



Otorohanga Community Board

AGENDA

13 October 2011

Members of the Otorohanga Community Board

Mr R Prescott (Chair)
Mrs EM Cowan (Deputy Chair)
Mrs AC Laws
Mr AG Ormsby
Mr PD Tindle
Mr DR Williams

Meeting Secretary: Mr CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor)

OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD

13 October 2011

Notice is hereby given that an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board will be held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Thursday 13 October 2011 commencing at 4.00pm.

6 October 2011

DC Clibbery
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

AGENDA

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PRESENT

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CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - 8 SEPTEMBER 2011

REPORTS

**Item-52 OTOROHANGA WASTEWATER RESOURCE CONSENT AND
UPGRADE UPDATE**

To: **Chairperson and Members
Otorohanga Community Board**

From: **Engineering Manager**

Date: **13 October 2011**

Relevant Community Outcomes

- Ensure services and facilities meet the needs of the Community
 - Manage the natural and physical environment in a sustainable manner
-

Executive Summary

This report is to update Members on the progress of the wastewater resource consent renewal application and the proposed wastewater treatment plant upgrading works.

Staff Recommendation

It is recommended that:

The report on the Otorohanga wastewater resource consent and upgrade update be received.

Report Discussion

Work on the proposed upgrading works for the wastewater treatment plant and the application for the resource consent renewal has been continuing and this report is to update Board Members on progress to date.

As reported previously, the existing resource consent expires at the end of April 2012 and therefore the application for the renewal must be lodged with Waikato Regional Council (WRC) by the end of October 2011.

MWH Consultants have been working on the application and have completed most of the investigation work. This has included an assessment of the existing condition of the Mangorongo Stream, the likely future impact on the stream from the discharge of the treated wastewater and the various options for meeting the desired effluent quality both short term and over the course of the new consent.

The Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE) is a major part of the application and the draft of this document is almost completed.

Consultation with interested or affected parties is also required as part of the consent application process and this commenced with the open day and hui on 20 July. Information on the proposal has been circulated to interested parties such as Waikato District Health Board, neighbouring Councils, OBA, Fish and Game NZ, Department of Conservation and adjoining property owners. Several of these have requested ongoing updates and a copy of the draft AEE for their comment prior to this being finalised.

Council engaged Chris Koroheke (Whariki Business Services) to prepare a Cultural Impact Assessment in conjunction with a working party consisting of Mana Kimura, Brian Henry, Gabriel Morgan and Weno Iti of Nehenehenui, Ngahuia Herangi (MMTB). The group have also worked closely with MWH and the draft of this CIA is now completed. The CIA forms part of the consent application.

The Resource consent application will be for three separate consents being:

- Discharge of treated effluent to water.
- Discharge to air (odour)
- Discharge to land (seepage).

The work is now well on target for the consent application to be lodged with WRC before the end of October as required.

Part of the proposed upgrading work is for the de-sludging of the oxidation ponds and to do this, the sludge which was removed in 2005 and is stored in geobags in a bunded area beside the ponds has to be removed so that the geobag site can be reused for the new de-sludging. The dried sludge is to be removed from the geobags and spread over and mixed in with the existing soil on the triangle of land leading into the oxidation ponds. To allow this work to be undertaken as part of the upgrading works, two separate resource consents are required from WRC. These are for the discharge of biosolids to land and discharge to air (odour). MWH have completed an AEE and applications for these consents and these are to be lodged with WRC on 7 October.

The designs for the upgrading of the oxidation ponds and treatment have been undertaken by Global Environmental Engineering (G2E) and these have been completed. The works have been divided into three separate contract packages and these have been advertised for tender with tenders closing on 17 October.

The three contract packages of work are:

Contract 969 – Earthworks

This contract is for the earthworks to raise and strengthen the embankments to the oxidation pond and to form a facilities platform at the inlet works area. The contract also includes removal of the dried sludge that has been stored in the Geobags and the disposal of the bags and pad liner so that the pad is available for further use. Some strengthening of the embankments to the wetlands is also included.

Contract 970 – Oxidation Pond

This contract is for various work to upgrade the oxidation pond, including:

1. Preparation of the Geobag pad ready for use.
2. Removal of about 7,000 cu m of accumulated wet sludge from the floor of the pond using a cutter dredge and pumping the sludge into Geobags for dewatering and storage.

3. Constructing a pumping station at the inlet area to take the surage from the two gravity lines from Frederick St and Westridge area.
4. Revising the inlet works.
5. Installing curtains in the pond to prevent short-circuiting between the inlet and the outlet.
6. Installing two rotating brush aerators.
7. Modifying the outlet structure to the pond.
8. Installing a new bypass manhole to restrict the flow to the wetlands.
9. Electrical works to upgrade the electrical servicing to the plant.

Council has purchased the two pumps for the pump station and a new brush aerator to replace one of the existing ones which is past repair. The second existing brush aerator is to be serviced and reused.

Contract 971 - Wetlands

This contract is for maintenance and improvement works to the wetlands. This work includes:

1. Replacing the inlet distributors to both the surface-flow and subsurface-flow wetlands.
2. Replacing the outlet collection system to both the surface-flow and subsurface-flow wetlands.
3. Strengthening the intermediate bunds in the surface flow wetland cells.
4. Weed management in all wetland cells.
5. Sludge drying and removal from one of the surface-flow wetland cells and replanting that cell.
6. Cutting channels through the gravel-beds of the subsurface-flow wetland cells.

There will be a degree of overlapping between the work in the three contracts and the Conditions of Contract require that the Contractors are to work together and avoid conflict.

Contractors are invited to submit tenders for one, two or all of these packages and Contractors may also offer a discount to their tender prices if they were to be awarded all three packages.

Some minor upgrading works are required at the Mangaorongo Stream outlet to replace the existing buried rock structure which is clogged and past remedial work. It is proposed that this work be undertaken separately and prices obtained from a couple of local contractors only.

Roy Chadwick
ENGINEERING MANAGER

Item-53 POTENTIAL STOPBANK WALKING TRACK

To: **Chairperson and Members
Otorohanga Community Board**

From: **Chief Executive**

Date: **13 October 2011**

Relevant Community Outcomes

- Ensure services and facilities meet the needs of the Community
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Executive Summary

Options in respect of establishing pedestrian access along the Otorohanga stopbanks are considered.

Staff Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. The report be received
2. Conduct of works to establish essential access from adjacent roads to the stopbanks that will allow people to walk along the grass of the stopbanks in their existing form is included for further consideration in the forthcoming budget estimates process.

Background

At the request of the Board further consideration has been given to the potential for establishing a means by which the public can use the stopbanks along the Waipa River as a pedestrian walkway, ideally along the full 3.7km length of the town side stopbanks from Phillips Avenue to Waipa Esplanade.

It is believed that the creation of such a walkway would provide a further recreational opportunity that could potentially be well utilised by residents.

This is not the first time that providing such access has been considered, but the previous exercise was focussed on the potential for a relatively high standard of walkway, and did not consider other more affordable options.

The following options have been considered at this time:

A fenced concrete footpath

This would provide a walking or running opportunity on a good surface that was free of stock and their droppings. Arrangements would need to be made to ensure that stock could readily move between the two sides of the stopbanks. One means of doing so would be providing permanently open breaks between sections of fenced path, but this would create nuisance for walkers in having to open and close more gates, and there is potential for damage to the stopbanks by cattle tracking at these crossing points.

Another alternative would be to provide a continuous fenced footpath, with temporary crossings (using hot-wire gates) through which stock could be periodically moved. This would benefit walkers, but would increase the requirements placed on the leaseholders of the stopbank land.

The likely cost of establishing such a footpath would be as follows:

1.8m wide footpath, 6 wire fence

6714m² of concrete footpath @ \$78 per m²* = \$523,000
7460m of fencing @ \$16 per metre = \$119,000
Gates, stiles, signs etc = \$10,000
Overheads = \$20,000

TOTAL = \$672,000

1.2m wide footpath, hot wire fence

4476m² of concrete footpath @ \$81 per m²* = \$362,000
7460m of fencing @ \$10 per metre = \$75,000
Gates, stiles, signs etc = \$10,000
Overheads = \$20,000

TOTAL = \$467,000

* Note: These are the contract rates in Councils current footpath contract. It seems likely that significantly lower rates could be obtained for projects of this scale.

A fenced grass walkway

This has similar advantages and disadvantages to the previous option, but avoids the cost of the concrete footpath, and as such the cost of establishment could be potentially reduced to less than \$100,000.

Such a footpath would however require significant maintenance to keep grass at an appropriate height without grazing.

If a relatively narrow walkway of 3 metres wide was created enclosed by hot wire fences, it would be assumed that the walking area within this could be mowed with two cuts of a typical ride-on mower. It is likely that mowing the full length of the walkway would take approximately 1 day. Depending on the standard of mowing required, it seems likely that the cost of such mowing would be between \$10,000 and \$15,000 per annum.

Whilst this option would be expected to yield lower overall cost than a fenced concrete footpath, it would clearly offer a lower level of service, and therefore does not appear to be particularly attractive.

An open grass walkway

By far the simplest and lowest cost option is just to provide the essential access from adjacent roads to the stopbanks, and allow people to walk along the grass of the stopbanks in their existing form, negotiating cattle and associated deposits as best they can.

The cost of providing the gates, stiles and signs required for this essential access is estimated to be \$7,300.

Flood Land Lease Issues

Giving the public permission to walk along the stopbanks has potential to interfere with the grazing of the stopbank lease lands. As such it would be expected that arrangements to permit such increased public access to the stopbanks could not be implemented until the end of the existing leases, which is in 2016. It is also possible that the inclusion of such greater public access rights might not be viewed positively by prospective future leaseholders.

It is nevertheless considered worthwhile to further explore the potential for such access in the future.

Dave Clibbery
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Item-54 REQUEST TO PLANT TREES

**To: Chairperson and Members
 Otorohanga Community Board**

From: Governance Supervisor

Date: 13 October 2011

Relevant Community Outcomes

- Manage the natural and physical environment in a sustainable manner
-

Executive Summary

A request has been received from the Otorohanga Lions Club for permission to plant 40 to 50 native trees in the Bob Horsfall Reserve.

Staff Recommendation

It is recommended that:

The Otorohanga Community Board grant permission to the Otorohanga Lions Club to plant 40 to 50 native trees in the Bob Horsfall Reserve as proposed in their letter dated 27 September 2011 and that the Club be given approval to continue its involvement in the development of the Reserve in accordance with the Management Plan and in consultation with Council's Community Facilities Officer.

Report Discussion

The Otorohanga Lions Club has requested permission to plant 40 to 50 native trees in the Bob Horsfall Reserve. The trees would be larger grade maturing forest trees such as Rimu, Tawa, Miro and Titoki and it is proposed these would be planted and staked in isolated gaps in the existing forest where the microclimate suits the species. The species planted would be in accordance with the Reserve Management Plan.

The Otorohanga Lions Club would like to continue their involvement in the development of the Reserve and retain the option to plant a tree in the Reserve when one of their current or past members dies.

Colin Tutty
GOVERNANCE SUPERVISOR

Item-55 OCB MATTERS REFERRED FROM 8 SEPTEMBER 2011

**To: Chairperson and Members
 Otorohanga Community Board**

From: Governance Supervisor

Date: 13 October 2011

Executive Summary

1. CHAIR & MR ORMSBY

8 September 2011

- i. To report back to the Board following discussion with the Property owner of land adjacent to the District Library.

GENERAL

