# Omāroro Community Reference Group Minutes

**Meeting took place Executive Suite, Gate A, Massey Wallace Street, 6.00pm, Wednesday 25 May 2022**

Meeting opened at 6.00pm

**Attendees**

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| **Ex-officio members** * Jane Black (Chair)
* Dan Ormond (Community Liaison Person)
 | **Community Representatives** * Peter Cooke
* Mary Hutchinson
* Frances Forsyth
* John Bishop
* Steve Cromb
* Colin Taylor
* Frieda Harper
* Judy Hutt
* Victor Anderlini
 | **Representatives*** Bob Barber (WCC)
* Kate Brown (WCC)
* Paul Andrews (WCC)
* Paora Tukapua (HEB)
* Paul Reid (HEB)
* Russell Obee (HEB)
* Gareth Penhale(WWL)
* Richard Hickman (Beca)
 |

**Apologies**

Frank Cook, Eleanor Laban

**Apology**

Jane apologised for the need to postpone the meeting from 12 May due to COVID and acknowledged that the new date did not suit everyone.

**Notice of General Business**

Judy asked that the configuation of the road end and parking for Rolleston Street be added to Agenda

**Minutes and matters arising from previous meeting (10 February 2022)**

The minutes were received.

**Contractor Update**

Paul R started his update with an acknowledgement of the tragic death of Nakia Wall in a workplace accident within the Pipe Tunnel. He noted that there is currently a Worksafe investigation into the accident, but that it could be twelve months before the findings are released. Paul thanked those community members who attended the blessing and those who had sent messages of support.

Progress

• Successfully poured the first half of the roof, this was slightly larger than ½ so the second pour should be shorter in duration

• Removed the form work from the first half of the pour

• Moved the scaffolding from under the first half of the roof to the second half

• Completed the stormwater work in Rolleston Street

• Built two chambers for the Bell Road reservoir connection and completed the

connection work

• Installed pipework in the reservoir and pipe tunnel

• Installed the permanent stairway on the inside of the reservoir. This will be used in

the future for maintenance access.

Paul noted that as part of the conditions to notify the CRG of any consent breaches that he had two to raise:

* On the Sunday following the roof pour an excavator was used on site for some environmental protection, causing noise. He apologised for this and noted that it was not necessary to do the work on a Sunday. Crews have been reminded of the requirements
* A tree root of the large Eucalyptus had been cut during the excavation for the Bell Road pipework. A WCC aborist had inspected the tree and did not believe that this had affected the stability or viability of the tree.

Francis noted that Papawai Stream running through the worksite was also a breach. Paul acknowledged that yes there was a further breach – the stream running through the site did mean the sediment ponds were now in breach due the inability to manage and treat the sediment.

Upcomming works

• Pouring the second half of the roof. This is currently scheduled for 12 July, with the pour following a similar timeline as the first roof pour

• Start installing the mechanical and electrical components into the pipe tunnel

• Once the roof and mechanical components are complete, we will start the

commissioning works to enable the reservoir to be handed to Wellington Water

later in the year, after which it will be operational. It will take 2-3 weeks to fill and empty the reservoir. This will be reservoir will be filled three times.

• Completing the walls at the entrance to the pipe tunnel

• Starting back filling around the pipe tunnel and the reservoir. This will use the

 stockpile on the lower field. The excess fill will be removed from site

• Building of the access track from the top of Rolleston Street to the pipe tunnel.

Judy asked how long it will take to reinstate he playing fields and if it will be dusty. Paul explained that backfilling starts in October and the project will do what it can practically to reduce the dust. The project expects to complete the lower playing field in February and upper field April 2023.

Carol askedwhen the Bell Road Reservoir will be built. Gareth explained that WWL and WCC are still working through the options.

Colin asked if MacAlister Reservoir will be cleaned following the commissioning of Omāroro. Gareth/Richard explained that they were not aware of the operational plans, but there has always been an intention to do this once Omāroro has been commissioned. He also asked about the condition of the pipes and HV cables under the park and if they will be replaced. Richard undertook to follow up with WWL about the condition of these pipes. (Note: WWL advised that the pipes have been assessed and do not need replacing so will not be done before reinatatement of the field.)

Finally Paul asked for initial feedback on a proposal to use truck and trailer units for the removal of residual fill at the end of the project. Currently the consent specifies trucks only which would equate to 3,500 truck movements. If trucks and trailers are used this would reduce the number of movements to 2,000. Peter asked about whether Rolleston Street could cope with the weight of these trucks – and noted that there already appeared to be unevenness in the road. It was agreed that the issue would be discussed at the next CRG, but that any questions or comments could be provided to Russell in the meantime. **Papawai Stream Study**

Kate provided an update on the progress on the Papawai Stream Study and the WCC committment to undertake a Full Catchment Study – from Asquith/Connaught down to the scruffy dome. Uki Dele, WWL Chief Adviser Stormwater, has been asked to pull together the scope of the study in consultation with WCC and the Papawai Stream Group. The goal is to have the scope confirmed by August. Once the study has been completed it is expected to identify work that will require either operational or capex funding that will need to be considered as part of the WCC budgeting process.

**Papawai Stream Works**

Mary showed a video of the tuna (eel) recently observed in the stream, before reading out the Papawai Stream Group’s recent letter to the editor of the Dominion Post setting out the group’s concerns at the proposed removal of sediment from the stream and its impact on habitat and spawning. She expressed the group’s concern that they had not been appropriately consulted about the works nor had their alternative methodology been independently assessed. Frances expressed her view that the proposed works could lead to extinction of fish species within the catchment. She also shared the group’s concern that the project had allowed the stream to deteriote to the point that the remedial work was required and that due care had not been taken.

Colin asked if the project boundary had been increased to allow for the proposed work. Gareth explained that the stream remains outside of the Designation but because the stream was now flowing into the site and compromising the sediment treatment pond’s ability to manage site sediment, HEB had applied to GWRC for permission to clear the sediment on behalf of the project. For the work to proceed GRWC needs to approve the Method Statement and WCC as the landowner grant access to the stream.

The group asked that these minutes reflect their disapproval of the work proceeding and the need for independent assessment to be undertaken of the proposed methodology and its impact on the ecology of the stream.

**General Business**

Judy asked about the proposed parking at the top of Rolleston Street and if it will be desginated as residents parking or not. Paul Andrews explained that the final designation of the parks will need to go through a WCC Parking Resolution procress. This will include a recommendation on what the designation of the parks will be. This process is open to public submissions. Paul/Kate undertook to advise the group if this is notified prior to the next meeting.

Judy also asked if HEB are currently undertaking the condition assessment of Rolleston Street as required by the consent. Paul explained that they currently conduct at least a monthly assessment and address any issues when they become aware of them. She raised a specific concern about the footpath in the area where Wellington Pipelines had been completing their stormwater works. Paul undertook to look into it.

Steve asked about the Hargreaves Street connection works. Richard explained that it was the key connection to allow the reservoir to be filled. The connection is scheduled for 31 May and will involve an earlier than usual start which residents have been notified of.

Steve also noted that the meeting being on a Wednesday (rather than usual Thursday) did mean some residents were unable to attend.

**Next Meeting**

* Thursday 11 August 2022 (the location and format would be determined closer to the time when the COVID restrictions are known)

**Meeting closed at 7.35pm**