been booked from 6-8pm. A slide-projector will be in use to facilitate discussions]

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**A Compliance report from KCDC and a Progress Report from Winstone to be provided to DB by 7 September for circulated to members.**