

# Minutes

## Port Tarakohe Advisory Group

- Date and Time:** Tuesday 1 December 2020, 12.30pm
- Venue:** Pohara Boat Club Rooms, Port Tarakohe
- Present:**
- Cr Celia Butler – Councillor (Chair), Tasman District Council
  - Cr Chris Hill – Councillor, Tasman District Council
  - Merv Solly – Solly’s
  - Bob Butts – Director, Port Tarakohe Ltd
  - Dan Hames – Port Tarakohe Ltd
  - Graham Baigent – Commodore, Pohara Boat Club
  - Allen Reid – Talley’s
  - Barney Thomas – Manawhenua Ki Mohua
- In attendance:**
- Andrew Ellis – Commercial Portfolio Manager, Tasman District Council
  - Steve Tennant – Port Manager, Tasman District Council
  - Jane Park – Administration Officer, Tasman District Council (minutes)
- Apologies:**
- Mark Johannsen – Property Services Manager, Tasman District Council
  - Martin Potter – Tarakohe Marina Association
  - Mike Holland – Clearwater
  - Dave Gowland – Golden Bay Community Board
  - Dean Higgins – Kono
  - Ned Wells – General Manager, Marine Farming Association

Meeting opened at 12.30 pm

**1. Welcome**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Barney Thomas led a Karakia to open the meeting.

**2. Apologies**

Apologies from Mark Johannsen, Martin Potter and Mike Holland were received.

**3. Minutes of previous meeting – 29 September 2020**

These were taken as read.

**Moved: Cr Celia Butler/Allan Reid**

**That the minutes of the previous meeting on 29 September 2020 are accepted as a true and correct record of the meeting.**

**CARRIED**

**4. Action items from the previous meeting**

These were updated as follows:

- NPD follow up fuel lines – As funding has not been forthcoming from the PDU for the port upgrade this is to proceed. Steve Tenant has organised for a new quote for power and trenching which ties in with this. The existing quote was done 18 months ago. Work to be completed early 2021 – WIP
- Engage Manawhenua Ki Mohua member - Barney Thomas is available for the meetings so this is no longer required.
- Escalate request for Maritime NZ Spill Kit – A kit was requested but Maritime NZ have indicated this responsibility sits with the Regional Response Team i.e. Tasman District Council.
- Ensure Steve Tennant is included in planning for old wharf removal – Mark Johannsen asked Richard Kirby to advise.

**5. Port development update**

There was no response from the PDU regarding the request from Council to proceed with the grant funded recreational elements of the development. The PDU were pushing Council

for a final decision on the whole project and this would be decided by Council at a meeting on 18 December 2020.

Barney Thomas felt that Council should be pushing the ministers harder. Iwi is the main owner of the new consented mussel farms, and he felt that Iwi and Council should be working together more to push for full grant funding of the project. He wanted to see Damian O'Connor invited to see the farms first hand.

Bob Butts stated that there had not been a recent Steering Group meeting, and that recent correspondence circulated on email was not entirely clear. He was concerned that Council may be making a decision without getting a clear recommendation from the Steering Committee.

**Action:** Andrew will send the above concerns to Mike Drummond, Corporate & Governance Service Manager, as the project is being managed by the Council's leadership team.

Barney Thomas requested information showing the function and membership of both the PTAG and Steering Group.

**Action:** Jane Park to circulate information on the PTAG and Steering Group.

## 6. Health and safety update

Steve Tennant advised:

- A storm took out the port cameras. The Snapit camera and upper tower camera wiring is yet to be repaired due to new regulations for working at heights. It has been difficult to find a suitably qualified contractor.
- Work on the port contractor induction system is ongoing
- Attaining a Maritime NZ spill kit is still a priority. Council will complete an Oil Transfer Site Marine Oil Spill Contingency Plan and purchase the spill kit resources.
- The main weighbridge/entrance gate to be repaired this week. This work is to be done by Nelson Alarms and includes remote monitoring.

## 7. Port operations update

Steve Tenant advised:

- The damaged piling guides have been repaired.
- Various deferred works are now being progressed, including the boat ramp barrier arm, weighbridge gate, WIFI and power cable. Crucial camera that were damaged in the storm are now operational. Cameras on the high tower and Boat club are still to be repaired.
- It is expected to be a busy summer with local and domestic boating increasing in the absence of overseas travel. Capacity is already stretched so it is likely some vessels will be turned away. Vehicle and trailer parking could also cause issues.
- Steve has been working with Dive Services to plan mooring relocation and will be trialling a screw anchor next year.
- The boat ramp barrier arm was damaged again but we have no camera footage available. This has been repaired.
- New power cable is being re-price and will proceed early next year.

Old wharf demolition has been postponed until after the penguin nesting and summer season. The demolition has been scoped and engineering were thought to be putting this out to tender as per Council process. This has been priced before and there was a question querying the process and the timing.

**Action:** Andrew Ellis to provide details of the proposed tender process for the wharf demolition.

There was a request to retain the timber from the wharf. Andrew advised that it is not native or valuable and mostly rotten. There was not a suitable storage area at the port for it, therefore we are more likely to dispose of it as this will be more cost-effective.

## 8. Financial update

Andrew Ellis advised that it had been a very quiet first quarter. Revenue was well below budget. This is due to a number of factors including the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on wharfage income. Wharfage income from mussels was significantly below both the budget and previous years, and there was a general lack of understanding on the current state of the industry and forecast future harvest levels. This made it difficult to respond to certain councillors who continued to query the previous volume estimates provided by the industry. Bob Butts highlighted that there was significant amounts of equipment going out to sea to

set up the new farms. However, there was a concern that product was not being harvested and mussels were being left to drop off the lines, due to lower demand for the product.

It was questioned why council didn't go back to a line levy. Andrew Ellis advised that this was raised by the industry at the start of the development discussions and he asked them to come back with a proposal. However, the industry decided that they preferred to retain the weighbridge.

The overall financials for the port were skewed due to a timing difference related to the Government funding of professional fees incurred for the port development project. \$225k of fees were accounted for in the previous year, but the Government funding was received in the current year. As these income and cost items were offset in the financials under expenses, professional fees for the current year were currently showing as negative. The port was also showing a surplus for the year to date as a result of this. The Government funding was budgeted in the current year, but the phasing of the budget was not aligned to the actual receipt of the funding.

The overall financial performance of the port for the year was likely to be lower than budget due to the lower revenue.

**Moved: Cr Chris Hill/Cr Celia Butler**

**That the October financial report be accepted.**

**CARRIED**

## **9. General business**

Bob Butts circulated correspondence from Cynthia McConville of the Mohua (Golden Bay) Blue Penguin Trust. She advised 45 of the monitored boxes had breeding activity with one or two eggs present. Of the 88 eggs 78 chicks hatched and 69 of these fledged. This brings the colony's population to over 150 birds. A very successful year for the birds with the help of the volunteers.

## **10. Next Meeting**

2 March 2021

Chris Hill led a Karakia to close the meeting.

Meeting closed at 1.45 pm

**Action Log – 1 December 2020**

|    | <b>Action</b>   | <b>Assigned to:</b> | <b>Status</b> |
|----|---|---------------------|---------------|
| 1. | Send feedback on concerns raised regarding the upcoming Council decision on the port development. | Andrew Ellis        |               |
| 2. | Circulate information on the PTAG and Steering Group.   | Jane Park           |               |
| 3. | Provide details of the proposed tender process for the wharf demolition.                          | Andrew Ellis        |               |

Confirmed