

# Meeting Notes

## Port Tarakohe Advisory Group

**Date and Time:** Tuesday 23 May 2017, start 2.00pm

**Venue:** Pohara Boat Club

**Present:** Cr Paul Sangster – Councillor – Tasman District Council (Chair)  
Matt Blythe – Harbour Manager, Port Tarakohe  
Gene Cooper – Commercial Manager – Tasman District Council  
Merv Solly - Sollys  
Milan Talley – Talleys  
Mike Steven - Pohara Boat Club  
Bob Butts – Director – Port Tarakohe  
Mike Holland – Clearwater Mussels  
Martin Potter – Tarakohe Marina Association  
Terry-Louise Rosser (meeting notes)

**Apologies:** Cr Tim King – Councillor – Tasman District Council  
Cr Sue Brown - Councillor - Tasman District Council

### 1. Welcome/apologies

Cr Paul Sangster welcomed everyone to the meeting.

MOVED Bob Butts/Mike Sangster

That apologies for Cr King and Cr Brown be accepted. – **Carried.**

### 2. Minutes of last meeting

Bob Butts queried whether any work had been done on the road widening behind the Boat Club – Gene responded that this was down to be done by Council.

MOVED Cr Paul Sangster/Bob Butts

That the minutes of the meeting held on 28 February 2017 be accepted. – **Carried.**

### 3. Health & Safety

Matt Blythe gave an update on health and safety issues at the Port.

The Council had received pricing for the ladders and just needed to make a final decision on whether three or five ladders are required. Following discussion among the Group it was felt that five would be better as the barges cover two of the existing ladders when in Port. Mike Holland asked if the ladders could come one metre over the top of the wharf. Matt confirmed the design of the ladders allows for this to happen. A suggestion was made that the ladders are hidden behind piles so the boats rest on the piles not the ladders. Milan Talley also asked if the ladders could be placed away from the ropes.

Matt has been advised that there is a slip risk/hazard on the mesh over the wood on the wharf front when ice/frost occurs. He is trying to establish whether there is a more suitable product to use and commented that removal of the mesh is not an option and this would make the situation worse.

There are a number of broken planks on the wharf that will be replaced shortly.

A survey was done on the condition of the wooden piles at the wharf front. This found that some piles are in poor condition and will need replacing. There would be some technical challenges in doing this and various options were discussed. No decision on how to proceed has been made as yet and Matt will discuss the options with Gene Cooper. Approximately two years ago a report was done on this and Gene offered to locate this and circulate to the group.

#### **4. Fees and Charges 2017/2018**

Gene stated Council still hadn't had any feedback on the changes. The increases will take effect from 1 July 2017. Tenders have been received for the pile berth replacements at a higher rate than previously thought. The lower tender has been accepted. This will be further factored into the pricing.

#### **5. Port Activity**

This period has seen an increase in the volume of crop and other product (mussels).

Wet fish volumes remain low.

Anatoki has visited twice within the period March – May 2017 and is expected again at the end of the week.

Rock movement has begun with the first load on 25 March. To date a total of seven barges have loaded with an approximate weight of 6000 tonnes of rock. Merv Solly commented that the weather had been hampering operations. There have also been issues at Wellington port which has meant the rock hasn't been able to be unloaded.

Gene provided copies of the financial information for the period July 2016 - April 2017 (10 months). He sought confirmation that the information presented was at the level required and it was agreed that it was. He explained that a summary of weighbridge usage was sent out to users each week. Operators were asked to check these reports and inform the Council of any errors before the invoices were sent out at the end of each month.

## 6. Operational Issues (next 3-4 months)

Planning for the dis-assembly of the pile berth has begun. Matt has been talking to all users to let them know what is happening. The area has been emptied as much as possible with all commercial boats moving to the new concrete structure and smaller boats to the plastic wharf. Vessels still housed in the area will require temporary accommodation within the port during the construction period.

There is an issues with Elvie not leaving when he said he would. Matt will talk to him. (Left port 31 May 2017).

The damage to the outer wharf arms has been fixed. This work was covered by insurance.

There are a number of vessels on a waiting list for berths but no new berths are being allocated until the work programme has been finished.

Gene has met with the Project Manager and tenderer to discuss the work flow for the upgrade and is waiting on timelines. NPD will carry out their work in conjunction with the Council.

## 7. Capital Development Programme

Gene passed around a sketch of how the wharf will look when the upgrade is finished. There was a general discussion about the changes and the space available on the wharf and whether the upgrade would meet current and future commercial needs. Merv Solly and Milan Talley expressed concern over the placement of the land based fuel pumps with Merv Solly stating he didn't think it was needed. He felt the space could be better used to provide facilities to support business growth, as if the facilities aren't available the contracts won't come.

Milan Talley also queried if the Port needed a fuel station and Mike Holland asked if it could go elsewhere.

Mike Holland also queried how the Port was going to handle the expansion of the mussel industry.

Several members raised the use of sheet piling to recover land as an option and this was being considered by Council management based on volume of rock activity.

Gene pointed out that the plans for the upgrade had been available to the Advisory Group for some time and that no issues had been raised previously. He would get a better version of the design out to everyone and talk to the engineers about options available for relocation of the fuel station.

Cr Sangster advised the group that Gene would send out information and that the location of the fuel pumps could be discussed at a later stage.

## 8. Financial Update

Gene provided copies of the financial results and highlighted the key points for the members. Some discussion followed on the reasons for the variations, the changes to the billing cycle, the additional income the upgrade would generate, long term debtors and the expectation that the accounts will be in the black next year.

## 9. Other General Items

A general discussion was held on the timing of the upgrade to the wharf with questions asked as to whether an interim solution could be found to accommodate any new barges. This would allow the Council more time to gauge future growth and plan for the longer term. No resolution was made on this matter.

It was noted that truck drivers were having trouble seeing cars coming around the tunnel road because of some temporary buildings obstructing their view. Matt agreed to look into this and remove the container blocking this view.

The meeting was concluded at 3.47pm.