

JOBS FOR NATURE

Horowhenua Freshwater Management Unit Water Quality Interventions Governance Group Meeting

Tuesday 9th May 2023 2023, 6:07 pm, Horowhenua District Council and via Zoom

MINUTES

In Attendance

Governance Group: Rachel Keedwell (Co-Chair), Sam Ferguson, Bernie Wanden, David Allan, Dean Wilson (via Zoom), Bryan Smith, Di Rump (via Zoom).

In attendance: Shannon Johnston, Jon Roygard, Logan Brown, Aoife Broad, and Lisa Gooch.

1 Welcome

Dean opened the meeting with a karakia, Rachel welcomed everyone to the meeting followed by a round table of introductions.

2 Apologies

Apologies were received from Clinton Hemana (Co-chair), Siobhan Karaitiana, Quentin Parr, Jonathan Procter, and Daniel Haigh.

3 Conflicts of interest

No new conflicts of interest have been added.

That the Conflicts of Interest be noted and managed appropriately and that each Governance Group member confirms their conflict of interests by email, if they have not already done so, within two weeks of this governance group meeting to the project administrator.

ACTIONS:

- David Allan to note any COI's if required in the COI register.

4 Minutes of the previous meeting

The draft minutes from the 13th December 2022 and 28th February 2023 meetings were provided.

RESOLVED: The Governance Group accepts the meeting minutes from the 13th December 2022 and 28th February 2023 meetings.

Bernie/Sam
CARRIED

5 Project update – quarter three report

Logan provided an update on the work undertaken during the Q3 reporting period and how this compared to the deliverables in the annual work plan.

During March the technical experts engaged for the project were hosted at Kohuturoa Marae which included a visit to the wetland complex farm in the afternoon.

There was a general discussion around the tracking of the work programme. One of these being the consenting process and budgets. The requirements for consenting will see higher costs for consenting than those that had been budgeted for. Some of these requirements relate to potential stream length loss, identification of natural wetlands within the wetland complex property etc. These costings are to come through to the Governance Group in a June 2023 meeting (yet to be booked in). An increase in consenting costs will result in less funding being available for the construction of the wetland itself. There was a question if there was the potential for MfE to provide additional funding for the wetland project. It was noted that this had been a risk throughout the project and a question that has been raised a few times from internal and external parties as to the ability to fund the construction of the wetland within the budget. We need to communicate how the change in consenting costs, additional land purchase and availability of budget for construction has come about.

There was discussion around needing to understand the wider existing drainage issues within the catchment and how potentially we could get this water into the wetland complex for treatment. The flood model that is created for the wetland complex project will be one of these pieces of information.

RESOLVED: The Governance Group accepts the quarterly report (Annex B) for submission to the Ministry for the Environment.

Dj/Rachel
CARRIED

ACTIONS:

- The project team are to submit the Q3 report through to the Ministry for the Environment.
- Project team to organize a meeting in June 2023 to present consenting costs.

6 Frequently asked questions

A brief discussion was held on the FAQ's that had been circulated with the meeting pack. These FAQ's are to be placed onto the webpage for the project.

Additional FAQ's to be worked on:

- Why poison the trees along the Arawhata Stream?
- Hōkio Beach Road drain, will the proposed wetland treat this?

RESOLVED: The Governance Group receives for information the FAQ's. These can be updated as required. Any new FAQ's and associated answers are to be circulated to the Governance Group prior to placing them onto the website.

CARRIED

ACTIONS:

- Include feedback received from the Governance Group into the FAQ's.
- Place FAQ's onto the project webpage.
- Start to develop answers to the additional FAQ's.

7 Nursery proposal

Logan introduced the item with Dean adding the finer details for the proposal. This included the ability to be able to eco-source plants from Waiwiri and the Horowhenua area. This means that the plants are adapted to the conditions that they would be planted into. The development of the nursery would be funded through Jobs for Nature (DOC funded).

There was a question if the infrastructure to be used in the nursery was permanent in placement. All the equipment is movable if required although ideally would be great if it was permanent. The proposal would result in the ability of the nursery to potentially provide plants through to the wetland project as well as through to other projects, contracts etc.

The proposal is for the relocation of an existing nursery, which has a current lease which is due to expire.

The project team are to continue with due diligence for the nursery proposal, including but not limited to:

- Water availability;
- Deed of Funding requirements;
- Covenants;
- Planning including District, Regional and National Policy documents.

RESOLVED: The Governance Group receives the project scope for information on a without prejudice basis. The Governance Group directs the project team to undertake due diligence regarding water availability and planning requirements of the District and Regional Plans (including higher planning documents) for a nursery development, and the Deed of Funding requirements.

Sam/Bernie
CARRIED

8. Land lease update

A verbal update was provided on the lease process that was being run for the land. The new lease would be effective from the 1st June 2023.

During the tender process for the new lease arrangement a phone discussion was held with a member of the RDA that they are aware that the agreement to use the land was time bound with the existing lessee. However, that they would continue to advocate to be able to use the existing site for longer. It was noted that it would be over to the lessee found as part of the tender process as to whether they wished to continue the current relationship that RDA has with the current lessee.

9 Consenting update

Shannon provided a verbal update on the consenting process. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



ACTIONS:

- A letter is to be written to the Minister from the Governance Group to update him on the project and that the Fast Track application has been lodged.

9. Project risk register

An updated version of the project risk register was presented.

10 Health and Safety

Future meetings will have various Horizons Hazard Management Plans (HMP's) brought to the Governance Group.

No health and safety incidents have been reported since the previous meeting.

11 Other business

There was a general discussion around needing to get more information out to the public regarding the project. This discussion included:

- Publication around a new lease arrangement and movement out of dairy farming;
- Development of the FAQ's;
- Potential for mock up drawings of what the wetland may look like;
- Fly overs of the farm as the project progresses;
- Press release around the project.

There was a discussion around the preparation of a 'from and to 'document. This is to cover of each of the phases of the project. The project team are to prepare a one pager for the Governance Group, this will include additional benefits of the project including but not limited to biodiversity, public engagement, public aspirations etc.

Rachel passed on the Governance Groups thanks to the project team for the work completed to date.

ACTIONS:

- Project team to organize with the Horizons comms team for a press release around the project.
- Sam to touch base with the Horowhenua Chronicle.
- Rachel to prepare a letter to the Minister providing an update on the project.

- Project team are to prepare a 'from and to' document to bring through to the Governance Group.

11. Karakia

Dean closed the meeting at 1950 with a karakia.

Action Summary

1	Note David Allan's COI in the COI register.	Logan
2	The project team are to submit the Q3 report through to the Ministry for the Environment.	Logan
3	Include a copy of the Q3 presentation in the minutes.	Logan
4	Organise a June 2023 Governance Group meeting.	Project team
5	Obtain written feedback from Rachel and Jon on FAQ's.	Logan
6	Place FAQ's on webpage for the project.	Project team
7	Organise a site visit for the Governance Group.	Project team
8	Organize with the Horizons comms team for a press release around the project.	Project team
9	Touch base with the Horowhenua Chronicle.	Sam
10	Prepare a letter to Minister providing an update on the project.	Rachel
11	Prepare a 'from and to' document to bring through to the Governance Group.	Project team
12	Pass on thanks to the project team from the Governance Group.	Logan


Appendix 1 - Register of Interests

JOBS FOR NATURE

Horowhenua Freshwater Management Unit Water Quality Interventions Governance Group

Register of Interests

Rachel Keedwell	
Position	Horizons Regional Council Chair
Responsibilities	Co-chairperson and voting member
Interests	NA

Sam Ferguson	
Position	Horizons Regional Council Councillor
Responsibilities	Voting member
Interests	Private home – [REDACTED] Levin 

Bernie Wanden	
Position	Horowhenua Mayor
Responsibilities	Voting member
Interests	Fellow Rotarian with Geoff Kane

Aoife Broad	
Position	Ministry for the Environment lead contact
Responsibilities	Non-voting member
Interests	

Di Rump	
Position	Muaūpoko Tribal Authority CE
Responsibilities	Voting member
Interests	NA

Clinton Hemana	
Position	Lake Horowhenua Trust Chair
Responsibilities	Co-chairperson and voting member
Interests	NA

Dean Wilson	
Position	Lake Horowhenua Trustee
Responsibilities	Voting member
Interests	NA

Rārite Mātaki	
Position	Executive Te Runanga o Raukawa
Responsibilities	Voting member
Interests	NA

Bryan Smith	
Position	Ministry for the Environment
Responsibilities	Non-voting member
Interests	NA

Jon Procter	
Position	MTA board member
Responsibilities	Voting member
Interests	

Quentin Parr	
Position	Te Runanga o Raukawa representative
Responsibilities	Voting member
Interests	