

Notes from the Kaituna Catchment Control Scheme Advisory Group meeting held in The Hive, Comvita NZ Ltd, 23 Wilson Road South, Paengaroa, Te Puke, on Tuesday, 31 October 2017 commencing at 1 pm

Chair: Cr Bill Clarke

BOPRC Staff: Chris Ingle (GM, Integrated Catchments), Roger Waugh (Rivers and Drainage Asset Manager), Kirsty Brown (Asset Management Specialist), Paula Chapman (Project Manager), Mark Townsend (Engineering Manager), Tony Dunlop (Flood Restoration Project Engineer), Pim de Monchy (Kaituna Catchments Manager), Andy Dixon (Management Accountant), Cleo Hanlon (Minute Taker)

BOPRC Councillors: Cr Norm Bruning, Cr Jane Nees

Advisory Group: Warren Webber, Roger Hintz, Barry Roderick, Dave Hurst, Graham Thompson, Richard Weld, Nick Chater, Peter Dine.

Others: Hohepa Maxwell, Phil Doveston, Cor Verwey

Apologies: Bruce Crabbe (Rivers and Drainage Operations Manager)

Tabled Items:

1 Priority of Damage Repairs – April 2017 Debbie and Cook.

1 **Welcome and Introduction**

Cr Clark opened the meeting, and welcomed the new members to the advisory group. Round table of introductions was made.

2 **Apologies**

Apologies were received by Bruce Crabbe.

3 **Scheme and advisory group overview**

Roger Waugh presented to the group an overview of the Kaituna Catchment Control Scheme and the advisory group. Key points covered were:

- Advisory groups have evolved from the previous liaison groups. Two meetings are to be held each year, in March and September (with the exception of this current meeting). Meetings are chaired by an elected regional councillor.
- The advisory group membership and areas of representation highlighted that the purpose of the groups is enhance communication between Council and the ratepayer community.
- Scheme funding (via the targeted rate) is based on a whole-of-catchment, land area, differential, rating system which was implemented in 2002.

- Targeted rates pay 80% of the scheme's funding, and the regional contribution makes up the remaining 20%.
- The scheme's asset valuation is \$59.8 million (2016). There is currently capital debt of \$3.5 million and reserve balances are \$4.95 million.

Discussion continued around the group membership process and the method of communication for calling nominations. It was advised that the selection panel consisted of Councillor Clarke, Councillor Bruning, Chris Ingle and Bruce Crabbe.

There was also discussion on iwi representation and treaty claims on co-governance.

4 **Previous meeting notes - 1 March 2017**

Ex-liaison group members present agreed the notes were a correct record.

**Cr Bruning/Richard Weld
CARRIED**

Roger Waugh provided a summary of the actions from the March 2017 meeting.

5 **2017 rainfall update**

Mark Townsend provided an overview of the significant rainfall and saturated soils the region had experienced including photos of damage sites resulting from ex-cyclones Debbie and Cook in April 2017. It was advised that the Te Matai gauging station recorded three peaks between 5 and 6 April 2017.

6 **Engineering report**

Mark Townsend provided detailed updates on the following topics:

Kaituna River capacity review

Modelling work for the capacity review of the Kaituna River has been completed. The 1% AEP flow has been assessed as 400 m³/s, a reduction from the previous 500 m³/s. This is due to updated rating curves and data. The change of rating is currently being peer reviewed.

It was questioned whether the 1951 and the April 2017 floods have been included in the data. Mark confirmed that they have.

Kaituna Mole

Sheet piling at the Kaituna Mole is due for replacement and this work is currently under design. It is intended to undertake the work in conjunction with the Kaituna re-diversion works.

A detailed discussion followed regarding the conflict between boaties and fishermen at the mole. It was highlighted that more cooperation from the Harbourmaster around signage would be appreciated.

Bell Road mowing culvert

NZTA have acknowledged there is an issue with the Bell Road mowing culvert. With their consultants Beca's, NZTA are now working with BOPRC and Tauranga City Council to come up with a solution to rectify the issue and return the level of service back to that stated in the Rivers and Drainage Asset Management Plan (AMP).

The level of service in the AMP is for any surface water on the ground to be drained or pumped within three days, for a 1 in 5-year event.

It is anticipated that a calibrated model will be ready for trialling in late November 2017. NZTA will be responsible for rectifying the issue.

Action:

It is requested that the Kaituna Advisory Group members be involved in all discussions with NZTA.

Brief discussion followed around the location of monitoring sites and the group were shown the location of the live monitoring data on the BOPRC website.

Utuhina Stream upgrade

The Utuhina Stream currently does not meet its level of service as set out in the Rivers and Drainage AMP. Physical works are programmed to occur in the 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 financial years.

BOPRC is working with Rotorua Lakes Council on possible solutions and DHI Ltd has been commissioned to extend the existing model to enable different options to be assessed.

Ford Road pump station

The Ford Road pump station is currently in a poor condition. The objectives of the pump station upgrade are to:

- Maintain the levels of service with respect to land drainage and flood mitigation.
- Address current health and safety and operational issues.
- Provide access opportunities to improve the discharge water quality
- Reduce adverse effects on the Kaituna River and Maketū Estuary.

At present the project options study report and the business case are in progress. The design and consenting of the new pump station is expected in 2018.

A number of key stakeholders and groups are to be consulted during the options assessment and consenting phases and that Richard Weld has been nominated to be a representative.

Stakeholder consultation will be held in three phases. The first phase is underway with engagement with iwi groups. The second phase will consult with potentially affected landowners and the third phase will be consultation with the wider community.

There are a few options for possible discharge locations, and a slide was presented showing the different location options. Discussion followed.

Action:

That a short paper on TCC consents and effects on the Bell Road Catchment be provided at the next meeting.

7 **Kaituna catchment update**

Pim de Monchy gave a presentation providing an update on matters affecting the Kaituna Catchment. Topics covered are as follows:

Plan changes

There are three plan changes that will affect this catchment.

- Plan Change 10 – Rotorua Lake Nutrient Management plan change. This puts into place certain conditions around nutrients. It is now subject to appeals and is to go to the Environment Court before being operative.
- Plan Change 9 – Regional Water Quantity plan change. Hearings to be held in early 2018. This plan change will set limits on water quantity and water extraction.
- Plan Change 12 – Freshwater Futures Community Groups. Regional councils must collaborate with communities to look at the current state of water monitoring and land use.

Kaituna re-diversion project

There is a lump sum approach to pricing. We have four firms available, however there is too much risk with the current pricing approach. We hope to get construction underway in the New Year.

We are working on the wetland on the way into Maketū. An example of what we can create is Papahikahawai Island, which is in the middle of the Maketū Estuary. This is maori owned land, but is grazed by Alan Titschmarch. Causeways have been removed, and a footbridge has been built. The stopbank has also been configured. There were algae build-ups in this part of the estuary before and after the causeway removal. We have cleaned up a lot in three weeks, and also have identified five new species of fish, shellfish and invertebrates.

Along the Papahikahawai southern shoreline, pampas was first stripped from the bund and buried in the adjacent drain. The bund was then lowered to RL 1.5 m.

Photos were shown of the water after the high rain event.

In March, Pim's team collected samples across the area. The objective is to help determine which places are collecting relatively more than others. We are also collecting monthly data from drainage monitoring.

8 **Works report and flood damage repairs**

Tony Dunlop gave an overview of the maintenance works programme for 2017/2018. Brief discussion followed. Tony advised of his recent role change, and that he will be moving from operational and solely into the April 2017 Flood damage repairs.

Paula Chapman and Tony Dunlop continued the discussion by providing an overview of the April 2017 Flood Recovery Project for the scheme. Key points included:

- Work to date and the priority list of repairs.
- Across the four major schemes, there are over 500 damaged sites at an estimated \$45 million to repair. For the Kaituna Catchment there are approximately 38 sites needing repair.
- Re-structure within the Rivers and Drainage Team to increase resources and improve response to large projects and events in the future.
- Insurance will cover 40% of emergency repairs costs with a Government contribution of 60% for 'like for like' assets. Betterment and new assets will be covered by the scheme.

9 **Finance report**

Andy Dixon gave an overview of the scheme's revenue and expenditure for the year ending 30 June 2017 and up to 30 September 2017. Key items discussed from the 30 June 2017 report include:

- Operating target is still on budget.
- This scheme is currently in a healthy financial position.
- \$3.5 million worth of loans. It was recommended these are not paid off while interest rates are so low.

Key items discussed from the 30 September 2017 report include:

- Contract work figure includes the flood response works. It is forecasted to be on budget by year end.
- Finance cost – the scheme is still maintaining a low interest rate.
- Reserve Balances:
 - Flood Damage Reserve \$2,367,135.
 - Asset Replacement Reserve \$742,277.
 - Works Reserve \$788,859.
 - NZTA Reserve \$547,964.
 - Re-diversion remediation \$445,344.
 - General Reserve \$197,215.
- The rates positions are being worked through now, through the long-term plan process.

10 **Rivers and Drainage Asset Management Plan, Infrastructure Strategy and Long Term Plan 2018-2028 progress report**

Kirsty Brown provided an update on the three yearly reviews of the Rivers and Drainage Asset Management Plan, the Infrastructure Strategy and the Long Term Plan 2018-2028. The following key points were covered in the presentation:

- Council's Community Outcomes and how these are linked to the documents.

- Rivers and Drainage AMP is the most extensive AMP held by BOPRC. The asset portfolio has a replacement value of \$246 million and planned asset maintenance and renewals covering a 50-year timeframe. The AMP is reviewed by BOPRC every three years in parallel with the LTP.
- Assets of the Kaituna Catchment Control Scheme has an estimated total replacement cost of \$63 million with most of the value in the stopbanks.
- During Year 1 of the LTP there is a forecast operating expenditure (Opex) of \$1.8 million and capital expenditure (Capex) of \$3.8 million.
- The proposed Capex over the next 10 years is \$2.35 million in the Upper Kaituna and \$10 million in the Lower Kaituna.
- The forecast funding requirements showed potential rates increases and decreases. The worst-case scenario forecasts a rate increase of 13.7% in 2021. The group were advised that the figures were the initial 'raw' numbers, which do not include revenue from flood damage repair claims from Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management or insurance.
- Councils are required to prepare Infrastructure Strategies as part of their LTP planning for any significant infrastructure assets. For BOPRC this is the flood protection and control works assets managed by Rivers and Drainage Section. The purpose of the strategy is to identify any significant infrastructure issues for BOPRC's flood protection and control works assets and the options for managing these issues and any associated implications.
- Council's LTP covers a ten-year period. This is Council's main planning document, and identifies the service levels to be delivered.

11 Other business

11.1 Rangitāiki River Scheme Report

Chris Ingle provided an overview and resulting recommendations from the Rangitāiki River Scheme Report (referred to as the Cullen Review).

He advised that the report's 29 recommendations have been adopted by Council.

11.2 Drain cleaning

Cor Verwey noted it was good to see some plans underway, in particular the Ford Road pump station. However he expressed concern around drain spraying, particularly by Western Bay of Plenty District Council.

Meeting ended: 4:00 pm.