

Notes of the Kaituna Catchment Control Scheme Advisory Group meeting held at the Bay of Plenty Regional Council office 1118 Fenton Street, Rotorua, on Wednesday 3 March 2021 commencing at 10 am

Chair:	Councillor Norm Bruning
Advisory Group:	Barry Roderick, Dave Hurst, Graham Thompson, Heather Brake, Nick Chater, Richard Weld, Roger Hintz, Councillor John Scrimgeour (Western Bay of Plenty District Council), Peter Dine (Rotorua Lakes Council)
BOPRC Councillors:	Councillor Jane Nees (via Zoom)
BOPRC Staff:	Kirsty Brown (Rivers and Drainage Assets Manager), Cleo Hanlon (Coordinator, Rivers and Drainage), Kerry Smith (Area Engineer), Chris Ingle (General Manager Integrated Catchments), Mark Townsend (Engineering Manager), Paula Chapman (Project Manager), Mereana Toroa (Finance Support Team Leader)
Te Maru o Kaituna:	Dean Flavell (via Zoom)
Apologies:	Councillor Matemoana McDonald, Bruce Crabbe (Rivers and Drainage Operations Manager), Cor Verwey, Luther Siemelink

1 **Welcome**

Councillor Bruning welcomed everyone to the meeting. Kirsty Brown introduced Heather Brake (newly appointed Rotorua urban representative), Mereana Toroa (Finance Support Team Leader) and Cleo Hanlon (Rivers and Drainage Coordinator) to the group.

2 **Apologies**

Apologies received as recorded above.

3 **Notes of previous meeting held 2 September 2020**

Resolved

That the Kaituna Catchment Control Scheme Advisory Group:

- 1 Confirm the notes of the meeting held 2 September 2020 as a true and correct record.**

**Roderick/Hurst
CARRIED**

4 **Matters arising from previous meeting held 2 September 2020**

Barry Roderick requested an update on the independent review of the Bell Road options as recommended at the September 2020 meeting. Update to be provided in Engineering update agenda item.

5 **Engineering update**

Mark Townsend spoke to his report and presentation.

Key points:

- Ford Road Pump Station Upgrade Project: A number of options have been assessed using a multi-criteria analysis. Option 1 (additional pump capacity at existing Diagonal Drain site) and Option 6b (new pump station at existing Ford Road site) have been identified for more detailed design, modelling and consultation. Option 1 is the current preferred option with a cost estimate of \$9.5 million. Initial consultation has been undertaken. Further consultation with iwi is required, however initial consultations suggest iwi preference is Option 1.
- Kaituna Mole: Renewal works involve constructing a new sheet pile wall and concrete deck around the existing structure. The mole structure is a popular community space and additional budget of \$600,000 has been approved by Council in 2021/22 to construct community amenities. Crown Infrastructure Partnership (CIP) funding has been approved for this project and will contribute up to \$1.9 million. Construction is programmed to commence mid 2021.
- Rotorua Streams capacity review: Hydrological and hydraulic modelling of the minor Rotorua streams is undertaken every 15 years to determine whether flood capacity is as designed. Modelling of the Puarenga and Waiowhero Streams is programmed this year. The Waingaehe Stream will be reviewed next at the request of Rotorua Lakes Council (to be cost shared).
- Ngongotahā Stream Flood Mitigation Project (implementing recommendations of the independent review): Consultation is underway with landowners and key stakeholders directly affected by the proposed civil works. Upper catchment tree removal and detention bund works began in late 2020 and will continue for most of 2021. Central government's CIP funding is contributing 75% to the costs.
- Development within the Kaituna catchment
 - Rangiuru Business Park: Consent was granted in 2006. Discussion followed concerning Council granting this consent to Quayside Holdings, and whether this was a conflict of interest. Assurance was given that Quayside Holdings are not being afforded any special treatment, and independent Commissioners made decisions on the resource consents.
 - Te Puke West: Western Bay of Plenty District Council does not have to contribute to the scheme under current RMA rules, however options are being discussed.
 - Pukehangi, Rotorua (PC2) development: Engineering opinion has been backed by the Commissioner. Learnings from the Pukehangi Development are being applied to the Eastside Development.

- Pond H: A monitoring device is to be installed to monitor water level and flow during rain events.
- Pond G: An independent review has found that the pond size is insufficient.

Discussion:

- Beca have been engaged to carry out an independent review of Bell Road options. Members felt the review will help inform land owner farming/business decisions prior to any Council infrastructure work being planned.
- Suggestion made that the Ford Road Pump Station costs should be funded 50:50 targeted and general rates.
- Members questioned why the Ford Road Pump Station replacement had not been considered during the Kaituna Rediversion Project. Comment was made that the replacement pump station new estimated costs are now too high due to delays in construction (due to the diversion project being prioritised).

Action: That a submission to the LTP 2021-31 be made by the Advisory Group, requesting funding assistance for the Ford Road Pump Station.

6 Operations update

Kerry Smith spoke to a presentation on the scheme's maintenance works programme.

Key points:

- The left bank of the Raparapahoe Stream, approximately 1 km downstream of the drop structure, has been reshaped,
- Replenishment of rock armouring on the Ōngātoro/Maketū Estuary channel has been completed, funded from the Coastal Catchments activity budget.
- The floodgate on the main 1800 mm water supply culvert to the Kaituna wetland has been replaced to improve water supply during summer. The floodgate is a modern, fish-friendly design. Barry Roderick questioned wetland water level after installation.

Action: Kerry Smith to send Barry Roderick some graphs on the water levels, post floodgate replacement.

- Rock armouring and gum tree removal is taking place along the Ngongatahā Stream. Barry Roderick asked if the oxbow could be removed to avoid erosion issues. Mark Townsend responded that removing natural meanders can result in downstream erosion, and also removes fish habitat.

Discussion:

- Dave Hurst requested an update on the Pukepine compliance issues on behalf of Cor Verwey.

Action: Bruce Crabbe to provide a memo updating the Advisory Group on progress with compliance issues at Pukepine.

7 April 2017 Flood Repair Project update

Paula Chapman spoke to the report provided in the agenda pack and delivered a presentation showing progress with the April 2017 Flood Repair Project.

Key points:

- Expenditure to date for the Kaituna Catchment Control Scheme is \$4.4 million, with recoveries of \$1.25 million. The final insurance and central government claims are still to be completed.
- There are only four repair sites remaining in the Kaituna catchment, and these are on track for completion by 30 June 2021.
- 87% of repairs have been completed across the region and the overall programme is on track for completion by 30 June 2021.

8 Finance report

Kirsty Brown tabled an updated Finance Report, and provided an overview of the scheme's revenue and expenditure for the six months ending 31 December 2020.

Key points:

- Total revenue is \$77,000 lower than budgeted, but the reserve interest adjustment is to come.
- Total capital revenue for the first six months is lower than budget due to delays in processing CIP funding for Ngongotahā and the Kaituna Mole.
- Total capital expenditure by project was under budget.
- Total reserves funds available at 31 December 2020 was \$5.7 million.
- The loans closing balance was \$8.8 million. The current interest rate on loans is 3%, with an assumption this will decrease to 2% on 1 July 2021.
- The scheme's asset valuation as at 1 July 2020 was \$71 million.

9 River Scheme planning (Asset Management Plan and Long Term Plan)

Kirsty Brown delivered a presentation on river scheme planning.

Key points:

- Minimal changes to the numbers since what was presented at the September 2020 Advisory Group meeting.
- Submissions to the Long Term Plan (LTP) are currently open, closing 4pm on 22 March 2021.
- The finance team developed a [rates calculator](https://myrates.boprc.govt.nz) (https://myrates.boprc.govt.nz) which demonstrates to the user how different options outlined in the LTP consultation document may affect their rates.

10 Co-governance / community group updates

The report on Focus Catchments in the Kaituna Catchment Control Scheme was taken as read, and no discussion was had.

Dean Flavell (Te Maru o Kaituna Chairman) joined the meeting by zoom, to speak to members about Te Maru o Kaituna River Authority and their various projects.

Key points:

- All projects undertaken by Te Maru o Kaituna can be found on their website www.kaituna.org.nz.
- The Kaituna River Document is a statutory document launched by Te Maru o Kaituna, to promote the restoration, protection and enhancement of the well-being of the Kaituna River and its tributaries.
- The Kaituna River Action Plan outlines what will be done over the next ten years to deliver on the vision, objectives and outcomes of the Kaituna River Document.

Discussion:

- Councillor Nees has been impressed at the response to the action plan, and what is being proposed. Te Maru o Kaituna has the wellbeing of the Kaituna River at its heart.
- Te Maru o Kaituna is partly funded by Regional Council from work programmes, along with other organisations. Nick Chater sits on Te Maru o Kaituna committee, and noted most costs have been for administration and development of the River Document.

11 General business

Kirsty Brown spoke to the general business update provided in the agenda pack.

11.1 Flood Protection and Drainage Bylaws 2020

Following a review of the 2008 Bylaws, the 2020 Bylaws were formally adopted on 17 December 2020 and became operative 1 February 2021. Key changes to the bylaws include:

- Strengthening clauses relating to stock access to drains
- Extending bylaw applicable areas
- Additional clauses related to fencing, ploughing and land use intensification in areas with pumiceous soils (this includes the lower Kaituna River)
- Inclusion of additional floodways
- Additional clauses relating to written authority management plans for multiple bylaw authority applications.

Discussion:

- It was noted that there does not appear to be anything in the Bylaws to determine the location of the stopbank landward toe. This was a key topic for the hearings

panel, and a decision was made to use the original design of the stopbank. The toe of the stopbank does not include toe loading.

Action: Resend Richard Weld the formal response to his submission on the Bylaws Review.

11.2 Update on Kaituna rating review

Purpose is to provide Council information on the appropriateness of the current rating scheme and to support small scales changes. It is not a comprehensive review of the whole rating system.

Further engineering investigation has been commissioned to provide information on runoff from land parcels.

Completion date has been extended to April 2021.

11.3 Infrastructure insurance review

A review of the infrastructure insurance is being led by AON, who have engaged Tonkin and Taylor to provide a flood loss assessment, and calculate the financial consequences of a flood event.

Regional Council have secured savings for the 2020/21 premiums by initiating a successful review of the BOPLASS allocation formula and reducing the contingency sum built in for all assets.

11.4 Stopbank integrity investigation

Some adjacent landowner developments are having an impact on flood protection assets. The Rivers and Drainage Assets team will be proceeding with a project to work with landowners where there may be asset integrity concerns.

The first stage of the project is to commence in the lower Uthina Stream from 1 July 2021.

11.5 Bell Road property purchase

There are two pieces of surplus land, and Regional Council are interested in purchasing one of these parcels and are currently engaging with NZTA agents. Funding for the potential purchase has not yet been determined.

Meeting closed at 1:00 pm.