

**Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council**

Me Heke Ki Pōneke

Ordinary Meeting of Kōrau Tūāpapa | Environment and Infrastructure Committee Ngā Meneti | Minutes

9:30 am Rāpare, 1 Huitanguru 2024

9:30 am Thursday, 1 February 2024

Ngake (16.09), Level 16, Tahiwī

113 The Terrace

Pōneke | Wellington



PRESENT

Mayor Whanau (Acting Chair)

Deputy Mayor Foon

Councillor Abdurahman

Councillor Apanowicz

Councillor Brown

Councillor Calvert

Councillor Chung

Councillor Free

Pouiwi Hohaia

Pouiwi Kelly

Councillor Matthews

Councillor McNulty

Councillor O'Neill

Councillor Pannett

Councillor Randle

Councillor Wī Neera

Councillor Young

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 FEBRUARY 2024

Business	Page No.
1. Meeting Conduct	5
1.1 Karakia	5
1.2 Apologies	5
1.3 Conflict of Interest Declarations	5
1.4 Confirmation of Minutes	5
1.5 Items not on the Agenda	5
1.6 Public Participation	5
2. Petitions	6
2.1 Lifting the Creek - remediation of the closed landfill in Haewai / Houghton Valley	6
3. General Business	6
3.1 Half Cost Path Policy Review 2023	6
3.2 Adoption of the Wellington Region Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2023-2029	7
3.3 Actions Tracking and Forward Programme	8

1. Meeting Conduct

1.1 Karakia

The Chairperson declared the meeting (hui) open at 9:30am and read the following karakia to open the hui.

Whakataka te hau ki te uru,	Cease oh winds of the west
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga.	and of the south
Kia mākinakina ki uta,	Let the bracing breezes flow,
Kia mātaratara ki tai.	over the land and the sea.
E hī ake ana te atākura.	Let the red-tipped dawn come
He tio, he huka, he hauhū.	with a sharpened edge, a touch of frost,
Tihei Mauri Ora!	a promise of a glorious day

1.2 Apologies

Moved Mayor Whanau, seconded Deputy Mayor Foon

Resolved

That the Kōrau Tūāpapa | Environment and Infrastructure Committee:

- 1) Accept the apologies received from Councillor Brown for absence.

Carried

1.3 Conflict of Interest Declarations

No conflicts of interest were declared.

1.4 Confirmation of Minutes

Moved Mayor Whanau, seconded Councillor Matthews

Resolved

That the Kōrau Tūāpapa | Environment and Infrastructure Committee:

- 1) Approves the minutes of the Kōrau Tūāpapa | Environment and Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 30 November 2023, having been circulated, that they be taken as read and confirmed as an accurate record of that meeting.

Carried

1.5 Items not on the Agenda

There were no items not on the agenda.

1.6 Public Participation

1.6.1 Lisa Davidson

Addressed the hui regarding water metering.

The hui adjourned at 9.59am and returned at 10:09am with the following members present: Mayor Whanau, Councillor Abdurahman, Councillor Apanowicz, Councillor Calvert, Councillor Chung, Deputy Mayor Foon, Councillor Free, Holden Hohaia, Liz Kelly, Councillor Matthews, Councillor McNulty, Councillor O'Neill, Councillor Pannett, Councillor Randle, Councillor Wī Neera, Councillor Young.

2. Petitions

2.1 Lifting the Creek - remediation of the closed landfill in Haewai / Houghton Valley

Moved Deputy Mayor Foon, seconded Councillor Free

Resolved

That the Kōrau Tūāpapa | Environment and Infrastructure Committee:

- 1) Receive the information and thank the petitioners
- 2) **Direct Officers to provide the NRP report on the result of Rule 82 for Houghton Bay Landfill.**
- 3) **Direct Officers to provide clarification on how the proposed fix of the pipe will impact the accumulating leachate in the landfill and whether leachate ingress will be restricted.**
- 4) **On receipt of the reports, direct Officers to inform council of the recommended level of community engagement required**
- 5) **On receipt of the reports, direct Officers to inform council if there is an ecological option that can be progressed.**

Carried

Secretarial Note: The motion moved differed from the recommendations in the officers' Report. The changes are marked in red.

(Councillor Abduraham left the hui at 10:21am)

(Councillor Abduraham rejoined the hui at 10:23am)

3. General Business

3.1 Half Cost Path Policy Review 2023

Moved Councillor Free, seconded Councillor Matthews

Resolved

- 1) Receive the information.
- 2) Note that officers have undertaken a review of the Half Cost Path Policy (the policy) and recommend that the Council revokes the policy.
- 3) Agree to undertake public consultation on the Statement of Proposal to revoke the policy (attachment one).
- 4) Agree to delegate authority to the Chair of the Committee to make amendments and any editorial changes as necessary to the Statement of Proposal.
- 5) **Direct officers to include a specific question in the consultation on the issue of payment for maintenance or replacement of retaining walls on road reserve.**

Carried

Secretarial Note: The motion moved differed from the recommendations in the officers' Report. The changes are marked in red.

(Councillor Matthews left the hui at 10:34am)

(Councillor Matthews rejoined the hui at 10:35am)

3.2 Adoption of the Wellington Region Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2023-2029

Moved Councillor Pannett, seconded Deputy Mayor Foon

That the Kōrau Tūāpapa | Environment and Infrastructure Committee:

- 1) Receive the information.
- 2) Note that, as required under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, in order to receive ongoing waste levy funding from the Ministry for the Environment to carry out waste minimisation projects and activities, all councils are required to review and update their Waste Management and Minimisation Plans every six years.
- 3) Agree to revoke the existing Wellington Region Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2017-2023.
- 4) Note on 4 December 2023, the Wellington Region Waste Management and Minimisation Joint Committee recommended all eight Wellington councils adopt the Wellington Region Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2023-2029
- 5) Agree to adopt the proposed Wellington Region Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2023-2029, as Wellington City Council's Waste Management and Minimisation Plan for the period 2023-2029 as required under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008.
- 6) Agree to delegate authority to the Kōrau Tūāpapa | Environment and Infrastructure Committee Chair to make amendments to the Wellington City Council's Waste Management and Minimisation Plan for the period 2023-2029 where those amendments are limited to changes to other council's local action plans.
- 7) Agree to Delegate to the Chair or Deputy Chair of the Wellington Region Waste Management and Minimisation Joint Committee, the authority to add a foreword to the Plan as part of publication.

A division was called for, voting on which was as follows:

For:

Mayor Whanau, Councillor Abdurahman, Councillor Apanowicz, Councillor Calvert, Councillor Chung, Deputy Mayor Foon, Councillor Free, Holden Hohaia, Liz Kelly, Councillor Matthews, Councillor McNulty, Councillor O'Neill, Councillor Pannett, Councillor Randle, Councillor Wi Neera, Councillor Young

Against:

Absent:

Councillor Brown (Chair)

Majority Vote: 16:0

Carried

3.3 Actions Tracking and Forward Programme

Moved Mayor Whanau, seconded Councillor O'Neill

Resolved

That the Kōrau Tūāpapa | Environment and Infrastructure Committee:

1. Receive the information.

Carried

Attachments

- 1 Deputy Mayor Foon Tabled Document

The hui concluded at 10:54 am with the reading of the following karakia:

Unuhia, unuhia, unuhia ki te uru tapu nui
Kia wātea, kia māmā, te ngākau, te tinana, te
wairua
I te ara takatū
Koia rā e Rongo, whakairia ake ki runga
Kia wātea, kia wātea
Āe rā, kua wātea!

Draw on, draw on
Draw on the supreme sacredness
To clear, to free the heart, the body
and the spirit of mankind
Oh Rongo, above (symbol of peace)
Let this all be done in unity

Authenticated: _____

Chair

Questions & Answers

Kōrau Tūāpapa | Environment and Infrastructure Committee

1 Huitanguru 2024 (1 February 2024)

2.1 Lifting the Creek Petition

Para 19. What is the timeframe for a report back to council? Will this report back be before LTP decisions?

An Environmental Engineer's report has been commissioned to assess Houghton Bay Closed Landfill against the Natural Resources Plan Rule R82. This will inform next steps in relation to compliance with Rule R82. The report is expected to be finalised in March and reported back to GWRC as the regulator. Once finalised with GWRC it will be shared with the council.

For the LTP can you reclarify if this investment would be OPEX or Capex?

The investment to reline the leaking stormwater pipe beneath the closed landfill is CAPEX and is estimated at \$7M by WWL.

How would wetlands approach help this project in the meantime?

We require the Houghton Bay report to answer this question.

Is there a more holistic approach that could be a solution as requested by the community? How could we start to achieve this?

We require the Houghton Bay report to answer this question.

Is there a way the remediation project can be phased as the petition suggests?

We require the Houghton Bay report to answer this question.

What work have we done/ or engagement with the community/iwi on this issue? How will we work with the community/iwi going forward?

The Houghton Bay report will inform the next steps and associated engagement with the community and iwi.

Do council officers have a copy of the community plan? Can this be given to councillors please?

The community has developed the plan. Council officers do not have a copy of this.

How much of this problem is part of landfill remediation? What is available in the landfill remediation budget to help with this?

The Houghton Bay report will inform this answer. Should the report identify action required to ensure compliance with Rule R82, there is budget within the closed landfill provision for this. The closed landfill provision allows for regular maintenance and monitoring of aftercare needs for closed landfills, including provision for assessment against Rule 82. At year end officers assess funding requirements for the next financial year and out years, and allocate the provision accordingly.

Is there an opportunity/ have we looked into working with government funds on freshwater management to help remediate this?

The Houghton Bay report will inform this answer. However, we do know that the stormwater pipe that runs under the landfill has joint displacement which is allowing leachate to enter the pipe. The SW pipe is managed by WWL and the advice they provided in the LTP (stage three advice) is that it would cost approximately \$7m to reline.

It is unlikely that we would be able to access Govt funding.

How long have we known about this problem?

In the past 20 years the problem has been charted and a range of interventions have been taken to capture the base flows of contaminated stormwater and divert this to wastewater. Dilute discharge in times of high flow has yet to be addressed, and relining the stormwater pipe that runs beneath the closed landfill would do this.

What solutions have been presented over time? Have we tried to do anything to fix this problem?

The base flows from the stormwater network are already diverted to wastewater and treatment at Moa Point. There is a weir that also includes an on-line alarm to alert Wellington Water to when there are

high flows and the dilute contaminated stormwater runs to the coastal outlet – this provides Wellington Water with an opportunity to determine if there is a system fault and to estimate for how long the discharge has occurred. Regular flushing of the stormwater network also reduces the buildup of encrustations which can give an orange colour to the stormwater after a heavy rain.

Is the discharge toxic? Is the leachate in the park toxic? Do we recommend swimming at Houghton Bay after rains?

The Houghton Bay report will inform this answer. Regional Council does not monitor water quality of Houghton Bay as a swimming beach.

There is not a specific listing for Houghton Bay on the LAWA site- Is it possible to get this uploaded and monitored for water quality please?

This request would need to be made to Greater Wellington Regional Council.

Para 11- How recently were the CCTV investigations

2022/23

Para 14- what is the timeline for assessing 34 closed landfills?

WCC and GWRC have agreed on a phased approach, with three closed landfills being assessed annually against Rule R82 to determine whether a consent is needed. These will be assessed in order of priority, based on risk.

What is our priority list for remediation at the moment?

In 2015, Council carried out a review of all closed landfills based on historical documentation, past expert advice, historical correspondence, including public enquiries pertaining to each site and any relevant legal and compliance documentation. The age, size, type of landfill, water quality results (where available) and current land use on or adjacent to the site was also considered. Based on the review, a risk-based rank was obtained, which officers use to inform decisions on prioritisation for assessment.

We will continue to work with GWRC on the priority order. In the current financial year Houghton Bay, Ian Galloway Park and Horokiwi closed landfills are being assessed.

What are the various conditions that need to be met for Rule 82?

“Rule R82: Discharges from contaminated land – permitted activity

The discharge of a contaminant from contaminated land where a contaminant may enter water is a permitted activity provided the following conditions are met:

- 1) a detailed site investigation has been undertaken, reported and provided to Wellington Regional Council in accordance with Rule R81, and
- 2) the results of the detailed site investigation indicate that the discharge does not pose unacceptable risks to human health or the environment – on-site or off-site, or
- 3) the discharge from SLUR Category III land or SLUR Category IV land does not, or is not likely to, result in:
 - a) water quality exceeding the maximum acceptable value (MAV) in the Drinking-Water Standards New Zealand 2005 (Revised 2008) or 50% of the MAV in a community drinking water supply protection area shown on Maps 39, 40, 41, 42 or 43 at the following locations: 186 Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
- 4) at the property boundary, or within 50m from the source of the discharge, whichever is the lesser distance, or
- 5) in an existing bore within the property boundary or within 50m from the source of the discharge, whichever is the lesser distance, used to abstract water for any use other than water quality monitoring,
 - a) water quality in a surface water body within the property boundary or within 50m from the source of the discharge, whichever is the lesser distance, exceeding a value in Schedule V for the protection of 95% of species”

Is it ok to discharge contaminants directly into a marine reserve?

This question is best answered by Greater Wellington Regional Council

How will the proposed solution deal with the whole water system ie streams and springs etc? won't the leachate still keep happening due to the other water bodies?

Leachate is an issue as the joint separations in the stormwater network result in exfiltration from the network which in turn feeds higher flows into the surrounding groundwater. This surrounding groundwater then infiltrates the same joint separations and flows down through the stormwater network. Relining the stormwater network will stop the exfiltration and infiltration of contaminants into the stormwater network and ultimately the coastal discharge. The Houghton Bay report will inform this answer.

Are we aware of any other challenges like this around the country that we can compare this to for an optimum outcome?

No, we are not aware of similar challenges elsewhere.

3.1 Half Cost Paths

Just concerned about the disability and accessibility impact statement on the paths? Are we sure that they will continue to be maintained when council no longer involved and are accessible to disabled and mobility impaired residents and visitors? I don't think a "no impact " was appropriate in this instance.

The paper seeks agreement to undertake public consultation on the proposed review of the Half Cost Path Policy. The 'no impact' is in relation to the consultation rather than any of the options specified. The recommended proposal included in the SoP intends to clarify the responsibilities between the Council and the property owners, based on our initial public good versus private benefits.

The Council will consider whether to adopt the proposal in consideration of public submissions on all options discussed. Even if the proposal is to be adopted in the future, the Council will carry out necessary work to bring all the paths to a like-for-like standard for safety and access purposes.

3.2 Adoption of the Wellington Region Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2023-2029

What is the process for the initiatives that are to come from the actions? - will this be consulted on with the public or will we use the feedback in submissions? What is the timeline for this coming back to the WWMMP committee? Will this come back to each regional council as well?

The process for initiatives from the actions will be detailed in the implementation plan, that is due to be drafted by June. The feedback from the public consultation has helped formalise the WMMP and its actions. Once the WMMP is formally adopted by the eight councils, officers will progress developing an implementation and delivery plan for the WMMP actions. A plan will be brought to the Joint Committee for endorsement by June 2024. The Joint Committee will also receive annual reports, on all eight council updates and progress. **WCC councillors will receive regular updates on progress against the WMMP and WCC local action plan.**

Para 75 – f. What is the recommendation from officers for expenditure from the Waste Minimisation fund and Organics fund for the LTP?

The Implementation Plan will be presented to council in Joint Committee in June, this will detail the initiatives and associated funding. The organics funding options will be detailed in the 'Collection and Organics; Commercial Case that will be presented to council in May

How and when will we measure progress going forward ?

Answered in question 3.2.

3.3 Actions Tracking and Forward Programme

Actions Tracking no 17 - Grey water incentives plan- where did this land in the priorities for the Strategy and Policy work? What works is/has been done to communicate this by Wellington Water? What is the process to get this reprioritised?

This was included in the Strategy and Policy Work programme as a lower priority. To be reprioritised the Committee would need pass an amendment to direct officers to place this as a more immediate priority on the work programme.