

Minutes of Meeting

Draft

Secretary email:
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**Meola Stream Community Liaison
Group**

Date of Meeting: 11 August 2022

Meeting Number 21

Attendees:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Affiliation/Interest</u> |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Alistair Shanks | Secretary/Chair |
| Shalini Sanjeshni | Watercare |
| Xenia Meier | Watercare |
| Max Blackmore | Watercare |
| Tom Scott | Watercare |
| Moana Williams | Watercare |
| Karen Melville | Ghella Abergeldie JV |
| Nick Vigar | Healthy Waters |
| Dianne Pomare | Maungarongo Kura |
| Christina Robertson | Albert Eden Local Board |
| Paul Whitefield | Urban Ark |
| Deb Shaw | HOBANZ |
| Sel Arbuckle | STEPS |
| Freddie Sherwin | STEPS |
| David Rees | STEPS |

Apologies:

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Peter Wilson | Watercare |
| Bojan Jovanovic | Watercare |
| Tame Te Rangi | Chair Mana Whenua Kaitiaki Forum |
| David Abbott | St Marys Bay Association |
| Elizabeth Walker | STEPS - Chair |
| Pat and Dennis Prescot | STEPS |
| Andrew MacKintosh | STEPS |
| Peter Brice | MAGS |
| Fraser Hilton | HOBANZ |

Venue: Room 541, Eden Park

| NO. | ITEM | ACTION |
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1. Minutes of Meeting on 5 May 2022

In section 4.1, second paragraph, 2012 should read 2021, and the fifth paragraph should start with the word "There". Subject to these corrections the minutes of the meeting held on 5 May were approved as a correct record. This was moved by Paul Whitefield and seconded by Freddie Sherwin.

Following the meeting the secretary was reminded that a request had been made that under Matters Arising from the Minutes, Item 4, Retention of Top Soil especially at Lyon Avenue site, the wording in the minutes be replaced with: "GAJV have not stripped topsoil from the site but instead put a layer of geotextile material between the topsoil and the aggregate that has been brought in to be the construction platform. The construction platform will be

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removed at the end of the work and the existing topsoil will remain in place – although it will be squashed due to the weight of the platform. The topsoil will be aerating or new topsoil will be imported to plant into. In the footprint of the structures and temporary works these will be stripped of topsoil. We do not have enough space on site to stockpile this topsoil until the end of the work. This item can be closed off.”

The secretary has taken the liberty of including this amendment into the final minutes.

2. Matters Arising from Minutes

All the action items are ongoing except for the following:

Item 11-6 Effects of reduced stream flow on the environment.

Nick Vigar explained that the Meola Stream flow consists of base flow which is from the aquifers in the volcanic materials, day to day flows, which will be captured by CI, some of which is contaminated, and flood flows from large storms about four times a year which will not go into the CI but down the stream. The base flows and the large flows which are not captured by the CI will still provide the extra water and nutrients for the vegetation in the floodway.

This item can be closed out.

Items 18-1, 19-1, and 19-6 relating to Haverstock Road and daylighting.

Nick Vigar reported that a feasibility study has been done for the area and will be reported to the Local Board in the near future. This includes landscaping designs and a number of options and their costs.

Landownership and access are issues.

Diane Pornare reported that developers had encroached onto the Kura land and put in restrictive and to be paid for parking. People drive onto the Kura land, and roam around without first asking. This is unsatisfactory.

A further update is to be given on these items as a single action point in the future.

Item 20-1 Rubbish removal, at Norgrove.

This was discussed later in the meeting by Shalini.

Item 20-2 Report on Water Quality in the Meola Stream.

Nick Vigar reported that a water quality report had been prepared in 2010-2011 for the scoping of CI. It is thought to be a good report and the data today will not have changed much since 2010-2011.

The report can be accessed on line at:

<https://knowledgeauckland.org.nz/media/1692/tr2012-015-meola-catchment-2011-environmental-monitoring-report.pdf>

Item 20-3 Sand practices at the Golf Course.

Christina reported that the contractors at the course had been spoken to and it is hoped that there will be a change in their practices.

Item 20-4 Update on CI feeder pipes and network improvements.

This was covered in the presentation in the next item in the meeting.

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| 3. | Western Isthmus Water Quality Improvement Programme (WIWQIP) | |

A presentation and update was given by Nick Vigar and Tom Scott.

Overview of programme

The purpose of the WIWQIP was summarised. The programme was established in 2017 with the aim to reduce wet weather wastewater overflows, improve water quality at local beaches and enable growth. The programme will optimise the existing infrastructure and comply with the resource consents including the Mangere Wastewater Treatment Plant discharge consent. The target is to reduce wet weather overflows to two per year at overflow locations.

Programme of Work

The existing programme of work included the Central Interceptor which was previously extended from Western Springs through to Grey Lynn, with completion expected around 2026. In areas where stormwater networks exist, separation of properties was expected to bring early benefits. Funding for the programme is included in the Council Long Term Plan and also forecast in the Watercare Asset Management Plan. The 2017 proposed costing was \$1.824 billion in total, \$1.5 billion from Watercare which includes the Central Interceptor and \$325 million from Auckland Council. The project objective is to reduce the existing 219 spill locations down to 10 by 2028. This is by diversion of the overflows to the CI and separating in selected areas.

Because of Covid 19 delays, supply chain issues, inflationary pressure on materials and construction labour costs and shortages, as well as better knowledge of the work arising from detailed design, there is now a significant funding deficit across the programme. The new challenge is how to deliver the same water quality outcomes within agreed time frames and at an affordable price. Success of the programme will be measured by a significant reduction in the number and frequency of wastewater overflows.

A map was shown of areas of separation works. This included areas where separation works are already committed, separation works that will be undertaken before 2028, areas of separation works that will be undertaken after 2028 and areas where separation works are still being reviewed, being the Herne Bay and St Marys Bay catchments.

Lessons learnt from separation projects

Experience with other separation projects in Auckland has shown that they require extensive detailed investigations, the construction work can be very disruptive, and when completed they need ongoing validation and monitoring to ensure success is achieved and maintained. Some separation works undertaken in the 1990s are still requiring extra work to locate and remediate incorrect network cross connections. There are also challenges with achieving full separation of all properties in the Okau Bay catchment which was recently separated.

NO.

ITEM

ACTION

Best Practical Option

The original WIWQIP programme has been revised to ensure it can still be delivered in a reasonable timeframe and at a reasonable cost. The revised proposal includes an extension of the CI to Point Erin from Grey Lynn – this will achieve the same, or better, water quality outcomes than the original proposal within the 2028 committed timeframe. The CI extension will be more affordable than the escalated cost of the original proposal, which focused on early and widespread sewer separation. Sewer separation will continue to be an important tool across the isthmus, but the location and timing of work will change, and the programme will extend well beyond 2028. Ongoing separation post 2028 will ensure that stormwater is gradually removed from the CI, allowing for continued growth across the isthmus.

The revised programme will result in an estimated 3800 properties being separated compared to an original estimate of 4911. Various wastewater network upgrades will also take place, such as developed options in Motions, Grey Lynn, Mt Roskill and Owairaka catchments. Further upgrades in St Marys/Herne Bay, Westmere, Pt Chevalier and Carrington catchments are at the conceptual stage and may take longer. With all the proposed work the peak flows into the Central Interceptor are estimated to be less than 11% of the initial design flows.

A further benefit of the revised programme is the reduction in flows along the Orakei Main towards the Hobson Bay Tunnel and the Eastern Interceptor where there are capacity constraints that limit the passing of flows at Pump Station 64 in Orakei. A new but smaller Branch 5 sewer connecting the Herne Bay area to the proposed shaft at Point Erin will divert flows down the Central Interceptor improving the operation of the Orakei Main and Eastern Interceptor through to the Mangere Wastewater Treatment Plant.

St Marys Bay and Herne Bay

There are six Safeswim beaches in this area affected by wet weather overflows. The initial proposal to reduce overflows was for early and full separation with a local wastewater system upgrade 'Branch 5' providing significant storage to allow for restricted flows to be gradually pumped into the Orakei Main from a new pump station at Pt Erin. The risk with this proposal is that if separation is not completely successful, there could still be wastewater contamination.

The new proposal is to extend the Central Interceptor to Pt Erin and provide a smaller Branch 5 sewer upgrade with a gravity drop into the CI. This could be achieved closer to the proposed budget and would provide the same benefit as separation in terms of overflow reduction/water quality improvement. The wastewater pipe upgrade (Branch 5) in the revised option would be 750mm diameter instead of 2.1m diameter for the original because of the reduced requirement for storage. There would also be considerably less disruption to surrounding streets and properties during construction. The St Marys Bay tunnel would not need to store as much flow as this could be pumped into the CI and its storage capacity utilised, thus reducing the frequency of overflows from the St Marys Bay tunnel.

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The drop shaft into the CI is likely to be constructed in the vicinity of the Pt Erin Pool carpark area and not in the reserve, however this is subject to further design assessments.

The target for the maximum overflow frequency is still 2 per year. If this is not achieved, further separation works will be undertaken. This provides a more resilient method for being able to reduce overflows.

Future Separation Post 2028

There are some areas not connected to the Central Interceptor that will need partial separation pre-2028 to achieve the overflow reduction targets. Ongoing separation will also be necessary after 2028 to meet operational volume reduction targets.

Initially a public stormwater pipework will be provided in the road and all private properties already separated to their boundary will be connected into it. This will result in some quick wins. Separating into a stormwater network provides the most efficient way to undertake separation. Separation over time will then be ongoing.

In Herne Bay there are four or five catchments, and some have many private properties that are already separated to the road. These will be a priority as these situations will give the best flow reduction relative to cost. When property owners redevelop they are already required to separate their private drainage to the boundary and this will continue.

A slide including rainfall and wastewater flows showed that if the flow increases immediately with rainfall then there is direct entry of stormwater into the wastewater network.

4. Ghella Abergeldie Joint Venture Update

An update was given by Karen Melville.

The May Road shaft, 78m deep, has been evacuated and the concrete base poured. The base pour took 19 hours and used 55 concrete trucks.

There are 11 other sites under construction. The Mt Albert War Memorial Reserve site recently opened. The main CI tunnel has progressed 2000m and will be going under the harbour in September. The smaller boring machine Domenica is now on her third drive. She has driven Dundale Avenue to Haycock Avenue, completing it in June. Her next 1195m drive is from Dundale Avenue to Miranda Reserve in Blockhouse Bay Road.

A time lapse video was shown of the work at the Haverstock Road site. Secant piles are being prepared for use in the excavation of the 50m deep shaft.

Work has commenced at the Lyon Avenue site with temporary sewer diversion works and works for basalt excavation being prepared.

The following sites are to be opened:

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Western Springs in September, Rawalpindi in October and Norgrove in November.

There have been milestones with meet the contractor events at Haverstock Road and Mt Albert War Memorial Reserve, a coffee morning in a cafe for Norgrove, and in Camden Road a meeting in the cul de sac.

Concern was raised about flows and scouring at the Haverstock Road site. Karen agreed to talk with David Rees about these matters.

There was discussion about the pipes used for over pumping at Lyon Avenue. These three pipes are used for a temporary diversion until the new diversion pipes are completed in late August. Mats to suppress noise are being used on the site to reduce the noise at night.

5. Update by Watercare

A presentation was given by Shalini on progress in the Norgrove area.

A planting day was held on 21 June, to replace plants that may have failed from last years planting. 205 native trees were included. This was the first community event in the Norgrove area.

There is to be rubbish removal and disposal to a community facility planned for September 2022 in conjunction with the Golf Course. Skink relocation to a similar area will be undertaken at the same time.

The pest and weed control will start in early September. Further planting will be undertaken in June 2023.

Over all the work is tracking well and according to plan.

Sel described seeing a kingfisher in the area.

6. Update by STEPS

No update was given at the meeting but it was suggested that this could be circulated to the group at a later date.

7. Other Matters

7.1 Pathways at Lyon Avenue

Sel asked if the temporary pathway at Lyons Avenue could be made into the permanent pathway. Karen offered to look at this. It is part of the open space restoration plan that is still being discussed.

7.2 Safety at Night

Concern was raised about the safety at night on the walkway. There was discussion about possible options including warning signs.

NO.

ITEM

ACTION

7.3 Land Ownership at Norgrove

Sel reported speaking to one of the landowners in the area who agreed that the property was not his but that everyone dumped greenwaste there.

8. Next Meeting

This is to be held on Thursday 17 November.

Action List

| Meeting Number | Action | Responsibility | Response | Status |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 11-1 | Contractor to refer to Enhancement Plan for Plant Species | Watercare | | Ongoing |
| 15-1 | Consultation for above ground structures | Watercare | As required | Ongoing |
| 15-2 | Details for enhancement plans to be developed with group | Watercare | | Ongoing |
| 15-3 | Land ownership by creek in Norwood area to be determined | Council | Local Board | Ongoing |
| 18-1 | Springs at Haverstock Rd : - explore options to return to natural environment | Healthy Waters | HW to report back. | Ongoing |