

Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū
Banks Peninsula Community Board
MINUTES ATTACHMENTS

Date: Monday 14 February 2022
Time: 10am
Venue: Held by Audio / Visual Link

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Submission to Banks Peninsula Te Pātaka O Rākaihautū Community Board, by Marie Haley of Goughs Bay. 14 February 2022.

Kia ora koutou,

I make this submission as an individual as I believe that the Christchurch City Council needs to have a formal record of the events of Cyclone Ruby December 15, 2021. Our situation is not unique, and I recommend that CCC should work to record the stories of other affected residents to guide future management decisions.

My submission is chronological and attaining only to CCC related issues, further information and background is publicly available on my website <https://theseventhgeneration.org/storytelling-blog/>
<https://theseventhgeneration.org/banks-peninsula-storm/>
<https://theseventhgeneration.org/terrible-storm/>
<https://theseventhgeneration.org/after-banks-peninsula-storm-2021/>
<https://theseventhgeneration.org/help-restore-goughs-bay/>

The events were as follows:

In 2016 Ecan Immediate Steps funding was approved and the Goughs main stream on our property was fenced under ownership of R&J Haley.

Around two years ago the Goughs Road surface was upgraded, from that point on the camber of the road caused water to run from 'Kiddies Mistake' (the tight corner above our house where the road starts to steepen) around the outer wheel track of the road right down the steep to the next sharp corner, 365m down the road. I made complaints about the road state to CCC on multiple occasions.

In 2020 funding was approved from CCC SES biodiversity funding and ECan Immediate Steps funding to fence two forest blocks and waterways on our property. Fencing was completed in July 2020.

On 10 December 2021 I made complaints to CCC and Fulton Hogan about the state of the road again, I was unable to get my 2WD tour vehicle out and nearly cancelled a tour due to the state of the road. It was thick mud in many places. Luckily it dried enough to get the van out and I left it in Akaora as I couldn't guarantee I could get it out again in the future.

Cyclone Ruby was forecast to bring 100-140mm of rain to Banks Peninsula. We had already received 166mm of near continuous precipitation over three weeks.

On 15 December 2021, we measured 270mm of rain in 15 hours, 300mm in 24 hours. Measured in Le Bons Bay, CCC reported 170mm of rain, 75mm in 5 hours, a 1/145 year event.

At 9am in the morning there were large standing puddles. By 2pm our drive was flooded, with the culverts on our drive filled with shingle from the road, water was over our gumboots in two rivers down the wheel tracks. At 5pm the neighbour rings to say how bad the road is, with slips forming all down the road, during the call our phone cuts out.

At some point around 6:30pm we watched as the Goughs Road collapsed, taking two powerpoles with it. A waterfall formed off the road end. Another two streams of water started on the other side of the hill above the house, and we worried that the hill and watertank would come down on the house overnight.

16th December 2021

It was still raining with low cloud to hide much of the damage. We eventually find that the collapsed road has taken 130m of our road fence, 0.5 ha of pasture, 100m of paddock fence, 65m of driveway, 100m of SES biodiversity fencing, 0.50ha of 50-100 year old forest, another 100m of SES fencing and a gate, a farm track, another 55m of SES fencing, another farm track, and dumped boulders over 0.8ha of pasture and removed mature streamside vegetation, taken another 100m of Immediate Steps stream fencing and 50m of boundary fence. Much of this fencing and forest has simply disappeared.

We check on the damage, check on the stock, the damage is overwhelming. No driveway, no road, no power, no phone, no internet, we never have cell coverage – we were completely isolated and had no way to call or get out. Multiple slips, many fences destroyed, no stock proof paddocks, stock water supply damaged.

Around 1pm we are able to message a friend to call 111 after finally getting generator going. We didn't know when the generator might fail and so we rush to get a message out.

By 4pm Tim the local policeman arrives, carrying in petrol so we can keep the generator going, I don't get to see him, but he's the first to see the damage to our road and Fulton Hogan walk down to see it.

17 December

Orion come in by helicopter to assess the power – the first people I see. Fulton Hogan clear the road to the get to the top of our property. Our access is a steep walk up to the road. George Masefield arrives at the door, at the same time Will Johns and Lyndon Palmer walk up from the bay, it's taken them two hours, again I don't get to see them.

18th December

The Lions Club deliver food packages to each isolated house, with a helicopter from rural support. The TV3 filming crew fly over our property and road damage, but they don't land. Finally, it feels that the scale of the damage is starting to be taken seriously. I email Andrew Turner asking where the support is from Civil Defence and CCC.

20th December Monday

We're hearing reports of neighbours who have had to walk home. I feel outraged that there is no assistance. Multiple people are trapped out and walk in alone.

I receive a reply from Andrew Turner at 11am "I have requested and am expecting a full update from the staff who are out on the Peninsula on Saturday asap. The lack of information is a concern and I have escalated that. I'll be in touch as soon as I've been briefed."

At around 4pm I receive a phone call (while in Akaroa) from Brenden Winder Civil Defence, he asks for a list of residents that should be checked on. I ask him why it has taken four days to have a CD response, he says you should have called 111, I answer that I did, he says 'oh sorry' and I ask if that is all, he responds 'what do you want me to do about it'.

There is an article in Stuff and in The Press about our situation.

ECan's biodiversity ranger comes to assess the damage to our conservation fencing only completed last year. We have lost at least 750m of conservation fencing.

Independent Line Services start to repair power.

A culvert is exposed on Goughs Road that R Haley had been asking for 20 years to reduce storm flow down the road.

I have an interview with RNZ. In that article the CCC Staff John Fissell claims that he had called a number of Goughs Bay residents, no one reports receiving a call.

21st December – Tuesday

Paul Devlin CCC Head Ranger comes out to assist with temporary electric fencing and temporary stock water.

Our power is back on late in the day. Our house water is out. Our freezer has stopped working and meat ruined. We have no phone.

Fulton Hogan walk in to assess the damage of the road, and our access track. There have been a lot of rumours as to how access will be restored (through our property).

I have my first ever panic attack. I felt isolated and overwhelmed. It's so difficult to not have communication with neighbours or phone. I call Brenden Winder Civil Defence for help, he says there is nothing they can do.

22nd December

Today I find out that Spark has not lodged my fault from a week ago and no one is coming to assess the phone. I have to lodge a fault again one week after the event, without phone or cellphone, but by waiting half the day on Messenger. Civil defence say they are chasing it up from their end, but we still need to lodge a fault with the supplier, it seems like madness. Even though I show a photo of the snapped phone cable Spark still want to send out a technician to fix it, when it's multiple cuts in the bay, at least 7 we've seen. We have no hope of phone for weeks.

23rd December

Civil defence finally arrive, eight days after. They ask us if we have any immediate concerns, I say the rock fall risk and mental health support after the panic attacks. A gate is placed on the road with a padlock (that turns out not to open).

24th December

A digger has cut us a track from the road to the house so now we can get goods in and out on the motorbike.

The Chorus technician come to assess the damage, finds two split cables and repairs them and then finds another in the neighbours and leaves.

26th December

I go to the far end of our property and find the enormity of the damage overwhelming, 300m of Immediate Steps stream fencing has disappeared, it looks like major bombs have gone off in the gentle stream, there is no streamside vegetation left.

27th December

I finally see a neighbour, 12 days after the storm, it is my first in person contact with any neighbours who experienced the storm event.

I receive my first contact from John Filsell an email "Hi Marie, My name John Filsell, Councils Head of Community Support. Civil Defence suggested that I make contact with you over the holiday period, just to check in so to speak. I wasn't able to get through on the phone. For peace of mind could you return this email letting us know that you are ok."

I reply:

"Hi John, It's nice to hear from you. I have an internet-based phone number now xxxx. We still have no phone. I'm not doing so well, it's a lot of change to take in and I'm feeling isolated from my community. I'm just being honest. I've had a couple of panic attacks. We've also had problems with the padlock on the gate and a lot of people have said they can't open it, and so are creating 4WD tracks and driving around. We're going out now to try the road gate, will be back in later this afternoon."

I do not hear back from him.

30 December

Paul Devlin Park Rangers lends us a InReach device that allows us to contact emergency services as we don't have a phone and are now using a digger and quad bike to restore the farm tracks and access the property down a steep and slippery track.

6 January

Janis Haley contacted Tracey McLellan MP for assistance with the phone lines, no further repairs or assessments had been attempted since 24 December. This was picked up by her office around the 12th. Chorus stated that repairs were delayed due to "safe access to the road" they finally assessed the phone on the 14th and said repairs could be months. Thanks to direct intervention from Tracey's staff a temporary phone line of four new large cables were laid overland and the phone was back on by 18 January to immense relief to finally be able to communicate with neighbours and coordinate repairs.

7 January

The padlock that was put on the Goughs Road on Christmas eve was broken from the start. We took it off and tried to repair it, returned it about a week later to find that the same broken padlock was put back on the gate, we sent an email to Paul Devlin who immediately arranged a Fulton Hogan staff member to remove it and replace it. It was extremely stressful to have a broken lock on our road, with no neighbours to call for help, no phone to call for help, and no road access for emergency services, while undertaking unusual and dangerous emergency repairs and with a two-year-old.

19 January

Will Toddhunter and Martin Rutledge of ECan come to do a preliminary stream survey and find no insect life in the stream, with a native brown algae growing across the stream.

Steve Guy CCC Road Manager calls, this I believe is the first phone call I have received from CCC. Steve communicates well, phones and emails and sends updates. After he contacts me, I start to relax.

20 January

An automatic notification from CCC updated me that the issues I had complained about prior to the storm on the Goughs Road 'has been resolved'. Reference H00843011. It seemed to be a bad joke.

24 January

RNZ report comes out on Goughs Road situation and the lack of communication from CCC.

25 January

Andrew Turner emails.

31 January

Andrew Turner and CCC and Fulton Hogan staff visit, this is our first visit from CCC other than Paul Devlin Head Park Ranger, close to seven weeks after the event.

By 10 February we have an access track that has shingle on it so that we can safely get a quad bike to the road in wet weather, it is not safe for a vehicle. It is difficult in the rain getting us and gear in and out without being soaked.

12 February we block a culvert that is sending water from the road down onto our new track, the culvert that was missing for 20 years needs to be replaced to divert this water flow.

13 February (yesterday)

After another 100mm of rain John Filsell calls for the first time to check on our safety.

14 February

Road access to our neighbours is almost open, allowing us to retrieve our cattle after six weeks.

We still have not have any contact from CCC Mayor or the head of civil defence and I would appreciate that the scale of this event and the resulting situation should be taken seriously. We have not had contact from the community board.

We have not had any support offered for the major repairs on our land other than from friends and family, no Student Army, no farming-based organisation, no council assistance to organise volunteers nor any financial assistance as is often seen in other major storm events such as the Ashburton floods of 2021.

On our 47ha property we have lost 29 fences, over 3km's of fencing, hectares of land that needs to be remediated with no EQC cover for this. But it is the significant loss to biodiversity and conservation fencing that has been the hardest loss for me. We have lost hectares of native forest and streamside fencing; we have lost all stream invertebrates and likely most fish life. While the road can be fixed and it might take some more months, it will take decades to restore the biodiversity that we have lost.

Ngā mihi,
Marie Haley
Goughs Bay

Good Morning

My name is Richard Matterson and I'm here in my capacity as manager of Naval Point Club Lyttelton.
I am joined by the chairman of our board Colin Lock.

On Saturday 22nd January Christchurch City Councillors and Banks Peninsular Community Board Members received an email from the Chair of Naval Point Club Lyttelton Board. This email set out a number of frustrations being experienced by Naval Point Club over a couple of matters; namely the disruption to our operation, especially the haulout through the groundwork required in preparation for SailGP and the issue of the breakwater / Wave attenuation at Naval Point.

If I can break each of these down a little and provide a little more context.

Firstly – Haulout

At the time of the email the reestablishment of our Haulout Facility appeared to have stalled without any apparent plan or timetable for us to resume our haulout activities.

We also did not and still do not have any certainty of tenure however this has been partially mitigated by the fact that we have now been allowed to return with a lease agreement under negotiation.

This facility is the only one available in the Christchurch area for the owners of moored craft to remove their vessels from the water. We have been out of action for a number of months and are under significant pressure from a waiting list which is growing on a daily basis.

When we were first asked to support SailGP, ChristchurchNZ promised compensation for the loss of the haulout operations, but subsequently advised that this would not be possible. And whilst we acknowledge that CCC has spend significant amounts of money on the SailGP site, Naval Point Club has had to absorb approximately \$100k in additional costs and lost revenue this year alone. Given our turnover is around \$350k per annum and we rely on grant funding to break even in even the best years this is a significant sum of money for a community club to have to find.

The haulout has not been included within the Naval Point Redevelopment, despite it being acknowledged as a key aspect of maritime recreation. At the time we were told that CCC and LPC were going to negotiate a parcel of land in the inner harbour and that an appropriate alternative haulout would be provided as part of the redevelopment. This has not happened and we have been advised that LPC are now negotiating with a commercial tenant to use that parcel of land. A commercial operation with no do-it-yourself opportunity is not a suitable alternative for the pre-existing haulout yard. CCC staff advise that they can do nothing to support the retention of an area within the Naval Point Redevelopment Zone for a haulout as it isn't in the plan signed off on by this community board.

We need to make significant capital expenditure to continue to be able to serve the needs of our community and the lack of certainty even for the next few years makes this difficult to justify.

Secondly Breakwater / Wave Attenuation

Naval Point Club has made an extensive submission to CCC on the matter of the Proposed Breakwater.

The current CCC proposal is intended to protect the Public Ramp and offers no protection to either the proposed hand launch or Naval Point Club ramps. CCC does not seem to see that this is any responsibility of theirs. There is a perception that the Naval Point ramp is private and can only be utilised by paying members of the club, this is not true. Anybody can carry their hand launched craft from the public carpark and launch using either of the two ramps at Naval Point Club and they frequently do – we restrict vehicle access to the ramps as a matter of safety – no other reason. We have always supported the separation of vehicle and hand-launched vessels for this very reason.

Moreover, hundreds if not thousands of Cantabrians use the back ramp, jetty and patio at Naval Point Club in the summer months for recreation, especially swimming. Areas that Naval Point has invested heavily in this past year to ensure the safety of the public after CCC declined to fix serious health and safety issues caused by erosion. We don't charge any of these people to use the facility - are they not considered public either? With the exception of recently due to COVID we make our toilet facilities available to these same members of

the public, the council does not provide facilities in Magazine Bay and our rubbish bins are used to keep the area clean – all this is paid for by members of Naval Point Club. Council talks about the need to pay someone to manage Naval Point in the future, that's what our team already do, we manage the facility on behalf of all the users but unless you're down there regularly you wouldn't see that as 99% of what we do is done unobtrusively, rather we make it work by proper planning and organisation that supports all the user groups.

The members of Naval Point are members of the public that have dug into their own pockets for the last 100 years to provide services to the general boating public. Naval Point is a significant metropolitan development and the whole of the Naval Point should be protected by proper wave attenuation.

The future

Despite all of the above we are trying to focus on the positives; Naval Point Club is currently working through the EOI process with CCC. To that end we have engaged David Allan and GLG Consulting to assist in this process in addition to working through a new Strategic Plan for the club.

Naval Point has entered into a heads of agreement with Te Hapu O Ngati Wheke to facilitate the development of a joint facility on the site. We are very excited by this alliance and see significant benefits in working together in partnership rather than operating independently. We are enthusiastically moving forwards to an exciting new facility at Naval Point.

We have attempted to discuss the haulout operation with LPC to no avail. They are not interested in engaging with us, other than to state there will be no do-it-yourself work permitted in a commercial yard. What we need though is support from the Community Board to retain the haulout at Naval Point to enable council staff to provide us with the certainty we all require and to support thinking outside the square, Stark Brothers have announced they are selling their business and the area they currently lease beside what was formally known as Patchett's Yard should be considered for inclusion within the marine recreation precinct. We all know that land is a finite resource and that no matter how much we have there will never be enough for the only all tide water access facility in Christchurch. Some people with amazing foresight ensured that the Christchurch District Plan has an underlying covenant on land at Naval Point to ensure that it is retained for the purpose of marine recreation.

We would be pleased to answer any questions that you may have.