

DATE Friday 25 July 2014

TIME: 10:00am, Motueka Service Centre

SUBJECT: Upper Motueka Rivercare Meeting 2014

Present:

Tasman District Council: Giles Griffith, Rick Lowe, Cr Stuart Bryant, Bettina Koessler

Taylors Contracting: Alex Ainley

Fish and Game: Present

Ratepayers: 9

**Item / Task**

1. **Welcome:** Giles welcomed all attendees to the meeting

2. **Presentation:**  
**New Approach**  
Giles advised that Council is working toward a new approach to river management. The focus will shift from a reactive to a proactive approach, taking into consideration holistic and multi-objective considerations. There will be a greater reliance on landowners who live along riverbanks to get in contact with Council when they notice any issues with the River.

**Fairway Lines**  
This is a new management tool which has been developed to guide what river works will be undertaken. It involves drawing up an ideal location for the river channel with a two year design flow. So far it has only been drawn up for the Waimea, Upper Motueka and Motupiko Rivers. It is important to realise that it is only a guide for Council staff, and is not yet publically available.  
It was questioned whether the guide was available to the public. Giles replied that is was not yet publically available, however Council Staff can bring a copy out to site inspections with landowners to refer to it at onsite meetings.  
A question was raised as to whether Council's Engineering department and the Environment and Planning department are working together on projects like this. Giles advised that the E&P department are aware of the guide, but not to a great extent. He further noted that it is important to note that this is only being used as a guide but that it would be key tool used by the rivers staff for long term management of relevant rivers.  
A ratepayer warned that the river running through the Tapawera area has not seen a major flood in a long time, and one must be long overdue, so want they want Council to be aware of this and make sure that the town will be adequately protected in case of a big flood event.

**Stopbanks**  
Giles advised that stopbanks are a key river asset and a pamphlet has been sent out to landowners around the district providing information on Council maintained stopbanks. This phamphlet is also available online and at Council service centres throughout the district.  
It was noted that there is a stopbank in the Tapawera area, but it is currently not maintained by Council. A representative of the Cycles Trails Association present at the meeting raised the idea that there is a possibility that the Great Cycle Trail would be going along the river in Tapawera, and the current stopbank could be included in the Council maintenance contract if it became a

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	<p>part of this trail.</p> <p>Cr Bryant advised that such an initiative would be very timely as there would be a need for public consultation and consent from all adjoining landowners. It would also mean an increase in the cost of rates of those living in the surrounding area.</p> <p><b>Illegal Dumping</b></p> <p>Unfortunately this is a growing issue around the district. Council has organised signage and surveillance at key sites where dumping is occurring most often. Council is very reliant on members of the public reporting people if they witness illegal dumping taking place, but details such as the registration of the car, a good description of the person or photos are needed as evidence to be able to catch the offenders.</p> <p>A ratepayer suggested that a major contributing factor of the large amounts of dumping in the area was the closure of the local transfer station some years ago. Re-opening the station would be of great benefit to the area. Cr Bryant advised that this would be a very long and costly process.</p> <p><b>Forward Works Programme</b></p> <p>Giles advised that works will focus on the establishment of vegetation buffers, weed control and riparian planting, signage and possible surveillance at Hinetai Ford, which is a hot spot for the dumping of rubbish.</p>
3.	<p><b>General</b></p> <p><b>3.1 Maintenance Plan</b></p> <p>It was questioned what the timeframe is for the current maintenance plan. Giles advised that since the new financial year the maintenance plan would be for 3 months rather than the previous maintenance plan which forecasted the programme for 12 months.</p> <p><b>3.2 Public Consultation</b></p> <p>Rick questioned whether Rivercare meetings were the correct format for public consultation and encouraged more public feedback and support. It was noted that these meetings were useful and Council staff were thanked for organising these, however, it is important that action and outcome come about as a result of what is discussed from these meetings.</p> <p><b>3.3 Fish and Game</b></p> <p>The Fish &amp; Game representative wanted it noted that Fish and Game try their best to work alongside Council to strike a good balance and have a pragmatic approach to Rivercare management. Rick agreed and said he believed Council had a good working relationship with Fish and Game.</p> <p><b>3.4 Rivers Global Consent Renewal</b></p> <p>A questioned was raised as to what is happening with the Rivers Global Consent. Giles advised that the consent is currently in a draft stage only, and is with Council's consent department. The proposed timeframe for the consent is the maximum 35 years. There will be a notified consent process so that the public and key stakeholders have an opportunity to see the consent before it is granted.</p> <p>He suggested another meeting like this one prior to the consent being lodged so that the Rivercare group have a good opportunity to go over the consent with Council staff.</p> <p><b>3.5 Contact Database</b></p> <p>It was suggested that attendees record their email addresses and that Council create a database where information could be passed on via email to all interested parties, for better communication. An attendance sheet was passed out and those who wanted to, were given the opportunity to add their details to this.</p> <p><b>3.6 LIDAR Survey</b></p> <p>It was questioned when the last Lidar survey was carried out and whether Council had any</p>

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	plans to do another one in the future. Giles advised that the last one was carried out 2 summers ago and it is Council's intention to carry out these surveys every 5 years.
<b>4.</b>	<p><b>Conclusion</b></p> <p>Giles thanked all present for attending the meeting and encouraged everyone to keep the communication lines open with Council.</p>
	<b>Meeting concluded at 11:40am</b>