
MINUTES for a meeting of the Raglan Community Board held in the Town Hall, Supper Room, Bow Street, Raglan **WEDNESDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 2023** commencing at **1.30pm**.

Present:

Mr D Amooore (Chairperson)
Mr C Rayner (*arrived 2:00pm via audio-visual conference*)
Ms K Binnersley (*arrived 1.51pm*)
Mr S Bains (*arrived 2:15pm*)
Mr T Oosten
Cr L Thomson
Cr T Turner
Mr R Wallis

Attending:

(11) members of the public

Ms A Diaz (Chief Financial Officer)
Ms R Leahy (Democracy Advisor)
Ms K Rhind (Senior Community and Engagement Advisor)
Ms L Van Den Bemd (Community Led Development Advisor)
Ms D Thurlow (Community and Development Funding Advisor)
Ms H Coalter (Infrastructure Development Manager)
Mr S Howard (Watercare)
Mr M Telfer (Watercare)

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Resolved: (Cr Thomson/Mr Oosten)

THAT the apologies from Mr Rayner and Ms Binnersley for lateness be received.

CARRIED

RCB2302/01

CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS

Resolved: (Mr Amoore/Cr Thomson)

THAT:

- a. the agenda for a meeting of the Raglan Community Board held on Wednesday, 8 February be confirmed;
- b. all items therein be considered in open meeting; and
- c. that all reports be received.

CARRIED

RCB2302/02

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved: (Cr Turner/Mr Wallis)

THAT the minutes for a meeting of the Raglan Community Board held on Wednesday, 14 December be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

RCB2302/03

PUBLIC FORUM

Bruce Teddy – Rugby Club Lights

- Mr Teddy raised a concern that the roadside lights at the Rugby Club were still running 24/7 after he had made a complaint to Council about the issue.
- It was noted that the lights were Council property.

ACTION: Staff to follow up about lights.

Bruce Teddy – Infrastructure Funding

- Mr Teddy raised a concern about where the 2.4 million dollars set aside for infrastructure had been spent.
- A general discussion was held around infrastructure spending in Raglan. It was noted that the Wharf works would cost around 5-6 million dollars, with 1.5 million alone for structural works.
- Funding for the Wharf works had come from the Provincial Growth Fund that was specific for wharfs. There was also Better Off Funding that had been allocated to projects in Raglan, however, there was specific funding criteria that had to be met.

Bruce Teddy – Oporu River Bridge

- Mr Teddy raised a concern about the single-lane Oporu River bridge. It was noted that the Oporu River Bridge did not meet the Better Off Funding criteria.
- The Rangitahi Peninsula developers did a private traffic management assessment on the bridge alongside council. That development does not currently need a two-lane bridge in the immediate term, however, developers are making contributions towards that bridge when the time comes for that threshold to be built.

Aaron Mooar – Bus Services

- Mr Mooar raised a concern that the Sunday bus and after work bus are currently not operating at the moment. He asked if the Waikato District Council had been involved in any discussions on this issue.
- It was noted that the detour and a shortage of drivers had caused disruption to the service.
- It noted this is a Waikato Regional Council issue, however, it was acknowledged that Waikato District Council should discuss the matter with them.

ACTION: Staff to pass on the issue to the Roding Team who will raise the issue with Regional Council.

Peter – Land-based Sewage System

- A concern was raised about the lack of engagement with landholders over the project. It was noted that no deals with landowners have been made so far.

Sheila – Safety concern of Oporu Road intersection

- A concern was raised about the safety of the intersection near the bridge that turns onto Oporu Road.

Mark – Potholes

- Mark raised a concern about potholes in Raglan, a service request was made in relation to seven potholes and Council was responsive. He was concerned that the road has since deteriorated further, and repairs need to be made urgently.

Jade – Land-based sewage system

- Raised a concern about public engagement about the land-based sewage system.

REPORTS

Watercare Update Agenda Item 6.1

Watercare staff attended the meeting and provided a verbal update:

Waste Water Treatment Plant

- It was noted that the total suspended solids in the ponds and aquamatics that occur seasonally in Raglan have been getting worse. Over the summer period, algae grows and puts the plant in a non-compliant state.
- A long-term solution was needed for Raglan. In 2022, investigations and trials were conducted and showed that a Membrane Bioreactor (MBR) was the superior solution for Raglan.
- A recommendation that the MBR technology be obtained for Raglan was put forward to the Waters Governance Board and accepted.
- It was identified that a key need for Haapu in the area was to collect seafood from the harbour. A private land discharge solution would allow this to happen.
- Since August 2022, Watercare has been investigating land soils that could handle a land-based sewage discharge system. Maungatawhiri Road and surrounding areas have been identified as being potentially suitable.
- Treatment Update. Total suspended solids of ponds and aquamatics. Algae grows and puts the plant in a non-compliant state. What was the long-term solution for Raglan. The price for MBR technology coming down in price. WGB accepted that the MBR technology but accepted for Raglan. Asset management is now 43 million treatment plan.
- Watercare explained that experts looked at the topography of the land and engaged with external stakeholders such as NZ Beef and Lamb and Fonterra when investigating areas for the Subsurface Drip Irrigation system. Trial studies and hydrological testing will now take place to see if the land is appropriate.
- *When can an application be lodged?* The Waikato Regional Council consent process first requires obtaining a parcel of private land. Once land had been secured for the project then applications could be lodged.

- *What are the environmental risks of Subsurface Drip Irrigation?* An assessment of environmental affects would be conducted on the subject site and Regional Council would only grant consent if it was deemed suitable.
- Watercare noted that community and Haapu voice would be heard on the application.
- *What impact would Subsurface Drip Irrigation have on properties with personal bores?* The hydrological studies would show where the water flows and what impact it may have on these bores. All bores would be monitored by the Waikato Regional Council.
- *Is this project comparable to other land-based discharge system?* The technology in this project was superior compared to other systems such as per the one in Pauanui.
- *Would there be any odour?* No, the subsurface system and MBR technology ensures there is no odour from the waste-water.
- *Have wetlands been considered to run the clearwater through?* A single point discharge system would not sit comfortably with the Raglan community. Weather events that are being experienced means there could be dry and extremely wet years making this option less suitable. A relief valve system may also be required for the Subsurface Drip Irrigation system but consultation on this will happen with the community.
- *What was the footprint size of the operation?* The MBR would fit within the existing footprint.
- *Is the MBR system guaranteed, and would it go ahead without consent?* There was money set aside for the system upgrade. It was not best practice to upgrade before consent was granted.

ACTION: Watercare to organise zoom meetings with the community to discuss the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

ACTION: Watercare to organise a public meeting with landowners and the community about the project in the next 6 months.

Infrastructure Planning in West Raglan

- The Infrastructure Development Manager provided an update on the infrastructure planning for West Raglan.
- Council was looking at infrastructure development under the Waikato 2070 lens and assessing the wider transport needs for the area.
- Currently the area was only accessed by the one-way bridge. Consultants are being engaged about planning work for the transport.
- A high-level report on the traffic review for the one-lane bridge and surrounding areas is expected in the second quarter of this year. Based on the outcomes and recommendations of that report, Council would then need to consider community consultation.

- A concern was raised that land between Wainui Road and Te Hutewai Road was included in the Waikato 2070 plan wasn't consulted on by the community and there was a greater need for consultation between planners and locals. It was noted that land included in the Waikato 2070 plan does not necessarily mean it will be developed.

Wastewater Operations Update

- The Operations Manager for Watercare Waikato provided an update on wastewater discharge in Raglan.
- Due to the recent storm events in Raglan, Watercare was required to release treated effluent on the incoming tide. Under the consent, treated effluent discharge is normally released into the channel on outgoing tides and is carried out with the tide.
- With the significant levels of rain fall in the last week, significant pressure was put on the treatment plant. Treated effluent discharge on incoming tides have occurred three times in the last year.
- When treated effluent discharge on incoming tide is required Council and Councillors are notified. Messages are put on social media and around the area to notify the public that the collection of shellfish and swimming are not recommended. Signs are generally removed within 3-4 days after the incoming tide discharge occurred.
- A concern was raised that the regional notification was made across the region caused confusion and there needs to be greater communication between Te Whatu Ora and Watercare over these notifications. Over the weekend, the water in Raglan would have been safe to swim in despite Te Whatu Ora's regional notification. This had a negative impact on the community and businesses.
- It was noted that treated effluent has been discharged on three occasions in the last year during incoming tides across multiple days.
- *During the events is water testing done to check the quality of the water and how safe is the water? Under consent conditions it was a requirement to test at the discharge point however, testing in the harbour was also done when it was safe to do so. In the discharge events that occurred during June and August testing was conducted in the Harbour. In the latest event it was unsafe to test in the harbour.*

ACTION: Watercare to organise a tour of the Water Treatment Plan for the Raglan Community Board.

Confirmation of Status of Agenda

Agenda Item 2

Resolved: (Mr Amoores/ Cr Thomson)

THAT in accordance with Standing Order 9.4 the order of business be changed with agenda item 6.4 [Appointment of Discretionary Funding Representative] being considered after agenda item 6.1.

CARRIED

RCB2302/04

Appointment of a Discretionary Funding Representative

Agenda Item 6.4

The report was received under [RCB2203/02 refers], and the following discussion was held:

- The Community and Development Funding Advisor provided an overview of their role and the discretionary fund.
- The Board was required to appoint a funding representative to assess discretionary fund applications prior to being heard by the Community Board.
- It was noted that the Funding Team will provide training to the appointed Funding Representative.
- It was noted that the Funding Representatives will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the discretionary fund process.

ACTION: Democracy Team will send Funding Team the new funding representative's contact details.

Resolved: (Cr Thomson/Mr Bains)

THAT a Raglan Community Board appoints Ross Wallis to be the funding representative for the 2022-2025 triennium.

CARRIED

RCB2302/05

Community Board Executive Committee Representative Vote

Agenda Item 6.2

The report was received under [RCB2203/02 refers], and the following discussion was held:

- A general discussion was held about the candidates and how they might best represent the Raglan community.

ACTION: Democracy to send through Board's vote to LGNZ.

Resolved: (Mr Wallis/Ms Binnerley)

THAT the Raglan Community Board votes for Carolyn Hamill to represent Zone 2 for the Community Board Executive Council.

CARRIED

RCB2302/06

Works, Actions & Issues Report: Status of Items

Agenda Item 6.3

The report was received under [RCB2203/02 refers], and the following discussion was held:

Civil Defence

- Mr Amore, Cr Thomson and Mr Wallis held a zoom meeting with the Council's Business Resilience Advisor and Emergency Management Advisor.

ACTION: The Board will organise a community meeting about civil defence in the coming months.

- It was noted that the Emergency Management Advisor will review Civil Defence and Raglan Community Response Plan and make recommendations. Emergency Management Training will take place for those that want to be involved.
- Cr Turner observed that there was little connection with Māori communities and Civil Defence. Engagement with Marae is necessary in the event they are needed during a civil emergency response.

Soundsplash

- The events team will be facilitating a debrief with the Board. The debrief would take place on 20 February.

Waikowhai Walkway

- It was noted that a feasibility study on the outcomes of the various solutions proposed will likely take place in March.

Wi Neera Walkway

- Staff are currently working through the challenges with this. A resource consent may be required.

ACTION: Staff to investigate what design options are being considered for the walkway and report back to the Board.

Manu Bay breakwater

- A concern was raised about the time it is taking to get this issue resolved/delays. It was also noted that report that was due in January has now been pushed out to March.

Playground - Greenslade Road Reserve

- An ecological study would need to be conducted about the connection between the playground and the walkway.

Wharf structural repairs

- The Wharf's structural repairs are nearly complete.
- SP2 is moving forward, however, there could be delays due to the closure of State Highway 23.
- Consent has been lodged for SP3 and there is ongoing consultation with the landowners nearby.

Slip on between Cox and Lorenzo Bay

- There were reports of a large slip on the waterfront following recent weather events.

ACTION: The Chairperson and Cr Thomson to look at the slip and report any issues to Council.

CCTV Better off funding

- There has been no update from the Department of Internal Affairs about the Better off Funding.

ACTION: CCTV Better off Funding to be added to the works and issues report.

Manu Bay planting

ACTION: Staff to find out when the planting is going to take place.

Discretionary Fund Report

Agenda Item 6.5

The report was received under [RCB2203/02 refers], and the following discussion was held:

- The Chairperson provided Whaingaroa Environment Centre with details about how to return the money.
- The Kaitaoke Walkway discretionary fund application was not heard. The Chairperson had sourced another funding option within Council for the project.
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Resolved: (Mr Wallis/Ms Binnersley)

THAT the Raglan Community Board:

- a. receives the Discretionary Fund Report to 1 February 2023;**
- b. notes the request for funds to be returned from Whaingaroa Environment Centre for the amount of \$3,500.00.**

CARRIED

RCB2302/07

Raglan Naturally Report

Agenda Item 6.6

- Raglan Naturally is currently in the process of hiring a Haapori Coordinator. The Board will be updated on this at the next meeting.

Chairperson's Report

Agenda Item 6.7

The report was received under [RCB2203/02 refers], and no discussion was held.

Councillor's Report

Agenda Item 6.8

- The Board heard how Cr Thomson met with the Events Team to provide feedback on Soundsplash.
- Cr Thomson and key stakeholders will be organising a community safety hui in Raglan.
- Cr Thomson visited Xtreme zero waste and discussed climate action and the new Sustainability and Wellbeing Committee.
- Cr Turner had arranged a meeting with Mike Edmonds and the Maaori community to discuss Papakainga and mana whenua development.

Board Members' Reports

Agenda Item 6.9

- Ms Binnersley stated she would like to be more involved in the Board's communications and is looking to streamline the information on the Community Board Page.

ACTION: Ms Binnersley and Cr Thomson to meet and develop a communications plan.

ACTION: The Board agreed to make Ms Binnersley and Cr Thomson administrators for the Community Board's Facebook page.

- Ms Binnersley raised a concern about parking issues in town. It was noted that roading issues would be raised with the new Roading Manager.
- Mr Wallis raised a concern about Canadian Geese in the Raglan area. It was observed that discussions need to be held with Environment Waikato over the issue.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 3:50pm.

Minutes approved and confirmed this 22nd day of March 2023.

D Amoore
CHAIRPERSON