

## **Rāhui Pōkeka WWTP Upgrade**

**MINUTES** for the Meeting held on **TUESDAY, 4 April 2023.**

Start time 10:00 am

End time 10:30 am

### **Attending:**

Keith Martin – 3 Waters Manager WDC

Mathew Telfer- Contract Manager Watercare

Stephen Howard - Senior Consenting and Strategic Planner Watercare

Karlene Rhind - Senior Community Engagement Advisor WDC

Kahurimu Flavell - Oranga – Project Advisor, Taiao

### **Apologies**

Hori Awa – CEO Waahi Whaanui Trust

Glen Tupuhi - Chair Ngā Muka

Hazel Coalter - Infrastructure Development Manager

Tawera Nikau -

### **Agenda**

- Opening
- Introductions
- Review of Minutes
- Action List
- Mātauranga Māori updates
- General matters
- Closing

## **Purpose**

A general review of the Rāhui Pōkeka wastewater treatment plant was provided. The consent for the plant expires in 2029 and the LTP has funding to upgrade the WWTP within the same time.

With the Sleepyhead Development in Ohinewai requiring wastewater to be sent to a compliant plant, the WWTP requires updating sooner to support the development. The WWTP is currently non-compliant. The noncompliance exists in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile for ammoniacal nitrogen. To support the Sleepyhead development and improve environmental compliance, Council would like to have the early design and resource consent requirements agreed by June 2023 and the plant completed within the 2026 financial year.

With mana whenua insight and in the spirit of te ture whaimana, te tiriti o te waitangi and te mana o te wai and te mana o te awa, Council would like to continue the partnership to ensure that the future of the Rāhui Pōkeka WWTP Upgrade respects and considers mātauranga māori as we look to renew the resource consent and develop the concept design of the WWTP.

This group will come together regularly to discuss all aspects of the Rāhui Pōkeka WWTP Upgrade to enable alignment of views and the appropriate outcomes for all parties to be achieved. To enable this, Council has had funding bought forward and approved. \$2.1 million has been allocated towards concept design and resource consent.

## **Minutes**

Review of last minutes provided and accepted.

Review of actions, a number of actions remain unactioned and we await Waikato Tainui's advice.

Kahurimu Flavell kindly attended the meeting whilst we await the appointment of Taroi Rawiri replacement. Kahurimu asked the team to ensure the the requirements of te ture whaimana, te tiriti o te waitangi and te mana o te wai and te mana o te awa were incorporated into the thinking as this project developed. WDC provided the assurance that these agreements we the foundations of the project.

It was agreed that as Taroi was delegated as the appropriate person to represent the local Iwi and Hapu needs and concerns by Mana Whenua leaders, given his resignation, we should check back in with Mana Whenua as to who the right person/people to lead this korero on behalf of the Rāhui Pōkeka Iwi and hapu should be. We will await confirmation from within Waikato Tainui as to is best to represent tribal interests during this transition phase.

Draft concept plan of new WWTP has be received by Council. The Water Governance Board (WGB) has approved the release of funding for the purposes of furthering the resource consent, seeking funding from central government and to develop the design of an interim plant upgrade to ensure WWTP compliance whilst developing the longer term full plant design. This includes an optional analysis to assess the waste treatment options within the district.

The Action list was reviewed noting a number of items requiring Waikato Tainui completion and advise.

## Actions

Action	Who	Status
Set up regular fortnightly update meetings	Keith	Completed
Waikato Tainui to advise on resource requirements to complete Mātauranga Māori engagement and consultation with TDC	Faroi Waikato Tainui	Action still to be completed
Tuna as a Taonga. Look at impact on Tuna (Eels) from the WWTP and what could be adopted by WDC to ensure this taonga is protected	Faroi Waikato Tainui	Explore possibility with land owner about relocating tuna from WWTP to the flooded old east mine pit
Catch and release program	Faroi Waikato Tainui	Talk to fish and game about Tuna and the proposal. Seek their previous experience and learning.
Mathew Telfer to ask a member of Watercare SLT to contact Glen Tupuhi to enable confirmation of the resource negotiation that was finalised in respect to Auckland water take	Mathew	Subsequent to meeting Mathew advises that the agreement with Watercare Auckland and Waikato Tainui was the annual payment of \$2 million to the Waikato River Clean-up Trust
Tuna protected from being caught in the system and from pumps and outfall within the WWTP upgrade concept.	Richard Pullar	
Explore how the Rāhui Pōkeka WWTP Upgrade program can assist in improving the health and wellbeing of Tuna within the Awa.	Faroi Waikato Tainui	
Proposal for Restoration fund to be developed	All	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Annual funding contribution from Council</li> <li>2. \$xx for the restoration of XX meters plant per annum</li> <li>3. Determine appropriate funding body to manage restoration program</li> <li>4. Develop supporting agreement.</li> </ol>
Concept Design Presented	Watercare	Currently being developed
Reuse	Faroi Waikato Tainui	Explore opportunities within Waikato Tainui to determine if treated wastewater could be used as a resource within tribal business activity. The nursery at Ngaruawahia was discussed

**ATTACHMENTS**

Unconfirmed