

Horowhenua Freshwater Management Unit Water Quality Interventions

Governance Group Meeting

Thursday 29th June 2023 2023, 6:01 pm, Horowhenua District Council and via Zoom

MINUTES

In Attendance

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

In attendance: Shannon Johnston, Logan Brown, Aoife Broad (via Zoom), Jason Jones, Rob van Duivenboden.

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, Jonathan Procter, Bernie Wanden, Jon Roygard, and Daniel Haigh.

3 Conflicts of interest

The only new COI to be registered are for Di as Chair of Horowhenua Takiwa Prototype.

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.

4 Additional agenda items

Two additional items are to be discussed in general business:

- Feedback from the last Community Stakeholder Group meeting; and
- An update on the hui that was held with Geoff Kane and Terisa Ngobi.

5 Minutes of the previous meeting

The draft minutes from the 9th May 2023 meetings were provided.

RESOLVED: The Governance Group accepts the meeting minutes from the 9th May 2023 meeting.

Di/Sam
CARRIED

6 18 month draft work plan

Logan talked through the draft work plan. There will be a carry forward from an underspend in the current financial year however, the actual amount will not be known until mid- July 2023. A provisional budget is to go through to MfE.

The title of the work plan is to be changed to the actual title of the project that includes the work in the wider Freshwater Management Unit.

There was feedback provided that prior to this project matters related to Lake Horowhenua were limited to MTA and the Lake Horowhenua Trust, as this project went wider it includes further parties. This is that the project includes the Ōhau and Waikawa catchments and the wider Freshwater Management Unit. Therefore this meant that the Governance Group was more inclusive however, there were different levels of interest for each of the projects in the overall project. This was reflected in the make-up of the Governance Group with two members from Muaupoko and two members from the Lake Horowhenua Trust of which one is co-chair. The layers of interest are complicated so we need to take care.

Although not all parties have the same interests they care about the health of Lake Horowhenua and its tributaries.

RESOLVED: The Governance Group receives the draft 18 month work plan. The draft work plan is to be submitted to the Ministry for the Environment to work through for finalisation within the project budgets. The finalised work plan is to be brought back to the Governance Group for approval.

Sam/David
CARRIED

ACTIONS:

- The project team are to submit the draft 18 month work plan through to the Ministry for the Environment.

7 Nursery

There was a general discussion on the nursery proposal after the completion of some of the initial due diligence by the project team. This discussion included:

- Provisions within the District and Regional Plans and those contained with various National Policy Statements;
- The Deed of Funding and the requirements within that including the covenant to be placed onto the wetland complex land (including the exclusion of commercial activities);
- The placement of a nursery/commercial enterprise in the connection between Lake Waiwiri and Lake Horowhenua wouldn't appear to fit within the landscape being created. Was there potential for the land off the end of Makomako Road to be used?;
- At the moment the focus should be on the project and were the plants for the project are sourced from is a separate contract;
- The proposal would be the movement of an existing nursery not the creation of a new nursery. There would be a commercial element with the proposal i.e. potential to sell plants to other projects in the area;
- The nursery would be established in a way that would allow all the equipment to be removed.

RESOLVED: The Governance Group does not accept the nursery proposal from MTA as talked to at the last Governance Group meeting.

Rachel/David
Abstained Di
Against Dean
CARRIED

RESOLVED: In principle the Governance Group supports a nursery proposal that is solely dedicated to the growing of plants for the project.

Rachel/David
CARRIED

8. Land lease update

A verbal update was provided on the new lease by Logan. The new lessee has taken over the farm. The new lease arrangement does include the house on Makomako Rd, which has seen the lease amount be raised slightly.

9. Consenting update

Shannon provided a verbal update on the consenting process. The Fast Track application has been accepted to enable the use of the Fast Track process. [REDACTED]

s 7(2)(g)

Rachel passed on her thanks to the project team for the work undertaken in getting an application accepted into the Fast Track process.

ACTIONS:

- Letters to be sent out to adjacent landowners on the Fast Track process and to contact the project with questions around the project.

RESOLVED: The Governance Group acknowledge and endorse the indicative timeframe the Project team are working to, including Horizons lodging the resource consent application with the expert consenting panel under the FFTCA in the last quarter of 2023. The project team proactively updates adjacent landowners to provide information around the Fast Track process.

Sam/David
CARRIED

10. Project risk register

The risk register was contained in the draft 18 month work plan. No additional risks were identified to be added to the register.

11 Health and Safety

Logan provided an update on the Working around Water Hazard Management Plan and the process (Vault) for reporting near missed, incidents etc.

There was a discussion around the development of site hazard management plans etc when the construction works on the property commencement. These plans will likely be similar to the processes and plans that are in place for the weed harvesting operation on Lake Horowhenua.

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

12 Other business

Dwellings on the property:

There was a general discussion of the buildings present on the property especially as the house on Arawhata Road is vacant with the changes on the lease arrangement. There was discussion as to whether there is the possibility to sub-divide some of the land to enable to the sale of one or both of the houses – subject to due diligence around any limiting factors on the ability to sub-divide. The project team is to undertake further work in this space and bring it back to the Governance Group.

Community Stakeholder Group hui:

Sam provided an update on the last Community Stakeholder Group meeting, noting the following feedback:

- We need to consider the treatment that the wetland provides at average but also other flows through the wetland. That is that the modelling also needs to considers the highs and lows of treatment (including the range of flows that the wetland will receive).

- There had been enquiries around monitoring of the soil health as part of the wetland development and whether this monitoring was required;
- That the Community Stakeholder Group will look to meet again in late July/early August to consider the updated designs and provide any feedback.

RDA meeting:

Sam had been invited to a meeting with Geoff Kane (RDA), and Terisa Ngobi (local MP). Topics raised by Geoff during the site visit to the Makomako part of the farm were:

- Advocating for local walkways for the northern area – connecting through from Kowhai park to Hōkio Beach Rd. Feedback was that the focus for the team at the moment is on the delivery of the wetland project and any developments on the property would need to ensure that they didn't interfere with the purpose of the project that being for water quality improvements.
- The ability for a land swap between some of the existing wetter land for some of the drier, higher class soils on the land the project owns. It was noted that this would remove the ability to achieve one of the projects goals of the connection between Lake Horowhenua and Lake Waiwiri.
- Geoff advocating for a permanent placement for the RDA, this is despite being aware the previous and current arrangement are with the lessees and not Horizons as the landowner.

If additional Governance Group meetings are required as we head towards lodgment of the resource consent applications these will be booked in between the scheduled Governance Group meetings.

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

ACTIONS:

- Project team are to investigate potential options for sub-division and sale of the dwellings on the property to increase funding available for the project.

13. Karakia

Dean closed the meeting at 2000 with a karakia.

Action Summary

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| 1 | Organise a site visit to the wetland complex for the Governance Group. | Logan |
| 2 | The project team are to submit the Q3 report through to the Ministry for the Environment. | Logan |

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|---|---|--------------|
| 3 | Investigate potential options for sub-division and sale of the dwellings on the property to increase funding available for the project. | Project team |
| 4 | Letters to be sent out to adjacent landowners on the Fast Track process and to contact the project with questions around the project. | Project team |

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] s 7(2)(a)

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	