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Report 99.172 227

14 April 1999

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Report of the Meeting of the Hutt River Floodplain Management Advisory Committee held in the Council Chamber, The Regional Council Centre, 142-146 Wakefield Street, Wellington, on Wednesday, 14 April 1999, at 4.30pm

Present

Councillors Macaskill (Chairperson), Thomas and Werry (Wellington Regional Council)

Mayor Terris and Councillor Cousins (Hutt City Council)

Mayor Kirton and Councillors Guppy and Harris (Upper Hutt City Council)

Mrs L Mellish (Wellington Tenth's Trust)

Mr T Puketapu (Te Runanganui o Taranaki Whanui ki te Upoko o Te Ika a Maui)

Also Present

Councillor Dalziell, Hutt City Council

Officers Present

Messrs Annakin, Atapattu, Darroch, Dick, Paul and Wilshere (Wellington Regional Council)

Mr Garlick (Hutt City Council)

Mr Wallach (Upper Hutt City Council)

Welcome

Councillor Macaskill said he especially welcomed Mrs Liz Mellish and Mr Teri Puketapu to their first meeting. The Regional Council had already worked with Mrs Mellish and her knowledge and expertise would be of great benefit to the deliberations of the Committee. Mr Teri Puketapu had worked closely with the Hutt River and his understanding of Maori values would be very much appreciated.

Councillor Macaskill said members and officers present were sorry to hear of the death of one of Teri Puketapu's nephews and asked that condolences be conveyed to the family.

Mrs Liz Mellish thanked Councillor Macaskill for his warm welcome and said it was a pleasure to be a member of the Committee. Her Trust had a vital interest in the life force of the Hutt River and looked forward to working with the Committee.

Mr Teri Puketapu thanked all present for their sympathy and said he would like to convey his condolences to any persons present who may have experienced a recent bereavement. Mr Puketapu said he was grateful for the recognition accorded to iwi by the Advisory Committee saying that the Hutt River was of vital importance for Maori. Mayor Terris strongly supported and endorsed iwi involvement.

Public Business

Procedural Items

HRF23 Apologies

Resolved

(Cr Macaskill/Cr Harris)

That the apology from Councillor Baird and the apology for lateness from Mayor Kirton, be confirmed.

HRF24 Public Participation

Margaret Aitken, Ratepayer

Margaret Aitken asked whether the Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan addressed the question of the impacts of tributary flooding into the Hutt River.

Mr Annakin said the Floodplain Management Plan addressed the impact of flooding from the Hutt River on the Hutt floodplain but will provide relevant information to analyse and assess tributary flooding and the impact of eg stormwater.

The “Water Courses Agreement” with territorial authorities sets out the policies for tributary maintenance and officers will prepare a paper for the next meeting of the Advisory Committee.

HRF2.5 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved

(Cr Macaskill/Mayor Terris)

That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 December 1998 be confirmed.

Matters for Consideration

HRF26 Hutt River Floodplain Management Advisory Committee: Terms of Reference

Report 99.153

File: N/3/13/25

Resolved

(Cr Macaskill/Mayor Terris)

That the report be received and the contents noted.

HRF27 Hutt River Floodplain Management Advisory Committee: Advice of Iwi Representatives

Report 99.149

File: N/3/13/25, E/6/10/6

Resolved

(Cr Macaskill/Cr Harris)

That the report be received and the contents noted.

HRF28 Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan: Project Leader’s Report

Report 99.150

File: N/3/1 3/25

Mayor Kirton arrived at 5.05pm.

Proposed Advisory Committee Workshop

Members were pleased to hear of the proposed Advisory Committee workshop, prior to the June Advisory Committee meeting that will recommend the Design Standard to the Landcare Committee.

Mayor Terris said he was pleased to see the milestones. Several members commented favourably on the Newsletter.

Aerial Photographs

Mr Puketapu noted that existing sites of importance for cultural and heritage values, recreation and ecology have been located and marked on aerial photographs. He asked whether Mrs Mellish could have copies of these photographs. Mr Annakin, Divisional Manager said that the photographs were working documents, size A1, however he would follow up Mr Puketapu's request.

Perceived Gravel Buildups on Hutt River

Members said there was a perception among ratepayers that gravel buildups had occurred in different parts of the river causing high beach areas which could only exacerbate the flood risk. There were further concerns about the declining use of bulldozers for channel maintenance.

Mr Paul, Manager Flood Protection (Strategy and Assets) said the October floods may have had an impact on the gravel buildups and surveys were underway to assess this. The results will be reported on when they are available. He also noted that high beach areas on one side of the river with a deeper flow path on the other, exaggerated the perception of a build up.

Resolved

(Cr Werry/Mrs Mellish)

That the report be received and the contents noted.

HRF29 Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan: The Path to the Design Standard

Report 99.147

File: N/3/1 3/25

Design Standards - Process

Members noted that for the selection of the design standard several components have to be brought together. The principal components with cost implications are channel management and stopbank or structural options. This evening, channel management options are described in some detail. In the next meeting of the Advisory Committee stopbank or structural options will be described in detail. Finally these components will all be brought together, with information on costs and benefits, at a workshop. Following the workshop the project team will then consider recommendations on design standards for consideration by the Advisory Committee.

Some members questioned whether Regional Council officers already know the most likely contribution of options. Therefore, why undertake multiple investigations? Councillor Macaskill stressed that, particularly in view of the potential costs, it was imperative to consult the community on the options, and particularly the level of residual risk they were prepared to accept.

Resolved

(Cr Thomas/Cr Terris)

That the report be received and the contents noted. These will be taken into consideration as the plan is developed.

HRF30 Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan: Channel Management and Protection Works

Report 99.137

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Mayor Terris said he had another appointment and regretted leaving the meeting early. Mayor Terris said he congratulated the project team for the momentum and sense of purpose of the project and had been buoyed up by the progress to date.

Mr Puketapu questioned the effect of increased velocities from straightening the river channel. He is also concerned about potential impacts at Waiwhetu and Seaview.

Mayor Terris and Mayor Kirton left at 6.30pm.

Resolved

(Cr Cousins/Cr Guppy)

That the report be received and the contents noted.

HRF31 Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan Public Consultation: Report on Progress and Scope and Strategy

Report 99.148

File: N/3/1 3/15, N/3/1 3/25

Feedback

Officers said the feedback from the Public Consultation programme showed concern for gravel levels, stormwater and tributary flooding.

Resolved

(Cr Thomas/Cr Werry)

- (1) That the report be received and the contents noted.*
- (2) That the draft scope and strategy for the Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan Public Consultation be endorsed.*

HRF32 Hutt River Flood Damage Repairs Progress

Report 99.162

File: N/90/6/1

Safety Issues

Members said there were safety concerns arising from the October 1998 Hutt River Flood and suggested that public safety be addressed in the next Newsletter.

Councillor Macaskill said he had received a phone call complementing Flood Protection staff for their excellent work at Mary Huse Grove.

Resolved

(Cr Macaskill/Cr Harris)

That the report be received and the contents noted.

HRF33 Questions

There were no questions.

HRF34 General

There were no matters of general business.

The meeting closed at 7.1 Opm.

Chairperson

Date