Kaituna Catchment Control Scheme Advisory Group

Meeting notes

**Commencing:** Wednesday, 15 March 2023, 10.00 am

**Venue:** Trustpower Baypark, 891 Truman Lane, Tauranga

**Chairperson:** Cr Ken Shirley

**Members:** Heather Brake, Roger Hintz, Barry Rodrick, Richard Weld, Deputy Major John Scrimgeour (WBOPDC), Nick Chater, Dean Flavell (Tapuika and Te Maru o Kaituna), Cr Andy Wichers (WBOPDC), Colin Armer (representing Dave Hurst),

**BOPRC elected members:** Crl J Nees

**BOPRC staff:** Chris Ingle (GM Integrated Catchments), Kirsty Brown (Rivers and Drainage Assets Manager), Dan Batten (Rivers and Drainage Operations Manager), Mark Townsend (Engineering Manager), Bruce Crabbe (Principal Advisor), Kerry Smith (Area Engineer), Sharleen Augustus (Assets Management Coordinator), Laura Boucher (Comms Partner), Karlo Keogh (Senior Management Accountant).

**Public:** Cor Verwey, Noel McLeod, Rod Bailey (representing Nathan York), Dave Marshall.

**Apologies:** Cr Toi Iti, Dave Hurst, Graham Thompson, and Mark Townsend for lateness.

1. Opening Karakia

Opening karakia was provided by Dean Flavell.

2. Apologies

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| Apologies were received as recorded above. |

3. Previous Meeting Notes

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| **3.1** | **Resolved****That the Kaituna Catchment Control Scheme Advisory Group:****Confirms the Advisory Group meeting notes – 31 August 2022 as a true and correct record.** **Roger Hintz/Richard Weld****CARRIED** |
| **3.2** | **Matters Arising:****Item 5** - Member questioned whether delayed CIP funding for Kaituna Mole and Ngongotaha projects had been received.**Item 4** - Staff confirmed pump station caretaker payments are currently being issued.**Items for staff follow up:*** Confirm whether CIP funding has been received.
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4. Agenda items

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| **4.1** | **Maintenance Works Programme Update**Presented by: Dan Batten, Kerry Smith, and Bruce Crabbe. Agenda report taken as read. **Key Points:*** 2022/23 rainfall and pumping statistics, noting unprecedent rainfall, pumping hours and diesel costs.
* Kaituna River flowing half a metre higher reducing performance of gravity drainage.
* Overview of maintenance works programme to-date including Ngongotahā and Utuhina works.
* Overview of the findings and suggested improvements from the RiverSpace Ltd performance investigation for the drainage area comprising of Seddon Street, Lawler and Borough Drains. New pump station for Seddon Street underway. RiverSpace Ltd to continue investigating upper catchment issues.
* Staff working with First Gas regarding the gas line issues following the Auckland Anniversary weather event. It was noted that the line needs to be relocated before any repair works will be undertaken and First Gas is aware of this.

**Key Points - Members:*** Farmers supplementing additional pumping at their own cost.
* Previous modelling for pump design has been inadequate.
* Te Puke stormwater having devasting effect on farms in the Lower Kaituna. Concern with the delay in getting a solution and the lack of resources and funds.
* Along with the Armer farm, the Vercoe and Marshall farms are also being significantly affected.
* Request for spare pumps to cover breakdowns.

**Items for staff follow up:*** Contact First Gas to confirm relocation of gas line before repair works can be undertaken.
* Investigate the report of pine forestry in the upper Ohineangaanga Stream catchment.
* Contact Vercoe and Marshall farms and the wider farming community in the area.

10:30 – Mark Townsend entered the meeting.  |
| **4.2** | **Capital Works Programme Update** Presented by: Mark Townsend, Engineering Manager.Agenda report taken as read. **Key Points:*** Update on Upper Kaituna modelling currently underway.
* Discussed Enabling Housing Act PC 92 which includes new medium residential standards for existing areas of Te Puke. This allows for no more than 3 residential units per site and imposes restrictions on impervious areas.
* Working with Western Bay of Plenty District Council to improve permanence of pumps and upgrade of canals to reduce flow higher in the catchment and lessen impacts downstream.
* Ōkere Falls water levels have been very high, and investigation is required regarding flood retention dams in the Te Puke area.
* Update on the Ngongotahā Stream mitigation project noting no agreement has been reached with A&P Showgrounds to gain landowner approval for the southern bypass.
* Overview of Bell Road modelling 5-year and 100-year Lidar flood inundation maps. Updated modelling report includes climate change effects has been reviewed by staff and is back with the modeller for amendment.
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| **4.3** | **Finance Report Update**Presented by: Kirsty BrownAgenda report taken as read.**Key Points:*** Revenue and expenditure update for the 6 months ending 31 December 2023.
* Total operation revenue $35,000 higher than budget.
* Total operating surplus of $879,000.
* Total capital revenue $62,000 lower than budget.
* Total capital expenditure $339,000 lower than budget.
* Total reserve funds available $6 million.
* Internal loans closing balance as of 31 December 2022 $8.3 million.
* Asset valuation as of 1 July 2022 $87.6 million.
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| **4.4** | **Upcoming Long Term Plan, Rivers and Drainage Asset Management Plan and Infrastructure Strategy Review**Presented by: Kirsty BrownAgenda report taken as read.**Key Points:*** Three yearly reviews of Council’s Long Term Plan, Rivers and Drainage Asset Management Plan and Infrastructure Strategy due to commence.
* Central theme will be supporting communities to be more sustainable and resilient.
* Requires shift in thinking for ongoing and future flood and river erosion works to enable the river to behave more naturally.
* Sought feedback from members how they would like to contribute to proposed changes and budgets.

**Key Points Members:*** Agreed additional time will be set at the September meeting to discuss LTP.
* Need to encourage farmers to help themselves by improving access for Council staff.

**Item for staff follow up:*** Changes to how river works will be managed, to be discussed at September meeting.
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| **4.5** | **General Business**Presented by: Kirsty Brown, Mark Townsend and Laura BoucherReport taken as read.**Key Points:*** Minor rating modifications to the Kaituna rating system are to be included in the Annual Plan rate strike as per Simon Harris’ (LWP Ltd) review report. Reminded members that the Te Puke portion of the review was put on hold until optioneering process has been completed.
* Noted the written Catchment team update provided from Jackson Efford, Principal Advisor.
* Rainfall webpage tutorial phone demonstration by Mark Townsend. Communications team to provide further details on webpage.
* Communications update deferred due to meeting time constraints.
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5. Public Forum

5. Okere resource consent – Richard Weld

* Questioned whether the current resource consent enables the closing of the Okere gates to allow time for the gravity drainage to flow and clear water.
* Staff responded that this was a complicated situation and could cause damage to downstream stopbanks.
* It was noted that rafting companies seriously affected with the high river flows.

**Item for staff follow up:**

* Staff to investigate and report back whether closing the Okere gates to allow gravity flow to improve is an option under the resource consent or could be undertaken as a one-off situation.

5.2 Slash and infrastructure – Barry Roderick

* Raised concern about slash and damage to infrastructure as seen during Cyclone Gabrielle.
* Staff reported that drone surveys of upper catchments has been conducted to identify areas of potential slash sites (industrial waste).
* Staff are collaborating with Western Bay of Plenty District Council to address slash on riparian lands.

5.3 Scheme and staff performance – Colin Armer

* Questioned elected members on how performance is measured at Council relating to the scheme performance and staff.
* Councillor Nees responded advising of the rigorous mechanisms within Council to measure performance through KPIs and reporting to Monitoring and Operations Committee.

5.4 Rangiuru Business Park

* Additional modelling underway to quantify the required mitigation measures due to unmanaged stormwater from the site. Likely that additional pump capacity will be required for Diagonal Drain Pump Station.
* Noted that additional drain desilting already required for Washer Road Drain.

5.5 Ford Road Pump Station Update

* Recently received additional modelling information, and the resource consent is due to be lodged shortly.
* No agreement has been reached with iwi at this stage.

5.6 Cor Verwey and Dave Marshall

# Questions raised in relation to the consenting and compliance function of Council which staff present were unable to address or comment.

6. Closing Karakia

Closing karakia was provided by Dean Flavell.

**12.27 pm – the meeting closed.**

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**Action Sheet**

**Kaituna Catchment Control Scheme Advisory Group Meeting**

**15 March 2023**

| **Action** | **Person Responsible** | **Completed** | **Comment** |
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| 1. Confirm whether CIP funding has been received.
 | Karlo Keogh/Kirsty Brown | Yes | Refer to email sent 31 March 2023:* A total of $1.1 million of CIP funding was received in the 2021/22 financial year for the Kaituna mole.
* The Scheme also received $137,933 from the insurance for the April 2017 flood event.
* The CIP funding and the insurance recoveries was paid as a lump sum against the outstanding loan balance for the Scheme.
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| 1. Contact Vercoe and Marshall farms and wider farming community
 | Dan Batten | Yes | Staff have been in contact and working with the wider farming community in the area.  |
| 1. Staff to investigate and report back whether closing the Okere Gates to improve gravity drainage is an option under the resource consent or could be undertaken as a one-off situation.
 | Dan Batten | Yes | Information provided to Richard Weld 30 June 2023. |
| 1. Follow up with the First Gas in relation to the relocation of the gas line.
 | Mark Townsend | Yes | First Gas have been instructed to relocate gas line.  |
| 1. Rainfall webpage tutorial instructions to be provided to members
 | Laura Boucher/Mark Townsend | Progressing | Instructions being developed for webpage. |