

Notes of the Port Tarakohe Advisory Group Meeting

Date: 24 November 2015, start 12.30 pm
Venue: Pohara Boat Club

Present: Tim King (Chair) - Councillor - Tasman District Council
Martine Bouillir – Councillor – Tasman District Council
Carolyn McLellan – Chair - Golden Bay Community Board
Gene Cooper – Commercial Manager – Tasman District Council
Bob Butts – Director – Port Tarakohe
Allan Kilgour – Harbour Manager – Port Tarakohe
Martin Potter – Tarakohe Marine Association
Alan Russell – Pohara Boat Club
Dean Higgins – Ngai Tahu
Mike Holland – Clearwater Mussels
Valerie Gribble – Minute Secretary

Apologies: Nil

1. Previous Notes – 25 August 2015

Amendments were made to the previous notes.

Moved M Bouillir/B Butts

That the meeting notes for the Port Tarakohe Advisory Group, as amended, held on 25 August 2015, be received.

Carried

2. Port Strategy Update

Stuart Hughes is not available. Tom Hollings has agreed to have some input. There is wider work being done around the Commerce Commission enquiry. Valuations, depreciation and methodology are under review. The strategic review can't be dealt with until these issues are resolved in the first quarter of 2016.

3. Health and Safety Review

Work on the fuel bowser is almost complete and hoped to have the work finished before the end of 2015.

The owners of the Santa Monica which is tied up to the condemned wharf are in the final stages of liquidation. Council had received \$10,000 to date but wants the boat removed from Tasman waters. Information obtained from Ports of Wellington suggest it would cost \$17,000 for consents and up to \$30,000 to clear the boat.

Wharf life safety rings which had been raised as an issue in the Cosman Parkes report will be rectified by the end of January 2016. There is pressure with moving bigger boats in the pole berth area, so every second one may be taken out. This will be looked at in the new year.

There is a 28 metre, three-masted sailing ship coming to Port Tarakohe.

Mike Holland advised that Clearwater mussels are building a new boat.

4. Port Volume Update

The last two months had been busy, with \$71,000 in mussels and spat income since 1 July 2015 but only 2 or 3 loads of dolomite.

The meeting considered it would be helpful to compare income streams of each product and also trends for the next meeting.

Mike Holland noted that their mussels are harvested from September – December. He said that the Kaitaia mussels and Golden Bay mussels fatten differently in the Sounds, but both cycled together for the last two years.

Dean Higgins advised that mussels from Golden Bay now are better than those from the Sounds and factories want them.

Allan Kilgour said the port is capable of handling a lot of trucks/trailers, but parking for them is a problem. Gene and Allan are looking at port configuration.

Gene said he would be spending time with the farmers confidentially for strategic plan input over the first quarter of 2016.

5. Finances

Weighbridge information was tabled.

Council agreed to amend the tare records for Talley's and agreement has been reached on the issue and billing will be completed this month.

There are 8 or 9 empty berths, which means marina income is down.

The boat ramp/compound income was \$4,000 down due to billing time.

Gene is confident that the budget won't be over in terms of expenses.

A financial report to be sent out with the agenda in future.

6. Marina Update

Gene asked for thoughts on generating more income. If the port doesn't end up making money, prices for berthage will increase as Council seeks to achieve break-even.

Alan Russell suggested that some berths could be allocated to the boat club who would then on-allocate them. The inequalities of this had potential downsides to users who would have paid higher rates.

Allan Kilgour said the floating berths are nearly full, with only four empty out of 38. The pile berths need to be reconfigured to accommodate larger boats.

It was noted by Mike Holland that Havelock also has empty berths.

7. General Business

Mike Holland said that a hiab crane would be useful and would be a safer way to unload vessels. He believed it would cost approximately \$80,000. Ease of operations would be

enough to entice people back. Port Marlborough own them at Havelock and the cost was built into the prices.

Ladders are a safety concern to operators, especially at low tide. To address this, there needs to be a set of steps built into the wharf, especially for low tide use.

Bob Butts said there is a major problem with truck marshalling when aquaculture is in full swing. He said there is also a major problem with trucks crossing to the wrong side of the road to get around the tight corner. Councillors were asked to raise this matter with the Engineering Department as the matter had already been raised some nine months ago.

Dean and Mike left the meeting at 1.50 pm.

8. NZ Motor Caravan Association

Gene advised that a temporary licence has been issued for 6 – 8 months and the land lease will be paid monthly. The strategic review will include what we want to do. There is also a raft of peripheral issues.

Alan Russell advised there had been an issue with the caravan people moving freedom campers to the boat club area. They have put up signage.

Martine advised that locals don't know where they can go. Clearly defined areas are needed, which fishing could happen. She suggested that the Lions Club or Community Development could look at the situation.

Draft notes will be sent to all before being finalised.

The meeting concluded at 2.15 pm

Next meeting: 23 February 2016 12.30 pm – meeting request