

Minutes: Hikurangi Swamp Working Group Meeting Tuesday 10th November 2015, held at Jordan Valley Farm

Minutes of meeting held at the Jordan Valley Farm on Tuesday 10th November 2015

Facilitator	Councillor Crichton Christie
Purpose	Forum to discuss the Hikurangi Swamp Scheme Issues
Present	Cr Crichton Christie (facilitator), Andrew Carvell (WDC), Adam Twose (WDC), Simon Weston (WDC), Mellissa Twose (WDC, Scribe),
Apologies	Andrew Ilich, Jack Ilich, Evan Smeathe, Bruce Howse (NRC), Tess Dacre (NRC)

Councillor Christie addressed the floor, opened the meeting welcoming members and staff representatives from the Whangarei District Council.

Item	Description	Action
Apologies	Apologies noted and accepted	Moved/Second
Presentation	Presentation provided by Ray Hindrup outlining the sacrificial pocket proposal	
Questions and Answers	<p>Q. What is the difference between 1:80 and 1:100 year flood? A. Scheme level of protection. This is currently a 1:3½ year so protection will increase</p> <p>Q. Will other schemes be investigated such as one from Opus? A. Alternatives not presently being investigated by Council.</p> <p>Simon Weston put to the farmers that they should think about how much of a benefit this will be to their farm – interested in feedback from this</p> <p>Report commissioned by Nathan Guy was not taken up by Council.</p> <p>Q. What is happening with the water storage proposal? A. No information was provided</p> <p>Q. Is there a way to sacrifice pocket without buying? A. Proposers do not want to stay if the pocket is sacrificial</p> <p>Q. Do Council have to get numerous credible valuations before spending suggested amount? A. Simon Weston – Yes. Proposal is in early stages and if not seen as an affordable benefit it will not go to council</p> <p>Q. Who is the \$8m Kokapu dam funded by? A.NRC</p> <p>Q. Is there the ability to get accurate inflow flood readings now that the stopbanks are at the correct levels? A. Yes. Spilling monitors are operational however there has been no event since the completion of the works to test this yet</p>	

	<p>Geoff Crawford raised items he would like addressed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Owner run profitability from the last 7 years from the proposers? - QV and real estate valuation? - What costs associated so far – only \$2000 for a peer review to date? - What will the costs be and who pays? - What will the rates increase be? <p>Ray Hindrup – Proposal has been made as it was felt it was needed of those putting it forward. It is not for personal gain but for community gain. A report was compiled between 1998 and 2000 and proposers feel this is full of mis-information</p> <p>Copy of previous report requested by other members of the scheme</p> <p>Richard Lakely does not believe figures are correct, it is not desirable at that cost in this area</p> <p>Proposers clarified the cost is based on how much it would cost to relocate to two farms, not on how much they feel their current land is worth. Ray Hindrup pointed out he has never lost grass from a rain events only from inflow floods.</p> <p>Tim Brandenburg will circulate the ecosystem project information to assist with the scheme decision</p> <p>Greg Martin raised concerns over the suggestion of silt on the report</p> <p>Pumps will operate sooner therefore lowering the flood, in any flooding occurs</p>	
Next Stage	<p>Ben Smith proposed we apply to agencies for funding to support this scheme; Simon Weston would like to know if this would be a worthwhile application?</p>	
Funding	<p>1. Farm GV Value Hindrups - \$6.8m Donelleys - \$3.0m</p> <p>2. Otonga Production</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Request made for figures of carcass weight gain per hectare – this can be calculated on beef and lamb NZ website b. Fertiliser history requested as may cost \$1.7m to get up to standard <p>3. Funding from Government</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ask Northland Inc (Vaughn Cooper) for funding criteria and likelihood of funding approval b. Write to Ministry of Primary Industries (Ben Daulton) <p>4. Total Project Cost</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Estimated cost is \$40m - \$30m & \$8m for land purchases also \$2m necessary works b. Averages at \$600 per hectare <p>5. How will this be funded? Funding will be sought from those who will benefit from the proposal</p> <p>6. Cost of proposal on rate payers? This will need to be estimated</p>	

Attendance 20

Vote total 10

- 8 opposed any further investigation
 - 2 for further investigation to be conducted
 - 10 abstained from voting
- (Figures exclude four WDC staff and the Chair)

Meeting closed at 11:45am

Next Meeting: TBC

