# Omāroro Community Reference Group Minutes 9 February 2023

**Meeting took place on site at Massey University, 7C09, Block 7**

Meeting opened at 6.00pm

**Attendees**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Ex-officio members**   * Jane Black (Chair) * Dan Ormond (Community Liaison Person) | **Community Representatives**   * John Bishop * Peter Cooke * Mary Hutchinson * Colin Taylor * Carol Comber * Steve Cromb | **Representatives**   * Bob Barber (WCC) * Kate Brown (WCC) * Paul Reid (HEB) * Russell Obee (HEB) * Gareth Penhale (WWL) |

**Apologies**

Richard Hickman (Beca)

**Notice of General Business**

Jane asked for items of General Business, Judy asked if the removal of the garage could be discussed. Jane declined as the issue had been widely discussed at previous CRG meetings and would be more approapte at other forums.

**Minutes and matters arising from previous meeting (9 November 2022)**

Jane noted that the copy of the minutes circulated needed the date added.

The minutes were received.

Jane reported that she had followed up with GWRC about their attendance at these meetings. She reported that their response was that they did not have the resources to attend. Mary expressed the stream group’s disappointment and said she would raise it with the GWRC. Jane also agreed to raise it with GWRC. Peter asked if GWRC had a role in the management of the streams, Kate confirmed they did.

Mary asked about dust on Rolleston Street – Paul said he would cover it in the contractor update.

**Contractor Update**

Paul R provided an update of progress since the last meeting:

* + Reservoir commissioned and in service on 12 December, which was important to occur prior to summer water restrictions coming into place. Otherwise it would have had to wait until April
  + Back filling around the reservoir is continuing, about ½ way. Still using stored material from the lower field which should be fully removed by end of February. Reinstatement of the lower field would then start with the installation of the irrigation and drainage. Field expected to be seeded in April.
  + Backfilling to the top of the reservoir expected to be completed by end of March
  + Grasscrete access way up to the pipetunnel due to be done over the next three weeks, then the road end on Rolleston Street will be completed.
  + Trucks will be starting to bring top soil and other material in in preparation for the planting
  + Paul noted that dust suppression work would continue
  + The Dorking Road access track is no longer needed, provision will be made for the access track up from the top of Rolleston Street to be able to take a crane in the event of an emergency. Planting will be done where vegetation has already been removed
  + Planting would be done over winter, the plants have been growing in a nursery over the past 2 years
  + Site office is being progressively removed, with ½ top level already removed.

Peter asked about the opening and why community members had not been invited. Gareth explained there had been a small blessing and a WCC Councillor visit. The official opening and handing the area back to the community would take place once the reinstatement had been completed.

Mary asked what the reinforcing material (GeoGrid) being used to retain the slopes was made of. Paul noted it was plastic. There was a discussion as to whether this potentially leaches into surrounding soil over time, Bob said this was unknown. Colin Taylor said when it is buried it is stable.

Mary asked for the final Ecology report on the un-named tributary of the Waitangi Stream (top of Rollestin Street) to be distributed. Russell undertook to do this. She also noted that there was a requirement for the planting in the stream to be monitored and reported on after three months. Kate noted that WCC was checking the stream regularly and she would ask the Ranger to prepare a report. This would be shared with the stream group. Mary also noted disappointment that there was no requirement for fish monitoring.

**Parking**

Kate noted that with the work on the road end and the removal of the residents’ car park there had not been a final resolution of the parking around Prince of Wales Park. This would be done separately and there would be consultation with the community.

**General Business**

Peter congratulated the project team on completing the reservoir in 2 years 3 months.

Steve asked about the health of the plants planted after the fire. Russell and Kate both noted that they have checked on them regularly and they appear to be flourishing.

Colin tabled a letter to Frank Cook from WCC apologising for their error in stating that the drawings of the proposed reinstatement of the end of Rolleston Street with the removal of the garage were not part of the resource consent, rather they were part of the wider project document. Letter can be accessed [here](https://www.wellingtonwater.co.nz/projects/omaroro-water-reservoir/?tab=3) under the Community Reference Group documents, in the 9 February 2023 meeting folder.

**Next Meeting**

* Thursday 18 May 2023

**Meeting closed at 7.05pm**