

Notes from meeting: Tuesday 21 June 2022

Apologies: Kelly Gibson, Councillor Celeste Donovan,

Community members in attendance:

- Annette Bolton
- Paul Durie
- Sarah MacKay
- Annette McGowan
- Steve Merito

Council staff in attendance:

- Jane Davis, General Manager Infrastructure, Planning and Regulatory Services
- Helen Beaumont, Head of Three Waters
- Katy McRae, Head of Communications and Engagement
- Gary Watson – Manager, Community Partnerships and Planning
- Michael Croucher – Senior Programme Manager, Infrastructure, Planning and Regulatory Services
- Simon Makker, Senior Communications Advisor

Elected Members in attendance:

- Councillor Yani Johansen
- Alexandra Davids, Waikura Linwood Central Heathcote Community Board Chair
- Michelle Lomax, Waikura Linwood Central Heathcote Community Board Deputy Chair
- Jackie Simons, Waikura Linwood Central Heathcote Community Board Member
- Bebe Frayle, Waitai Coastal Burwood Community Board Member

Minutes: Katrina Keenan

- Warm welcome extended to all from Jane Davis, Chair with an outline of proceedings for the meeting given.

Project update

- Michael Croucher gave an overview of progress with the removal of media from the trickling filters.
- A significant amount of work has been successfully completed and, to date, concerns about the smell getting worse as material is exposed have not been realised.
- In the interest of Health and Safety, contractors would not be required to work over the long weekend (Matariki) and Council will be letting the community know this, so they don't expect to see contractors on site.

- Helen Beaumont gave an update on work done on the oxidation ponds which are continuing to perform poorly due to the poor quality effluent being discharged into them. Council is installing 16 new pumps and will commission the aeration basins beginning 28 June. This in turn will improve the quality of water going to the oxidation ponds.
- Waste water sampling is ongoing and the Medical Officer of Health is notified of all results for bacteria that exceed the standard values. The frequency of beach monitoring has been doubled, to twice each week, and results are all within standard values. Helen advised all test results were available on both the Council's waste water page, in addition to www.lawa.org.nz. Anyone concerned about water based and/or recreational activities in the area could view these results at any time.
- There were some concerns raised over odour levels from the oxidation ponds in addition to the accuracy of odour measurements being undertaken on both the trickling filters and the oxidation ponds. Helen advised that there was no longer a significant issue with odour coming from the trickling filter and it was hoped the second filter would provide a similar profile. The dominant source of odour is from the oxidation ponds. Interim work being done on the clarifiers into the aeration basins will improve the quality of the water once it enters the ponds. An approximate timeline of 1 month was given to note an improvement in water quality and approximately another month for this to flush through the six ponds; the odours will progressively decrease over this period.
- Continuous monitoring of air, wind direction and the water quality within the ponds is providing important data and measurements. Three monitors have been set up within the community, under the guidance of external experts (note a further 6 monitors are on order) and these are also providing additional data. The concerns of the public are noted and Council are committed to providing the best level of monitoring and data capturing possible. The community will be updated on this in the coming weeks.
- Monitoring of houses reporting paint discolorations is underway. A specialist firm is reviewing mould, dust and air samples. Results show that mould found is not a health concern and is of the same type and at the same levels as is found on houses all across the city. In terms of what is causing the paint discolouration, more investigation and monitoring is required, including expansion of the sample size.
- Regarding noise, Michael advised that while the chippers did generate some noise in the initial weeks, the placement of the second ramp will provide more shelter to residents, particularly on Shortland Street. Local residents have advised that currently the noise is not audible or disruptive.

Support package update

- Gary Watson outlined the delivery of the support packages and is currently reviewing whether the zone should be extended and if so how this could/should be done.
- Support for schools package was highlighted and Gary reiterated the role the Ministry of Education had in identifying which schools would receive support.
- Questions regarding the criteria and zoning for support packaging were directed to Gary. He responded outlining the various criteria. A map highlighting information such as complaints based on location, in zone/out of zone acceptance locations is being developed.
- Gary also invited the Group to discuss options for how the Council could help community events to continue while the smell was still an issue (eg paying for venue hire to hold events inside).

- Discussion around barriers to accessing support grants/resources, including language difficulties, feelings of isolation due to Covid 19 and the need to address wellbeing. Gary reinforced Council's commitment to supporting in any way feasible and was open to discussions around improving these outcomes. Annette McGowan highlighted an initiative planned for August designed to support residents in Bromley by taking them away on a fun day trip.
- Networks such as community groups, schools, Pegasus Health and partnership health workers etc were assisting to help educate the wider public on the grants/support packages available. Exploring additional networks could be useful in helping disseminate information in future.
- Paul shared a map showing a wider area where people are self-recoded their health and wellbeing concerns.
- Council is expecting an update from CDHB on setting up a Health Register within the next few weeks. Council staff will raise this matter again at a meeting with the CDHB this Thursday.

Communications and community meetings

- Katy McRae updated the group on the communications underway - regular blog and website updates, weekly electronic newsletters (also available in hard copy), information available at Eastgate Mall and at community provider locations.
- There was discussion on the importance of hard copy information delivered to properties as some people are not online/ well-connected in their communities. Suggestions for ways to reach people included utilising the Māori wardens, radio advertising, street posters in Southshore.
- Confirmation that we have organised three community meetings.
 - Tuesday 28 June 2:00pm - 3:30pm Bromley Community Centre
 - Tuesday 28 June 7:00pm - 8:30pm Bromley Community Centre
 - Thursday 7 July 7:00pm - 8:30pm South Brighton Community Centre, Beatty Street
- Council staff will also be organising a webinar - date TBC some time during week commencing Monday 11 July.
- The format of the meetings will be a project update (similar to the one given to the WWTP Communications reference Group) with time for questions afterwards.
- Community providers responsible for distributing grant will be present at the meeting. There was also a request for MSD to be present, this would be seen as reassuring for residents.
- Action for Katy to get some flyers advertising the meetings to Annette McGowan in time to be distributed at her Matariki event.

Meeting administration

- There will be no meeting next Tuesday 28/06 due to the public meeting. However efforts will be made to set up a meeting to specifically discuss zones.
- Council staff would welcome any help the Group can give to promote the community meetings through their channels - Simon Makker to share the Facebook post with group members.

Meeting closed 8:05pm

Note:

At the meeting Council staff said that CDHB and other agencies (Pegasus Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry for Social Development) would be present at the community meetings. We have now heard that they will be unable to attend on those dates, so instead we will be capturing community questions on their behalf at these meetings. We will subsequently hold community meetings with agencies present where these questions will be answered.