# Omāroro Community Reference Group Minutes

**Meeting took place Room, Gate A, Massey Wallace Street, 6.00pm, Thursday 16 January 2020**

**Attendees**

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| **Ex-officio members**   * Jane Black (Chair) * Dan Ormond (Community Liaison Person) | **Community Representatives**   * Jock Phillips * Suze Baird * Graham Caire * Steve Cromb * Peter Graczer * Richard Thornton * Jane Loughnan * Graeme Aitken * Megan Stothart * Ken Allen * Eleanor Laban * Jonathon Hendry * John Bishop * Alex Gray * Carl Savage * Susan Cook * Colin Taylor * Mary Hutchinson * Marjory Embleton * Victor Anderlini * Judy Hutt * Carol Comber * Peter Cooke * Tom Willams * Fiona MacKinnon | **Representatives**   * Richard Hickman (Beca) * Bec Ramsay (WCC) * Arne Ganseman (BPC) * Gareth Penhale (WWL) * Bob Barber (WCC) * Peter Hamilton (WCC) |

**Apologies**

Emma Paisley, Freda Harper, Sharon McGavin

**Welcome and introductions**

Jane welcomed everyone

Jane noted that there were a number of new attendees and asked them to complete a copy of the Code of Conduct and return it to her. A register of attendees was also circulated.

**Minutes and matters arising from previous meeting (5 November 2019)**

Steve Cromb asked that it be clarified under the minutes from the previous meeting it should read … parking removal on the western side of Wright Street. (not eastern side).

Carol mentioned that she had been working with Joel on the Howard St garden and now had a small group interested in managing the garden with fruit trees.

Dan provided an update on the Hargreaves to Papawai walking track. The track has been marked out and WCC would consult with the Friends of the Papawai Reserve before looking to formally approve the track.

**Omāroro Reservoir Pipelines Update**

* **Wallace Street –** work has started on relocating the existing stormwater pipe between Hargreaves Street and Finlay Terrace to allow for the bulk watermain to be installed. This work is expected to take a week, then the bulk watermain work will start – this section will take about three weeks. Further along Wallace Street separate crews are working on drinking and wastewater replacements.
* The **valve chamber in Howard Street** is expected to be complete next week and the road fully reopened. It will remain open untihe bulk main works reach the street. Once this chamber is complete work will start on the remaining chamber in Hargreaves Street.
* Mary asked if there had been any fish found during the stormwater work and what the protocol is if any are found. Arne confirmed no fish had been found, but undertook to raise it with the contractors at the next toolbox talk to remind contractors if fish are found to let Arne know and he will advise Richard and the ecologist.
* Arne was asked if the additional stormwater relocation would delay the project and increase the length of the diversion. He assured attendees that it would not.
* Dan provided a brief update on behalf of Suzanne on the communications over recent weeks, including:
  + She is working with Wallace Street individuals and their families to enable everything from care worker visits to daily ‘doggy day care’ pickups, house renovation and house moving to happen.
  + A lot of residents who have been in touch are shift workers – nurses, doctors etc at the hospital – so sleeping during the day is challenging. We’re doing as much as we can to move pumps and equipment away from shift workers’ houses. People are being very understanding about the need for the work to be done, and providing positive feedback on the communications they are receiving and their engagement with workers on site.
  + Following noise complaints Suzanne has organised for the fencing or coning off metal plates at night to prevent cars driving over them
  + Traffic management staff are ensuring residents have access to and from the street and letting in tradespeople, couriers, care workers, AirB&B and motel guests, and residents’ visitors. They are also ensuring safe pedestrian access is maintained.
  + Finlay Terrace residents currently have vehicle access via the John Street end of Wallace Street – when the work site moves along Wallace Street their access will be maintained from the Hargreaves Street end.

**Wallace Street businesses**

* + The dairy has access for deliveries from the John Street end of Wallace Street or via Howard Street.
  + The motel also has access for guests and deliveries.
  + The tea shop has closed down for January as most of its customers are Massey and Wellington High School students.
  + The Mt Cook Café next door has a similar customer base, but is benefitting from having hungry construction workers nearby.

**Wright Street residents**

* + In the first week of operation residents raised concerns about vehicles, including buses, not respecting the new 30kph limit on Wright Street. Metlink has been working to educate drivers.
  + A traffic counter outside one resident’s house has been an electronic (silent) alternative to reduce noise (attached to a power pole).
  + Tactile pavers have been installed on both sides of the Wright Street temporary pedestrian crossing, as well as ramps for easy access from the kerb.

**Other residents**

* + The orange flags (bunting) in Hargreaves Street are disintegrating and blowing around. We have asked our sub-contractors to ensure any bunting they use on site is in good condition and not going to cause any environmental issues.
  + There have been several issues with Parking Enforcement which she is working with Council to resolve.
  + Traffic management around the diversion has been tweaked in response to observations and input from residents and road users. For example, the 50kph signs near the Hargreaves and Wallace Street intersection have been moved to ensure drivers coming down the hill do not speed up ahead of the pedestrian crossing.
  + In response to a request from Metlink, cats’ eye markers and hit sticks were installed around the Hargreaves/Wallace Street corner to ensure bus drivers avoid the power pole.
  + The clothing bins by the bus hub have been moved for the duration of the diversion after safety concerns were raised about the trucks emptying them.
  + An additional electronic sign has been installed on the Brooklyn Hill to ensure drivers are aware of the diversion before they enter Bidwell Street and are encouraged to avoid Wallace and Wright Streets.
  + Traffic management staff are alerting Suzanne to large freight vehicles using Wright Street instead of Adelaide Road and she is following up with their companies

**Discussion**

There was a general discussion around a range of issues and concerns about the diversion and the impact on residents. Issues raised and agreed actions included:

*Vehicle Speed on Wright Street including buses*

* The main issue for many residents is that vehicles are not adhering to the 30km/h speed limit, this is despite increased signage and discussion with the bus operators.
* Peter H advised that he has asked WCC traffic engineers to look at the issue and work with the Contractor on improvements.
* He has also raised it with Police to look at the options of increased enforcement
* The project team and WCC will work together over the next week on possible solutions.
* Major changes will be communicated to residents prior to being implemented where possible

*Instalation of a centre line*

* Currently there is no centre line on Wright Street. Peter Hamilton is checking to ensure the road has sufficient width for this before one is installed.

*Parking*

* There is still coupon parking at the southern end of Wright Street, residents and WCC had expected all of this to be removed and replaced with resident only parking. Arne to look into.
* There is still parking signage on the western side of Wright Street causing confusion. Arne agreed to look into it and ensure it is removed.
* EV charger, there are now yellow lines adjacent to the EV charger, Peter Hamilton noted that the installation had been contracted before the diversion had been confirmed. However, the charger will be covered so it is clear it is not operational
* Parking on side street, Arne assured everyone that parking will continue to be monitored to ensure a balance between resident and coupon parking.

*Pedestrian Crossings*

* There are concerns about the visibility and safety for crossing the street at the current bus stop and at the South end of the Street.
* Peter Hamilton noted that an option could be the creation of a pedestrian refuge in the middle of the crossing.
* Further issues where raised about crossing at the southern end of Wright Street. The project team agreed to look at the options to make the crossing from the West side of Wright St (Southern end) to the South side of John St safer/easier. Currently residents advise they will not use the existing temporary crossing and will instead brave the ‘stopped’ traffic coming down John St.

Westland/Hutchinson/Wright Street intersection

* It was noted that the current markings are confusing and many vehicles are not observing the stop signs. Further, with the position of the stop line on Westand it makes it difficuilt to enter the street from Wright Street driving south.
* Arne noted that he had a line marking team onsite tonight at 7.30pm and they would make sure the existing markings were clear.
* The project team will work with WCC on ways to improve the intersection.

*Hargreaves/Wright Street intersection*

* It was reported that the view south is obscured by a tree. Arne agreed to look into it and have the tree pruned if necessary.

*Rubbish/Couriers etc*

* It was reported that *r*ubbish trucks are not collecting Wallace Street rubbish and are collecting Wright Street rubbish during the morning peak. Arne agreed to contact WCC again.
* Some concern that courier and other deliveries are not being made to Wallace Street. Arne agreed to contact couriers again.

*Other issues*

* Resident with dementia – concern was raised about her welfare. It was noted that the project was aware of her needs and the work done by fellow residents to assist her.
* Water pressure at top of Hargreaves – Arne noted that he was aware of the issue and it was being investigated. Initial testing shows the pressure in the main is OK, so further work required.

**Omāroro Reservoir Updated**

Richard provided a brief update. Final tenders have now been received from the two shortlisted tenderers, these are now being evaluated and will then be referred to WCC with a recommendation. Work is still on track to start in August with the removal of the trees ahead of the nesting season.

**Minor Consent Variations**

It was agreed given the amount of time spent on the diversion discussion, to hold this item to the next meeting.

**2020 Meeting Dates**

Jane circulated the proposed dates for the first half of 2020, these were agreed and will be posted to the website.

**Alternative Sites for disposal of excavated material**

Alex Gray and Carl Savage (Greater Brooklyn Residents Association) outlined their Association’s concerns about the impact trucks disposing of the rock from the reservoir will have on the Brooklyn Village and also the wider impact on the landfills. They asked the project to consider alternative ways of using the fill. These include a proposal to further raise the level of Liardet Park in Berhampore.

Richard explained that a range of alternative options had been looked at for the disposal or reuse of the rock, and these will continue to be looked at with the contractor once they have been appointed.

Bob noted that gaining consent for alternative disposal sites can be challenging especially if they are in residental areas because of the noise and dust, so it is not straight forward. He also noted that both the existing private landfills adjacent to the Southern Landfill also need a quantity of clean fill like this rock as this to cover their other hardfill.

Richard agreed to bring a report to the March meeting on the options and the consideration already undertaken on the option of raising of Liardet.

**Next Meeting**

6.00pm, 12 February 2020

**Meeting closed at 7.35pm.**

Mary Hutchinson also wanted to acknowledge Susan Cook for filling her role as a representative of the Papawai Stream Group while she was away for the last six months.