

Hearings Panel
Akaroa Treated Wastewater Options
OPEN MINUTES

Date: Monday 12 October 2020
Time: 9am
Venue: The Gaiety Hall, Rue Jolie, Akaroa

Present
Members

Councillor Sara Templeton (Chair)
Councillor Pauline Cotter
Councillor Mike Davidson
Community Board Member Nigel Harrison
Community Board Member Tori Peden

12 October 2020

Samantha Kelly
Team Leader Hearings and Committee Support
941 6227
samantha.kelly@ccc.govt.nz
www.ccc.govt.nz

The agenda was dealt with in the following order.

Karakia Timatanga – Delivered by the Ōnuku Rūnanga and Akaroa school children.

1. Apologies / Ngā Whakapāha

It was noted that Councillor Keown withdrew his membership from the Hearings Panel.

There were no apologies.

2. Election of Chairperson / Te Whakatū Poumua Hearings Panel Resolved

It was decided that Councillor Templeton be appointed Chairperson of the Hearings Panel.

Councillor Cotter/Councillor Davidson

Carried

3. Declarations of Interest / Ngā Whakapuaki Aronga

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

4. Akaroa Treated Wastewater Options

Council Officers listed below joined the table to present the Officer report and respond to questions arising from the Hearings Panel. This included a PowerPoint presentation (**Attachment A**) and a Legal Memorandum, which was made publicly available on 12 October 2020 (**Attachment B**).

- Kylie Hills – Senior Project Manager
- Bridget O'Brien – Programme Manager Water Supply
- Brent Pizzey – Senior Legal Counsel

Attachments to Item 4

A Council Officer Presentation [⇒](#)

B Council Officer Legal Memorandum [⇒](#)

5. Volumes of Submissions

Hearings Panel Resolved BLHP/2020/00010

That the Hearings Panel:

1. Accepts the written submissions, including any late and additional submissions, received on the Akaroa Treated Wastewater Options consultation.

Councillor Cotter/Member Peden

Carried

Attachment to Item 5

A 34093 Pamela Fisher - Written document supporting original submission [⇒](#)

6. Hearing of Submissions / Ngā Tāpaetanga

The Hearings Panel received presentations from the following submitters:

- 33729 Kathleen and Brian Reid
- 33775 Christine Shearer (written document provided)
- 34779 Brent Schulz
- 33781 Sylvia McAslan
- 34066 Mike Norris, Chair and Victoria Andrews, Deputy Chair on behalf of the Akaroa Civic Trust (written document provided)
- 34076 Peter Squires
- 33937 Ian Le Page
- 34136 Marie Haley
- 34113 Kevin McSweeney
- 34139 Pam Richardson
- 34048 Ken Shearer (written document provided)

The meeting adjourned at 11.06am and reconvened at 11.19am.

- 33898 Ken and Fiona Paulin (written document provided)
- 34104 Brent Martin (written document provided)
- 33840 John Petrie
- 33939 John, Carol, Emma and George Masefield
34063
34064
- 33782 Mark Wren
- 34081 Suky Thompson. The following documents were provided:
 - Written document
 - Robinsons Bay site visit map
 - *“The Old Water Wheel”* by Jessie Mould
- 33838 Donna and David Kingan, Kingan Transport Ltd
- 34050 Harry Stronach on behalf of the Akaroa Ratepayers and Residents Association
- 34051 Harry Stronach, personal submission
- 34138 Fiona Buchan-Ng on behalf of the Eyrie Trust Takamatua (via teleconference)

The meeting adjourned at 12.26pm and reconvened at 1.31pm.

- 34103 Jan Cook, personal submission and on behalf of David Brailsford
34132 (written document provided)
- 34008 Sue Thurston and David Thurston
34007

- 33732 Raymond and Susan Bruce
- 34150 Richard and Jill Simpson, Fishermans Bay Co. Ltd
- 33881 Trevor Bedford
- 33877 Gill Bedford
- 34151 Alexander Lynne, Tree Crop Farm Ltd
- 33886 Georgiana Osborne

The meeting adjourned at 2.19pm to 12.30pm, Tuesday 13 October 2020, The Gaiety Hall, Akaroa.

The meeting reconvened at 12.30pm, Tuesday 13 October 2020, The Gaiety Hall, Akaroa.

6. Hearing of Submissions / Ngā Tāpaetanga (Continued)

- 33702 Tony Mason
- 34074 John Thomson (written document provided)
- 34095 Ivor McChesney (written document provided)
- 34039 Chris and Annette Moore
- 33865 Murray, Hanna and Will Johns
33847
33863
- 33932 Kevin and Averil Parthonnaud
- 34115 Suky Thompson, Dr Brent Martin and Pru Steven, QC on behalf of the Friends of Banks Peninsula and on behalf of the following submitters:
 - 33955 Craig Church
 - 33852 Shaun Huddleston
 - 34110 Karen Watson
 - 33920 Page Lawson and Stuart Jeffrey
 - 34011 Tessa Fenton
 - 33911 David and Nicola Shanks
 - 34117 Tom Brennan
 - 33933 Doig Smith
 - 34086 Richard and Sue Lovett
 - 34111 Janna Robinson

The group provided the following documents:

- PowerPoint presentation
- Two written documents
- Following the oral presentation Panel Members referred additional questions through to the Friends of Banks Peninsula. The groups responses and relevant information was received on 16 October 2020, as attached.
- Two further emails were provided to the Hearings Panel.

The meeting adjourned at 2.10pm and reconvened at 2.31pm.

- 33882 Diane Carson

- 34045 Suzanne Church (written document provided)
- 33857 Fiona Turner
- 33652 Garth Tiffen (written document provided)
- 33521 Robin Tiffen (written document provided)
- 34283 Hollie Hollander
- 34782 Ad Sintenie

The meeting adjourned at 3.08pm to 2pm, Friday 16 October 2020, Council Chambers, 53 Hereford Street.

The meeting reconvened at 2.10pm, Friday 16 October 2020, Council Chambers, 53 Hereford Street (the meeting was broadcast to the Boardroom at the Akaroa Service Centre).

6. Hearing of Submissions / Ngā Tāpaetanga (Continued)

- 33698 Alex Eason on behalf of the Mt Pleasant International Trust
- 33744 Ross Blanks (written document provided)
- 34124 Murray Smith
- 33805 David and Wendy Fleming
- 33989 Lee Robinson and Wendy Fleming on behalf of the Robinson's Bay Ratepayers and Residents Association. The following documents were provided:
 - PowerPoint Presentation
 - Written document
 - Attachment to submission
- 34116 Brett Lea
- 34038 Bronwyn Hayward
- 33869 Penny Carnaby
- 34031 Brian Eves on behalf of the Robinsons Bay Bach Trust
- 33777 Brent George, personal submission and on behalf of Mary Browne
- 33892
- 33902 Brent George and Nancy Tichborne on behalf of the Pavitt Family Trust. The following documents were provided:
 - PowerPoint presentation
 - Written document
- 34082 Grant Arthur
- 34099 David and Julie-Ann Beattie

The meeting adjourned at 3.27pm and reconvened at 3.41pm.

- 33919 Keefe Robinson-Gore (written document provided)
- 34016 Jeremy Moore (written document provided)

- 33883 Andy Thompson, Operations Manager for the Mahaanui District on behalf of the Department of Conservation (written document provided)
- 34134 Iaeon Cranwell, Wairewa Rūnanga, Debbie Tikao, Ōnuku Rūnanga and Rik Tainui, Ōnuku Rūnanga on behalf of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu (two written documents provided)

The meeting adjourned at 4.55pm to 2pm, Wednesday 28 October 2020, Council Chambers, 53 Hereford Street.

The meeting reconvened at 2pm, Wednesday 28 October 2020, Council Chambers, 53 Hereford Street (the meeting was broadcast to the Boardroom at the Akaroa Service Centre).

6. Hearing of Submissions / Ngā Tāpaetanga (Continued)

- 34080 Kevin Simcock

Attachments to Item 6

A Documents tabled by Submitters [⇒](#)

9. Site Visits

The Hearings Panel undertook site visits of the proposed and other relevant sites on Monday 12 October from 2.35pm and on Tuesday 13 October from 9am and from 3.30pm.

Attachment A includes maps which identify the areas visited:

- Map 1 – Overview of the site locations
- Map 2 – Inner Bays Scheme – Sawmill Road site
- Map 3 – Inner Bays Scheme – Takamatua and Hammond Point sites
- Map 4 – Goughs Bay Scheme – Viewable from the road to the south
- Map 5 – Pompeys Scheme
- Map 6 – Robinsons Bay pond site and adjacent historical sites
- General – Purple line on Map 1 – New wastewater treatment plant site, terminal pumps station site and Glen Bay
- Pipers Road to view field trial of native tree plantings
- Submitter 34081 also provided a map of Robinsons Bay to the Hearings Panel.

Attachment to Item 9

A Maps for Site Visits [⇒](#)

7. Consideration and Deliberation / Ngā Whaiwhakaaro me Ngā Taukume o Ngā Kōrero

At the conclusion of oral submissions the following Council Officers returned to the table to respond to questions raised by the Hearings Panel.

- Kylie Hills – Senior Project Manager
- Bridget O’Brien – Programme Manager Water Supply
- Mike Bourke- Senior Technician Water and Waste Planning
- Tara King – Senior Engagement Advisor
- Brent Pizzey – Senior Legal Counsel
- Brett Robinson – External, School of Physical and Chemical Sciences

Throughout the process Panel Members referred a number of questions through to Council Officers for response. The questions arose from the information provided by Council Officers and the written and oral submissions received, **Attachment A**. Following Panel Members questions Council Officers sat back from the table.

To enable the Hearings Panel to formulate recommendations, the Chair sought indication from Panel Members on their views in relation to the option of discharging highly treated wastewater from the new treatment plant to the harbour.

The Chair and Panel Members Tori Peden, Pauline Cotter and Mike Davidson indicated that they would not support the harbour outfall option. Panel Member Nigel Harrison indicated support for the harbour outfall option.

To enable the Hearings Panel to formulate recommendations, the Chair then sought indication from Panel Members on their views in relation to the options of discharging highly treated wastewater from the new treatment plant to the land.

The Chair and Panel Members Tori Peden and Pauline Cotter indicated support for the Inner Bays option. Panel Member Mike Davidson indicated support for any of the land based options. Panel Member Nigel Harrison indicated support for the harbour outfall option over the land based options, but would support Goughs Bay as a default position.

The meeting adjourned at 3.07pm and reconvened at 3.40pm.

Attachment to Item 7

A Hearings Panel Questions and Council Officer Responses [⇒](#)

8. Hearings Panel Recommendations / Ngā Tūtohu o Te Tira Tauaki

Hearings Panel Comment

The Hearings Panel formulated its recommendations in two sections.

The first section of the recommendations sought to acknowledge and address the underlying values expressed by submitters and supported by the Hearings Panel. The second section of the recommendations addressed the questions in the Akaroa Treated Wastewater Options consultation document.

The Hearings Panel rejected the continuation of discharging water to Akaroa Harbour. The Hearings Panel supported irrigating native trees and chose the Inner Bays option (Robinsons Bay, Hammond Point, Takamātua). Panel Members agreed the Inner Bays option as outlined in the consultation booklet needed additional recommendations to enable smaller storage ponds and to future proof the system so that a purple pipe reuse system can be added in future, when regulations allow.

Hearings Panel Resolved BLHP/2020/00011

Part A

The Hearings Panel recommends that the Council:

1. Acknowledges that many submitters advocated for a sustainable development approach to water in Akaroa and that the Council recognises the value of water as a precious resource and taonga.
2. Acknowledges that the water supply in the Akaroa area and wider Banks Peninsula will be increasingly under threat as climate change increases and that working towards non-potable reuse is supported by the Hearings Panel and most submitters.
3. Acknowledges the concerns of the community about the poor state of the wastewater network and recommends that Council aim for less than 20% inflow and infiltration through its work on the Council network and that it also require private property owners to repair their pipes.
4. Increases the promotion of water conservation measures in Akaroa to reduce the volume of wastewater, including the use of Smart Meters funded as part of the 3 Waters Reform funding and note the support for excess water charges to assist with this.
5. Regularly communicate progress on the repairs and of conservation measures to the community, Community Board and the Council and that the name of the project change to the Akaroa Reclaimed Water Treatment and Reuse Scheme.
6. Requests Council Officers to work with the Community Board to establish a Community Reference Group including members from the local Rūnanga to ensure that community concerns about the approved Akaroa Reclaimed Water Treatment and Reuse Scheme are listened to and, where possible, addressed.

Member Peden/Councillor Cotter

Carried

Hearings Panel Resolved BLHP/2020/00012

In response to **question one** of the Akaroa Treated Wastewater Options consultation document, “should we discharge highly treated wastewater from our new treatment plant to land or should we continue to discharge into Akaroa Harbour?”

The Hearings Panel recommends that the Council:

7. Rejects that Akaroa’s highly treated wastewater is discharged from the new treatment plant to the Akaroa Harbour.
8. Approves that Akaroa’s highly treated wastewater is discharged from the new treatment plant to the land.

In response to **question two** of the Akaroa Treated Wastewater Options consultation document, “if it decides to develop a scheme where highly treated wastewater is used on land for irrigation, where would you prefer the Council to irrigate? Inner Bays (Robinsons Bay, Hammond Point, Takamātua), Goughs Bay or Pompeys Pillar?”

The Hearings Panel recommends that the Council:

9. Approves that Akaroa’s highly treated wastewater is used on land for irrigation at Inner Bays (Robinsons Bay, Hammond Point, Takamātua).
10. Requests Council Officers investigate and incorporate where practical the following into detailed design of the scheme:
 - a. additional wetland site options as part of the detailed design, with the goal of reducing the size of the storage ponds.
 - b. maximize the planted areas of native bush to both reduce the size of the ponds and increase biodiversity outcomes.
 - c. investigate additional areas for irrigation of public space within the Akaroa catchment with the goal of increasing non-potable use.
 - d. futureproofing for potential non-potable reuse.
 - e. the re-use of the current UV treatment unit in the new treatment plant to enable non-potable reuse.
 - f. native tree plantings in Robinsons Bay to avoid key archaeological sites as recommended in the Heritage New Zealand submission and installation of interpretation signage for visitors to the site.
 - g. softening the contours of the plantings by following the natural contours of the land, running down gullies where possible and raised boardwalks where appropriate for recreation in new wetland areas.
 - h. Notes that water conservation and inflow and infiltration (I&I) reduction measures aim to reduce the size of the pond.
11. That Council Officers investigate the use of storage tanks instead of storage ponds and if practical discuss the option with the Community Reference Group.
12. Creates a scheme for local employment for the planting and maintenance of the native trees.

In response to **question three** of the Akaroa Treated Wastewater Options consultation document, “would you support us irrigating public parks in Akaroa with highly treated wastewater?”

The Hearings Panel recommends that the Council:

13. Approves irrigating public parks and flushing public toilets in Akaroa with highly treated wastewater as part of the scheme.

In response to **question four** of the Akaroa Treated Wastewater Options consultation document, “would you like use to explore the feasibility of a purple pipe scheme for Akaroa, so that residential property owners could use the water for garden watering and other non-drinking purposes?”

The Hearings Panel recommends that the Council:

14. Supports and requests Council Officers to explore the feasibility of a non-potable reuse (purple pipe) scheme for Akaroa, so that property owners could use the water for garden watering and other non-drinking purposes.
15. Requests Council Officers work with the Ministry of Health, the Canterbury District Health Board, Ngāi Tahu and water suppliers that are interested in non-potable reuse to develop non-potable re-use guidelines or standards for New Zealand.
16. Requests Council Officers discuss options for enabling non-potable reuse of treated wastewater with the Council as soon as practicable, should the regulatory framework change.

The Hearings Panel recommends that the Council:

17. Includes consideration of additional budget in the draft Long Term Plan 2021-2031 to implement the approved Akaroa Reclaimed Water Treatment and Reuse Scheme.

Councillor Davidson/Councillor Cotter

Carried

Karakia Whakamutunga: Delivered by Councillor Templeton.

Meeting concluded at 4.14pm.

CONFIRMED THIS 6TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2020 BY CHAIRPERSON SARA TEMPLETON