

# Minutes of Meeting

Project Name: Wairoa Flood Protection  
Stakeholder Meeting #4

Date: 22/02/2024

Time: 9:30am

Venue: Wairoa Chambers

Attendees:

Lawrence Yule, Charlie Lambert, Denise Eaglesome-Karekare, Wiki Hauraki, Moana Crawford, Adrian Manuel, Katerina Edwards, Brian Wilcox, Leona Karauria, Turi Paku, Dave Hayward, Andrew Powdrell, Tracy Powdrell, Alex Powdrell (MS Teams) Dean Burgess, Jason Clough, Sylvie Bouchet, Michael Thomas, Shayne Walker, Michelle McIroy, Kate Stranding, Ohe Manuel, Kitea Tipuna, Phil Duncan, Andrew Sowersby, Dave Paku (MS Teams), Bryce Warner (MS Teams) and Tira Lee-Kirk

Apologies

Lace Blake, Dave Martin, Fenton Wilson, and Naomi Wilson

Distribution

Dropbox

Agenda:

Welcome

Minutes

Wairoa Bar (Phil)

Option 1C and modelling (Andrew)

Cultural Impact Processes

Preferred options

General Business

Date Next Meeting

<p><b>Welcome</b> Kitea -Karakia</p> <p>Lawrence Yule: Welcome</p>	
<p><b>Minutes</b> Moved: Lawrence Yule</p> <p>Second: Charlie Lambert</p>	Amend to "Less victims" (top of page 6)
<p><b>Wairoa Bar (Phil)</b></p> <p>Phil Duncan: Meet with Peter Mason, who has significant knowledge around the bar. He shared his view on what would work and what wouldn't work for the management of the Bar. Absent of the local management</p> <p>General takeaways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- HBRC Will look at operational management.</li> <li>- Requirement to improve the observational process.</li> <li>- Look at management and how this will be improved.</li> <li>- Provide a process to manage it in a timely manner.</li> <li>- Develop a manual on how to work the bar. By extracting the knowledge from those who have it to pass down to younger generations.</li> <li>- HBRC accept there is a requirement.</li> <li>- Will work with coastal engineers, Peter Mason, and local knowledge.</li> </ul> <p>Lawrence Yules takeaways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More of an art rather than science</li> <li>- Dynamic situation</li> <li>- Need people on the ground who know that dynamic, using that experience to react accordingly.</li> </ul>	

<p>- Local work</p> <p>Jason Clough:</p> <p>Explained there is a difference between how the water moves. Happy to have further discussions if required.</p> <p>Can the minutes from bar meeting be provided.</p> <p>Shayne Walker: Have we looked at examples from Te Araroa and Whakatōhea bar? Can we get the advice supplied by Peter Mason?</p> <p>Lawrence Yule</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The bar needs better management, local knowledge, and short decision-making capabilities.</li> </ul>	<p>Request for Minutes from the bar meeting.</p>
<p>Option 1C and modelling (Andrew)</p> <p>Confirmation that none of the short list options have been taken off the table.</p> <p>Michelle McIlroy: Tātau Tātau would not support any option that affected marae or urupā.</p> <p>9:46am Presentation starts.</p> <p>Option 1C</p> <p>We modelled this option to avoid the marae and urupā.</p> <p>We've had to add stopbanks at the entrances, to funnel the water into the floodway.</p> <p>Banks on SW to prevent the floodway to not spill over.</p> <p>It is feasible for the floodway to avoid the marae.</p> <p>Earthworks more than other floodways.</p> <p>Dean Burgess: Questions about exit of floodway into river</p> <p>Bryce: explained the hydraulics.</p> <p>Lawrence Yule: At the dog leg, the engineering to try and get that to go back round. I thought would be thing that it is pushing the water where it doesn't want to go? Am I right in that thinking?</p>	

Leona Karauria: Questions about flow and robustness of option.

Andrew Sowersby: provided response.

Lawrence Yule: Noted how the floodway would work, and mentioned risk.

Phil Duncan: All the stopbank failures in Hawkes Bay were made by overtopping. Have been learnings from that.

Turi Paku: Questioned height difference

Andrew: 4 meters height difference.

Michael Thomas: Questioned whether spillway break possible and where it would go;

Andrew: We haven't got to those details, but an evacuation plan for those communities needed with any option.

Michelle: Noted that Wairoa is a big river, and its concerning that those communities need to evacuate.

Michael: Asked how high does the river need to be for the spillway to activate?

Phil: We can engineer it to what we need, but usually when it gets to the top of the river banks.

Wiki Hauraki: Raised that slash consideration is important. Suggested that there are things contributing to the water that are manmade.

Phil: advised that is a contributing factor but won't prevent the flood damage in the next 5 years.

Wiki: Requested that this was acknowledged and Phil acknowledged this.

Phil: Advised that the task isn't to combat Gabrielle, but a 100-year flood event.

Lawrence: Advised that there is a big piece of work to manage the upper catchment, we can't solve it here.

Phil: Advised that our task is to find flood protection solution to move to category 2C now.

Shayne Walker: Questioned whether there a report of the dam and made comments around having an engineering solution that combines the bar, the

Action: provide the trigger point levels

forestry, they all add up, are we going to look at all of that in this group?

Phil: We have looked at some studies, dredging (short term), planting (1-2%), looking at the bar. Looking at long term solution, that provides maximum protection is what the focus of an engineering solution. Most of it will take decades to deliver. The focus is on an engineering solution that would allow people to move back into their homes.

Denise: have we looked at other models, around the world even? Where have they had to engineer spillways? I can't get my head around moving out communities. None of these options have visuals on who is impacted.

Phil: At this point in time, there is no options that will work and not affect anyone.

Shayne Walker: Asked whether we will get all these reports together? It looks like this hasn't done any global reviews. Is it in scope here to look at all the options and have a policy on how we will look at this moving forward?

Denise: I have spoken to a woman who lives in Lower Hutt, it always flooded until they put in a spillway.

Andrew: Advised that one of the biggest challenges here is the flood plains are very narrow, in comparison to Hastings where it is large. We are very close to the mouth as well.

Discussions about historical river path

Andrew: In Option 5 and 17 it causes flooding around Ruataniwha Marae.

Shayne: What if we move the entrance and the exit of Floodway 7?

Andrew: Advised that different Option 7 alignments were tested; they performed the same. The longer version it didn't score very high because it went near Huramua marae and affected a stream.

Lawrence: Questioned - if you dig out the spillway you're going to have leftover material. You could provide more protection in other areas?

Katerina Edwards: noted that in the 80s the Ruataniwha slip was a result of the slash, and the

regional council gave trees when we asked for a barrier.

Michelle: the bank on Ruataniwha is eroding so it needs more protection.

Phil: Advised that if stopbank option chosen, will look at the detail of protection.

Michelle: Noted that kōrero coming from the people who have been lived here for 40 years. When we got flooded last year it was torrent on by my mothers. The stop bank there makes the river rise higher. Noted that decision makers need to go and see the houses that you are affecting.

Denise: Noted - if you look at the stop bank options, if the water comes out of the corner it would have flooded the southside. I've lived all my life in my house, I have never seen the river come over on to Takitimu Marae.

Michael: Noted that Option 17 appear to flood more of town.

Denise: is there an option that we look at more stopbanks, that's why I ask to look at other models from around the world.

Andrew: the next hui we will show the results from the 1994 stopbanks. The other challenges are all those streams will be cut off and need to be culverted. High cultural value.

Shayne: Questioned whether the regional council conflicted in this process, in the report, the funding from the crown and how they're going to be the applicant? How do we avoid that by getting it peer reviewed? If the driver is cost and influence is that the best starting point on?

Lawrence: responded - that issue should be dealt with the tripartite group. The decision maker is in the tripartite group.

Phil: Advised that we are responsible for the flood protection, we have brought on an independent engineering companies, the reports are reviewed by the tripartite group. We don't have any desire or push; the evidence is what it is.

Michelle: Stated to Phil that HBRC role is flood protection? If anyone is responsible for the flood protection, it is the regional council.

Action: Provide results from the 1994 stopbank option.

<p>Lawrence: Reminded group - what we have sought to do here is to figure out a solution.</p> <p>Denise: Noted that a part of the solution is dredging. That river is very shallow. It is full of silt. It has got to be a part of the solution.</p> <p>Lawrence: Advised that we can get a marine coastal engineer to look at it.</p> <p>Katerina Edwards: noted that should also look at the lagoon.</p> <p>Lawrence Yule: Andrew has presented 1C that could potentially work, it is an option that won't affect the marae and urupā. At the next meeting we should go and see these sites. Also, we need to present something to the public.</p> <p>Phil Duncan: in terms of the options, I'd like to hear some feedback from the group as a possible solution. Or if there is any option that would like to look at.</p>	
<p><b>Cultural Impact Processes</b></p> <p>Lawrence: Noted that if 1C does deal with massive cultural impacts, still impacts houses. All options affect whenua Māori.</p> <p><i>Questions posed:</i> When are you doing the cultural assessment?</p> <p>Phil: responded - Tātau tātau is taking it to their board meeting on Saturday to choose a consultant to do CIA.</p> <p>Leona: noted that there are 115 cultural sites. Around 64 pā sites I want to raise that. It is the invisible sites that are also cultural important.</p> <p>Dean Burgess: commented on focus on the construction areas, we do need to look at all areas. The cultural impact assessment needs to look at all areas that will be affected.</p> <p>Michelle: near 1C there is a urupā, an old pā. My recommendations to Tātau Tātau is it needs a specific specialist to write CIA.</p> <p>Katerina Edwards: Noted that Tātau tātau won't speak on behalf of my marae [Ruataniwha Marae].</p> <p>Michelle: noted that CIA won't take 2 weeks and that not doing it on koha.</p>	

<p><b>Preferred options</b></p> <p>Lawrence: Aaked group should 1C be left in the mix?</p> <p>Denise: advised yes, but we want other options.</p> <p>Lawrence: should we get rid of option 1A and 1B?</p> <p>Denise: opinion - yes</p> <p>Dean Burgess: what are the weak points on the 1C.</p> <p>Dean Burgess: we are still relying on that budget, when we look at the overseas options that could result in a 100 million.</p> <p>Dave Paku: A lot of the reason that Hastings flooded was because of the trees. It is the responsibility of the regional council to care for the trees. From my view we need to get rid of those poplar trees.</p> <p>Discussion above floodway C performance and levels survey</p> <p>Katerina Edwards: Questioned when will survey be released.</p> <p>Charlie: questioned whether we need to commission a drone survey.</p> <p>Lawrence: we need to come up with a timeline for the release of information. We need to spend time in two weeks to go and have a look at what we are looking at in these reports.</p> <p>Michelle: RE: poplars, regional council did some work. Their taking out the banks, there was a report written about what trees were prioritised. We need to give hands on report about that, Also NIWA did a report on the waters,</p> <p>Michael: Noted that a lot of trees were self-planted, not the landowners.</p>	<p>Action: Survey of water levels</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>General Business</b></p> <p>Wiki: when speaking on the slash, we need to talk about what's behind us. The forest planted man-made lakes. This has affected the cultural iwi pools. This contributed to the whare rata and the plants. We got hit by the back.</p>	



<p>Michael: I want everyone to look at option 17 and the damage that it would affect the main section of town. This would have greater effect on the supermarket.</p>	
<p><b>Date Next Meeting</b>  Will get Andrew Newman about what he has found and a site visit.</p> <p>Phil: I'm not sure we are taking any of the options off the table. I'm getting the sense that as a group the list is as short as it will ever get.</p> <p>Lawrence: Question - Are we to stop the stakeholder group now and leave the decision to the triparted group?</p> <p>Phil: no, I think there is still work to be done in the stakeholder group. We need to address all the issues presented by the stakeholders so that we can get present that information to the community. For them to fully get that message.</p> <p>Lawrence: we are narrowing down to option 1C and 17.</p> <p>Oha Manuel: Questioned - are we not looking at further options from further research?</p> <p>Phil: we will find an independent person on the other options such as bar, dredging etc.</p> <p>Dean Burgess: there are still aspects that will include the silver bullet. Everyone here has some information and data here on this table, why don't we consider that and look at significant. The more that people contribute to parts of the river and engineering solutions to support that.</p> <p>Leona: Noted that it's not okay to find solution in this tight timeframe.</p> <p>Lawrence: advised that people need to get back in their houses, if we need more money, we need to ask for it.</p> <p><i>Comment made:</i> The bar, why don't we have a digger there 24/7</p> <p>Wiki: people are waiting to get in their homes. We have had to talk to our whānau that this is going to take longer than we thought. There is some progress on these houses getting rebuilt. I want to see this group come to a solution.</p>	<p>Action: Need an independent person to talk about the bar and dredging</p>

Ohe Manuel: why doesn't the government just fix the homes?

Phil: the land categories shouldn't affect your insurance pay out.

Sylvine: advised that it is happening.

Oha: Asked Phil why HBRC won't change it?

Phil: each insurance company is different; some will cover those areas but not include cover for flood protection.

Katerina: What about Fraser town? I think it would be a better avenue to look at the whole catchment.

Phil: we did have previous options from through past the airport.

Katerina: we need to look further up, are we looking at these options?

Wiki: Noted that was great contribution from behind.

Andrew: we have looked at damming up the river, the amount of water trying to catch is huge.

Michelle: questioned - what about Pakowhai?

Phil: we look at that area and the only option is to move those three properties; the stopbanks won't work in that area.

Katerina: If we drench the catchment area, it will slow the river, we won't need to catch areas. Have we looked at that option?

Lawrence: We will look at having another hui in a few weeks. Speak with the triparted group.

Karakia closing – Charlie.

Next week 4<sup>th</sup> of March is the next triparted meeting.