
Horowhenua District Council & Hokio Environmental Kaitiaki Alliance Inc. Landfill Agreement Project Management Group

MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of Horowhenua District Council & Hokio Environmental Kaitiaki Alliance Inc. Landfill Agreement Project Management Group held in Tararua Room, Horowhenua District Council, Oxford Street Levin on 6 October 2020 at 1.00pm.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chairperson/s	Lisa Slade & Jenny Rowan	Lisa chaired this meeting
Members	David Moore David Clapperton	
Horizons Representative	Cr Sam Ferguson	
Project Manager	Greg Carlyon	
Meeting Secretary	Natasha Breen	

Welcome and Karakia

David Moore opened the meeting with a Karakia

Apologies

Cr Sam Ferguson

Update on Morrison Solutions Work

David Clapperton introduced Malcolm Morrison of Morrison Solutions who joined the meeting via Zoom. Around the table introductions took place.

Malcolm advised that he was approached by David Clapperton a few months ago seeking independent advice in addition to the process being conducted by Tonkin & Taylor. Malcolm advised that he has been consulting for Councils for in excess of 30 years, is now retired and working in a private practice.

Malcolm said that after reviewing the background information provided by HDC he concluded that Tonkin & Taylor had undertaken a single site cost benefit analysis (to help make a decision on if the Landfill should remain open). Malcolm further advised that there are additional non site costs and benefits that need to be taken into account and suggested that Morrison Solutions undertake a Business Case that will incorporate not only, the financials but also economic, strategic, environmental and community matters to provide advice on the future of the Levin Landfill and wider matters.

Malcolm acknowledged there are a number of parties who would like the opportunity to contribute to this process and as such has called for Registrations of Interest (ROI) on the New Zealand Government Electronic Tenders Service (GETS) website.

Registrations of Interest close on October 23 and Morrison Solutions will then review the responses and meet with submitters as necessary.

Malcolm advised that The Business Case will be finalised prior to Christmas. Once Council have made a decision Malcolm envisages sending out an RFP in early to mid-2021. The current operators contract expires late 2021.

Malcolm referred to an email that was sent from a potential supplier to all Councillors and stressed that Councillors should never be lobbied or in discussions with potential suppliers when about to go through a decision making process such as this.

Greg asked Malcolm if he felt there was a pre-determination by Council to keep the Landfill Open.

Malcolm responded that he certainly has not had that from David C or the Mayor and that Morrison Solutions are completely neutral with no pre determination or bias.

Greg asked if Malcolm was familiar with the role of the Hokio Landfill PMG and its view (to try to bring about early closure of the Landfill) and noted that members of the PMG are feeling vulnerable at this difficult point in the process.

Malcolm asked why members are feeling vulnerable and Greg responded that there are Community Representatives on the PMG who represent the Community with an expectation that the Landfill will be closed.

Malcolm responded that the way the Tonkin & Taylor reports were was perhaps in the wrong direction to closure and that Morrison Solutions will "tell it as it is" and then it is for Council to decide.

Greg asked if it would be useful for some of the work the PMG has undertaken to be given to Morrison Solutions to review as it highlights the other important aspects like Community, Cultural etc.

Malcolm advised that preliminary framework for the Business Case has started and he welcomes any information from the PMG.

Malcolm gave an overview of what information has been received from HDC to date.

David M noted that he is reassured to hear that factors such as the environment and the community are being given weight in the process and the feeling in the community is that they have not been properly weighed in the past.

David M referred to a report undertaken by Morrison Low a few years ago on the Levin Landfill, Malcolm clarified that he had no part in writing that report and that he will review it along with all the other information. Malcolm has been retired from Morrison Low for 4 years.

Jenny noted that David C has briefed herself and David M on the work being undertaken by Morrison Solutions and that herself and David M are feeling the tension of an agitated community.

Jenny advised that Ngati Pareraukawa have completed a Social Impact Report and that one is being sought from Muaupoko and Jenny welcomes this work.

Malcolm advised he has experts on the team to evaluate all of the information.

David M advised that the social aspects of an enterprise such as this have been undervalued for far too long. Malcolm responded that he will be contacting an economist soon.

Malcolm left the meeting.

David C noted that all enquiries for Malcolm to go through David C.

David M advised that he is very concerned about what has happened in the last couple of months with the PMG not being kept informed and that both he and Jenny take the confidentially aspects very seriously and feels sidelined and ignored. David M further added that it only engenders suspicion and concern in the community which Jenny and David have to field. David M expects to be kept fully informed from now on.

Greg stated he remembers David C briefing the PMG of this piece of work at the last PMG meeting. Discussion on this.

Jenny advised that she is committed on not letting this go back to court and the importance of staying in this conversation and that she found meeting with Malcolm very useful.

Jenny further advised that a report is being finished containing a category of events over the last 2 years which will come back to the PMG as a record.

An in depth discussion took place on what has/has not been achieved by the PMG, the role of the NLG, Community perspectives, trust, relationships, engagement, timeframes, communication and the Tonkin & Taylor Reports.

Actions From Previous Meeting

Statement regarding closure from Viv Taueki to be covered later in this meeting.

Function of the NLG

The group discussed the role of the NLG, the frequency of meetings and attendance by HRC senior staff.

Lisa read out the from the Levin landfill Consent stating that intervals between meetings will be no more than 12 months unless all NLG representatives agree that change to the intervals are accepted and that the purpose of the NLG is to create a forum in which the permit holder, HRC and the community can engage with the purpose of reviewing and sharing perspectives on monitoring results, where appropriate and discuss strategies for maintaining or improving the landfill operation consistent with the consent conditions.

David M stated that he believes the NLG needs to hold more meetings to catch up on some of the back log.

The NLG meeting held on Tuesday 29 September was adjourned and will resume on Tuesday 17 November 2020.

Greg suggested a working group be put in place to come together with Lisa, Jenny and Asli to address outstanding actions. It was agreed that Lisa and Jenny will meet first to discuss,

Greg suggested that a resolution at reconvened NLG Meeting be a summit meeting with HRC. Jenny and David M agreed it was a good idea.

Update on compliance review

Greg advised that he and the Catalyst Team had a very useful site visit to the Landfill with Asli.

Greg further advised that the draft document is complete and will be ready for the PMG in the next few weeks. Greg thinks that is on track for the goal of it being with the community by November.

Greg noted Asli from HDC has been great at providing information.

David M requested the report be available for the resumption of the NLG Meeting on 17 November.

Tatana Land Exchange – Timeframes

David C advised he has provided both Jenny and David M with an update in a separate meeting earlier today and that negotiations are progressing.

David M asked that if the placing of fill on the wetland could cease and be stock piled until an agreement is reached. There was group discussion on this and the role of the Regional Council.

David M asked for the timeframe., David C responded that he will have progress within the next four weeks.

Statement Regarding Closure - Tamarangi Hapu

Jenny had a phone call from Vivienne and as a result asked Vivienne to put her concerns into writing for Jenny to present to the PMG.

The group discussed this and Greg reiterated that a commitment has been made to Vivienne to cover the cost of hui to prepare a one-page *statement relating to early closure*.

Greg advised he has subsequently met with Vivienne after the meeting held with Jenny and David M.

Greg and Jenny to meet with Vivienne again.

David C clarified that this is **not** a cultural assessment as per clause 11e of the Landfill Agreement.

David M noted that the Ngati Pareraukawa Social Impact Report is not on the HDC website. There was discussion on versions and it was agreed that David M will send the final version for uploading to the HDC website

Apology Process 2020

There was group discussion on when The Apology should take place and the implications of The Apology taking place prior to a council decision with differing opinions.

David M noted that a process was meant to be in place by 30 July 2020, and further stated that people want to have their opinion recognised and over last 25 years there have all sorts of dodgy dealings in the Hokio area that are regrettable. David M sees the closure of the landfill as a separate issue.

The group discussed who should give The Apology, David M suggested the David C get the Mayor and Councillors around the table and read both the Ngati Pareraukawa and Bronwyn Kerr report and come up with a response.

There was further discussion on the circulation of the first report undertaken by Bronwyn Kerr which was subsequently updated and is now on the HDC website.

Jenny clarified that The Apology is historic and stressed the importance of finding a way through it and moving forward.

David M stated that it needs to be addressed and gave David C suggestions on what it could contain, Jenny suggested contacting the Treaty Office to see what language they use.

David M summed up that a timeline to be produced for the Apology, The Apology should come from the CE (preferably with Council) and it is to The Hokio Community, David M further added he is sick and tired of having it drifting on and it needs to be addressed. David M would like to see it happen before Christmas.

It was agreed that it would be meaningful to hold The Apology at the Marae and that something should be in place by the second week of December.

This item concluded, David C gave his apologies as he had another meeting to attend.

HRC Senior Representative to come to NLG Meetings (from NLG Meeting)

An item to be added to the 17 November NLG meeting to ask how often they would like to meet.

Decision Timeline (from NLG Meeting)

Next meeting scheduled for 17 November 2020.

David M said that people now just want a decision.

General Business

None

Next Meeting Date

Tuesday 10 November, 1pm at HDC.

ACTIONS

Action Item	Person(s) Responsible	Status
PMG to brief Council – When?	PMG	Ongoing
Budget Update	Lisa	In Progress
A prioritised schedule of work to be provided to Morrison Solutions	Greg	
Lisa and Jenny to meet re outstanding actions of NLG	Lisa	
Natasha to provide outstanding NLG actions to Lisa and Jenny	Natasha	
Provide Morrison Solutions brief to PMG	David C	

Meet with Vivienne Taueki re statement	Jenny & Greg	
Send final Ngati Pareraukawa Social Impact Assessment to Lisa	David M	Complete
Upload final Ngati Pareraukawa Social Impact Assessment 29 March 2020 to HDC Website	Natasha	Complete
Contact the Treaty Office to see what language they use in apologies	Greg	
Add Agenda item to NLG Meeting 17/11 asking how often they would like to meet	Natasha	