

Neighbourhood Liaison Group Meeting

MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Neighbourhood Liaison Group (NLG) held in Council Chambers, Horowhenua District Council, Oxford Street Levin on 28 September 2021 at 5.30pm.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Facilitator: Jenny Rowan

Viv Bold

Trevor Hinder

David Moore

Jack Warren

Christine Moriarty

Sam Ferguson (HRC)

Charles Rudd

Asli Crawford (HDC)

Phil Landmark (Stantec)

Dean Wilson

Deanna Paki

Peter Everton

Dan Higgs (HRC)

Adam Hynes (HRC)

Yvette Falloon (HDC)

Natasha Breen (HDC)

Welcome and Opening Karakia

Jenny welcomed attendees to the meeting and asked David Moore to open the meeting with a Karakia.

Introductions

Round the table introductions took place.

Apologies

Rachel Selby, David Clapperton, Geoff Keith, Eugene Henare, Vivienne Taueki

Matters arising from previous meeting

Odour Management Plan

Asli advised that the draft Odour Management Plan was sent to the NLG, seeking their feedback, as agreed at the last meeting. After not hearing back, two follow up attempts were made and no response has been received to date.

There was confusion about which report was being referred to and Adam clarified that there are two PDP reports, the one being discussed is the Odour Management Plan report.

There was discussion that Geoff Keith (or his partner) had offered to review the draft Odour Management Plan after the last meeting.

David M said the report is not state of the art and the community deserves better as it has put up with a substandard rubbish dump for 30 odd years and it is not good enough.

Trevor said he was expecting to come here and see a revised Odour Management Plan and there should still be some kind of report stating where it is at.

Viv noted that she would like see HRC and the Environment Court start to enforce penalties for odour.

Adam said that to his knowledge there have been around 11 complaints, and those responded to there was no objectionable odour detected.

Asli advised that herself and Adam had a follow up discussion, after the last meeting to discuss having a security person, as an independent person, to carry out the odour assessments after hours.

Dean suggested that a local person could be the third person and undertake the Odour Assessments.

Peter Everton said he knows of a man who calls and makes regular odour complaints and a neighbouring property where a lady occupant is ill due to the odour (Peter provided the details to HRC) and suggested HRC visit the people around the dump.

There was discussion on when Odour mainly occurs.

Deanna noted that people gave up complaining about odour as nothing was ever done about it.

Dan noted that he attended one of the odour complaints and there was no odour detected and advised it takes about 40-45 minutes to get there.

Jenny said she does expect some structural statutory arrangement set up that can deal with an odour complaint within 15 or so minutes of it being reported. The Community still experiences shocking odour.

Trevor said that surely in the 21st century, there is some way measuring these gasses without someone going there and smelling them.

David M said about 6 to 8 years ago, there was a gas monitoring system set up at the Granges boundary, it operated for 3 or 6 months and there were lots of examples of gas being sensed, so much so that they took it away and despite us imploring them to put it back, it never was.

Viv said that both Council's won't admit or even acknowledge there is risk out there.

Phil responded that Council is required to do boundary testing for odour on a monthly basis, and over the last monitoring period Council has monitored 21 times, they are only required to do it 12 times. Council is also required to do surface methane monitoring, which is being undertaken on a monthly basis.

Christine said that this is the NLG, and it should have gone to the Community NLG, as they meet a lot and requested it be sent to Christine who will progress it. Natasha re-sent the report to Christine during the meeting.

Charles responded that the NLG was set up by the Commissioner for the Environment and has official members and is not open for all to attend and noted that we need to get that right.

It was agreed that there will be a response from the NLG within the next fortnight.

Jenny will also follow up with Geoff Keith.

Witness for Sampling

Viv Bold offered to fill this role. Jenny noted that the NLG will find some way of compensating Viv for expenses.

It was agreed that Asli and Viv will progress this, and that HDC will pick Viv up at Arawhata Road as a 4WD is required.

Bio Filter

Asli advised that the Biofilter has now been connected to landfill gas flare network.

Monitoring Report/Annual Compliance Report Summary

Adam advised that this is the first monitoring report under the new consent conditions and the Groundwater and Surface Water results were sent to PDP for assessment. The report acknowledges that there could be influences from shallow groundwater, leachate and the Tatana Drain and HRC have asked HDC to undertake some further actions to get a better idea of the extent of any impact (if there is one) from the Tatana Drain.

Trevor said there are dozens of exceedances, and nothing ever gets done.

Adam responded that it is built into the consent, if there is an exceedance, as long as they can be explained that the Landfill did not impact on the results. The link between the Landfill and the downstream results have to be realised. In the new consents, what HDC have to do is come up with a few Best Practicable Options of how to manage the leachate from the old Landfill, then HDC have two years to select an option and implement an option to remediate the leachate from the old unlined Landfill into the Tatana Drain.

Adam confirmed that HDC have submitted a report on the Best Practicable Option's for remediation of leachate to HRC. This report is located on HDC's website.

Peter Everton said that there used to be 3 unlined Landfills, and referred to an incident where the liner was slashed in 8 places in 2004, Peter asked, how do we know that it is not leaking from there?

Phil responded that it was slashed due to vandalism and there was spare HDPE Rolls on site. The liner was repaired and there is no leakage. Phil also noted that the thickness of the liner at the Landfill is 2mm, where most Landfills use a liner of 1.5mm thickness.

Charles asked how deep the monitoring bores are.

Phil responded the shallow aquifer goes down 2m and the deep gravel aquifer bores go down 30m.

Charles said that things need to be planned now for the closing of the Landfill, and that he can see serious health problems for the local residents.

Viv noted that Hokio Beach has been red zoned for swimming for ages, yet in the last 3 years when HRC send out their swimming information, Hokio Beach do not get a mention anymore.

David M asked Adam if he was aware that some several thousand tonnes of contaminated soil came from the Waiarapa and dumped at Hokio, and that it is not contained in this report.

Adam noted that this report is for the period prior to that complaint being received.

David M said he expects there would be a full log of hazardous waste with the several hundred trucks taken to Hokio.

Adam responded that after receiving the complaint, HRC sent the monitoring information to experts and it was determined that the material was able to be accepted at Levin, it was also identified that there was a minor inconsistency to the process outlined in the Landfill Management Plan, which is being followed up with HDC at the moment.

Peter asked if the material that came from the Waiarapa was toxic, and said to bring it all this way it has to be toxic.

Adam noted that it cannot be said something is toxic until it is known it is toxic.

Jenny asked who within HDC said yes to receiving the soil and why.

Asli confirmed that the soil is a clean fill, to be used as a top soil on the capping. Testing has been undertaken (prior to it being received) it is a very very low contaminated soil that can be used in sport recreational grounds.

Peter questioned if HDC has a responsibility to let the NLG what they were doing.

Asli responded that HDC is not required to consult with the NLG to bring clay or other clean fills.

Phil confirmed that an extensive amount of testing was undertaken by Bull Environmental.

Charles asked what soil type is it.

Phil responded that from memory, it is largely top soil.

Charles said that the rain could potentially take any toxic material to the Pot.

Phil said that a toxic leaching procedure was performed, which determined a low grade contamination.

Asli advised that capping of the current Landfill will take place within the next few months.

Tatana Drain

Adam advised that there has been ongoing correspondence with Greg Carlyon however this is being undertaken by another team within HRC as it is not directly related to the consent.

There was group discussion on this.

Viv B asked, we have all these exceedances, in January 2021 there were 23 exceedances and yet nobody goes to the environment court, all Stantec do is just report it. It is shameful.

Adam responded that HRC are working with the conditions of the resource consent set by the Environment Court that acknowledge there was an original Landfill that was not lined, there will be leachate that does continue to come out at some levels. That is why the monitoring is in place, to see how bad it gets, and try to come up with a solution.

Jenny thanked HRC for being here and appreciates the position they are in.

Adam said that they hope once the options for the leachate remediation come in we will see improvement there.

David M referred to the leachate interception system for the Tatana Drain, and noted what really concerns him is HDC have to 2023 to implement a plan. His gut feeling is that the NLG will be expected to wait till April 2023 and David would like to see some pre-emptive action.

There was discussion on this and it was confirmed that HDC has submitted a report to HRC which is available on HDC's website. The report is named Levin Landfill Summary of Leachate Options Assessment.

It was confirmed that the report is from 2019, undertaken by Tonkin & Taylor.

Questions Submitted Regarding Resource Consent Conditions (Please see attached item)

Charles said that there are Issues with having the NLG, CNLG, PMG, Heka Group not being NLG according to the Resource Consent Conditions. Charles noted he is not saying to exclude people, and according to the rules people can be added to the NLG, but there is a process for this.

Charles said he would just like people to listen and he would like people on the NLG, but the membership rules are there.

Jenny asked Charles if he would like to widen the membership or if he would like to limit who is in the room to those on the list.

Charles responded, how can we widen the membership without going through the Resource Consent Conditions and noted the membership is ambiguous.

It was agreed to discuss this at the next NLG Meeting.

Action: Ensure Charles Rudd's submission is on the next NLG's Agenda.

General Business

No items raised.

Meeting Closure and Karakia

Meeting closed at 7.47pm

David Moore closed the meeting with a Karakia.

Next Meeting Date

David M suggested meetings be held 6 monthly with one to coincide with the Annual Compliance Report.

Early February 2022.

ACTION LIST

Action Item	Person/s Responsible	Status
Provide feedback on Stantec's response to Paddle Delamore Partners Limited (PDP) review and recommendations for the	Christine Moriarty	

Odour Management Plan in the next 2 weeks.		
Add Charles Rudd Submission to next NLG Agenda	Yvette/Natasha	