

MEETING MINUTES

Subject	East Pukio & Okawa Drain Consultation Meeting	File No.	
Time/Date	4.30pm, 12 th September 2023	Location	GWRC Chapel St

	Attendees	Company
1.	Tim Lewis (TL)	Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC)
2.	Fraser Woods (FW)	Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC)
4.	Scheme Member 1 (SM1)	Landowner/East Pukio Drain Scheme Member
5.	Scheme Member 2 (SM2)	Landowner/ East Pukio Drain Scheme Member

Apologies: A total of 14 scheme members were not present

Item		Completed By	By When
1.	Introduction		
	TL – Introductions	NOTE	
	TL advised that the focus is on the East Pukio Drain as there is no Okawa Drainage Scheme Members present	NOTE	
2.	East Pukio & Okawa Drainage Schemes Presentation/Feedback		
	TL proceed with the presentation	NOTE	
	SM1 advised, they are only spraying the main drain they don't spray all the other ones. They just spray that main drain	NOTE	
	TL responded; no they should be spraying these. I'll make sure	NOTE	
	SM1 advised, and the next one back, they don't touch either, including the next one up	NOTE	
	TL responded, if your happy for them to be sprayed and want them sprayed, I'll make sure they spray them	NOTE	
	SM1 advised, probably aye, yeah, definitely	NOTE	
	TL responded, if not, previously Dion's dropped you off some chemical and you can do it yourself. We'll continue to do that	NOTE	
	SM1 advised, yeah, he's dropped off some Roundup and we can do it ourselves, yeah	NOTE	

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SM2 replied, either ither, I've made a big mistake using a knapsack this year, it took a long time, a lot of loads. I didn't quite finish that drain, I started it but	NOTE	
SM1 responded, yeah	NOTE	
TL advised, we'll make sure they know, if you want them all done, the whole lot done, they will do them. Because they have to go across your land to get to the drain, they will contact you before they do it and again if you've got crops in and you change your mind	NOTE	
SM1 queried, how come the Wellington Regional Council don't do the spraying? how come you contract it out?	NOTE	
TL answered, we just don't have the staff to be able to do it. You have to be trained and spray safe	NOTE	
SM1 responded, because if we decided to say right, well we'll spray our own drains that's money that we put into the drainage scheme that's still going to be sucked up by other scheme members	NOTE	
TL advised, well if everyone says they don't want us to spray, then yeah it will make a difference	NOTE	
SM1 replied, yeah but if other scheme members spray theirs then there's no point us doing ours ourselves and then someone doing the other scheme members because it still comes out of the whole scheme so you may as well do the whole thing	NOTE	
TL advised, you may as well, the scheme do it all or the scheme do none of it	NOTE	
SM1 replied, yeah that's what I thought too, okay sorry	NOTE	
TL responded, no that's alright	NOTE	
SM1 advised, that hopefully will fix itself (in relation to financials)	NOTE	
TL responded, yes once this round, this year's rates go in, yeah that will fix itself. It's not a major issue and specially we don't	NOTE	

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need to do much machine cleaning for another couple of years		
SM1 replied, yeah, we don't, good point	NOTE	
SM1 advised, we've got it on the back of our rates anyway (in relation to the rates breakdown for the East Pukio Drain)	NOTE	
TL responded; oh you've got it on the back of your rates anyway. But can you see exactly how you are paying into it, the scheme?	NOTE	
SM2 replied, this is the property size, or something is it?	NOTE	
TL advised, it's done on the amount of benefit you get from the drain, so yeah, the amount of property	NOTE	
SM1 advised, so I think you should pull out (SM2) because there's no point you being on it on your side. Yeah, how do you go about that?	NOTE	
TL responded, well you can just say that that's something you want to do as part of this review and we will include it in the options and stuff so	NOTE	
SM1 queried, so who's paying what do you know?	NOTE	
TL advised, you can check online	NOTE	
SM1 responded, I don't think I've seen it (in relation to celery weed)	NOTE	
SM2 advised, if you show me what it looks like I might know (in relation to celery weed)	NOTE	
TL replied, I haven't seen any within the East Pukio Drain	NOTE	
SM1 queried, don't you spray twice a year (in relation to an annual spray)?	NOTE	
TL replied, not at the moment but if you want us to that's something we can discuss	NOTE	
SM1 queried, I always thought you did it twice a year for some reason, when do you normally do it, Novemberish?	NOTE	

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TL responded, we try and get it done before Christmas, yup	NOTE
SM1 replied, yeah	NOTE
TL advised, if that's not enough and we need to do a double spray then that's something we can discuss	NOTE
SM1 responded, well no. Because ideally the best time to spray is like May, April. May before the floods come in and the weeds get stuck in the culverts	NOTE
SM2 advised, all the weeds will grow from now though; that's the thing, like even before they came along like October, November or whatever aye	NOTE
TL replied, yeah, well that can be something to think about, whether	NOTE
SM2 advised, you have to keep them clean though	NOTE
TL responded, clean enough to keep them flowing. Well, that can be the kind of thing that when we do the spraying a bit later or whether we do two lots of spraying or whether we do a spray and give you the chemical and you top up	NOTE
SM1 replied, yup, that's an option	NOTE
SM2 queried, those drains that flow out onto the roadside, and if they have been sprayed what's the legal requirements for signage or people getting water cress or something in those drains and they've been sprayed. Is there anything to know?	NOTE
TL responded, down there we haven't had any issues with that. We have had it elsewhere and we just put a sign up saying this drain has been sprayed we recommend you don't take anything out for three weeks after this date	NOTE
SM1 replied, yeah	NOTE
SM2 advised, yeah, I was just worried when walking around with the nap sac that the neighbours might ring up and complain to someone about the spraying of the drains and not having signs up in case they were going to get water cress or something. You don't know now days aye	NOTE

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SM1 advised, there is a guy, he comes every year down Pukio and he walks up and down my drain, he doesn't even ask me he just goes in there	NOTE	
TL replied, people shouldn't be going on your land without your permission	NOTE	
SM1 advised, it's the last thing you need	NOTE	
TL replied, if you are worried, just stick a, it doesn't have to be a fancy sign, just say look these drains were sprayed on such and such a date. I suggest you leave it for three weeks or whatever, then yeah	NOTE	
SM1 advised, I don't think they often go up Pukio unless they are going to be poaching on your land which they shouldn't be doing but yeah	NOTE	
TL advised, basically Glyphosate is the only chemical to be sprayed	NOTE	
SM2 queried, do you know much in regards to the eels, is it harmful to the eels?	NOTE	
TL replied, the Glyphosate is supposed to break down in the water, that's why it's used over the water. It only works when it's in contact with the vegetation on top of the water it doesn't sink into the water and affect the vegetation within the water. It is permitted to be used over drains and there is plenty of eels in there, in the drains when we've used it	NOTE	
SM1 advised, there were plenty when he (contractor) was cleaning them out because I was going along with him. Which is good to see. You know you have clean water	NOTE	
TL replied, yeah, it is isn't it	NOTE	
SM1 advised, I think we need you to do at least one spray (regarding the maintenance works). It is pointless spraying ours and not the neighbours	NOTE	
SM1 advised, I don't think we need to ever bother about those grabbers that get the weed out. I can't see the point in that	NOTE	
SM2 replied, its fine to get the weed, better than spraying aye	NOTE	

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SM1 advised, yeah but within our budget. I would rather have a digger come in and scoop the drain out	NOTE
TL replied, either do a spray or get a digger with a bucket and clean it properly. Yeah, there's no point, that slotted bucket for the cleaning, because it costs and doesn't achieve any more than the spray	NOTE
SM1 advised, yeah it costs heaps and it's not going to get us anywhere	NOTE
SM2 responded, costs the same amount no doubt aye (as a digger)	NOTE
TL advised, have a think about how much reserves you want to hold in there. I think if we are not going to do machine cleaning then probably what we've got is fine, it will build up over the next few years and then we can do a machine clean then	NOTE
SM1 responded, okay, I think so	NOTE
SM2 responded, yeah, as it needs it then	NOTE
TL advised, whether you want us to do more maintenance or less maintenance activities	NOTE
SM2 replied, at the moment I think it's running alright isn't it	NOTE
SM1 responded, yeah, I think just do what you've been doing	NOTE
TL advised, just do what we've been doing	NOTE
SM1 advised, just do your yearly spray and then every few years we dig it out	NOTE
TL replied, yeah that makes sense and then you know if something changes and you get a different weed in there, we can have a rethink and re-do that, no problem at all	NOTE
SM1 advised, I just don't want the scheme to be disbanded	NOTE
TL advised, also yeah, how we communicate with a small scheme like this. I think if you ring up Dion or myself, we can come down to sort stuff out seems to work quite well	NOTE

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SM1 replied, yeah it's been doing quite well	NOTE	
TL advised, we will just carry on with that, any issues just get in touch and we will get it sorted out	NOTE	
SM1 replied, yes, continue with that	NOTE	
TL advised, and possibly with some future stuff coming up, obviously whatever maintenance we do, the funding needs to match it	NOTE	
SM1 responded, yup	NOTE	
TL advised, which we aren't far from it	NOTE	
SM1 queried, so how much is it costing us to spray the drains?	NOTE	
TL advised; we have a price in there for it	NOTE	
FW advised, the price for it last year was \$5,031.26	NOTE	
SM1 queried, to spray?	NOTE	
FW advised, herbicide spray, is that correct?	NOTE	
TL responded, if that's what's in there than yeah	NOTE	
FW advised, yup that's what's in there	NOTE	
SM1 queried, \$5,000 and what	NOTE	
FW advised, \$5,031.26 that was works completed for 21/22	NOTE	
TL responded we will double check and we will let you know the figures	ACTION	BY NEXT MEETING
SM2 replied, that's quite high really	NOTE	
SM1 advised, that's really high, but then that's because your sub-contracting it out too aye. That's a lot of money	NOTE	
TL advised, we will double check and let you know after the meeting	ACTION	BY NEXT MEETING

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SM2 advised, might have to hit a couple spray guys up and see what their prices are	NOTE
SM1 responded, because we would get it cheaper if Sam did it or say someone like that. We would get it cheaper than that	NOTE
FW queried, do you need traffic management?	NOTE
SM1 replied, no	NOTE
TL advised, if you know of a local spray contractor that can do a cheaper job than let us know and we can get him in to do that	NOTE
SM1 replied, yeah that might be an option aye	NOTE
TL queried, who does Sam work for?	NOTE
SM2 responded, Sam does agricultural spraying but I don't know about drains. I don't know how they get on for doing drains. He's just got the truck with the fold out wings on it	NOTE
SM1 replied, yeah, but see when Rex was doing it, so his father. He just had one boom out and he went along	NOTE
SM1 advised, I think you can get it done cheaper	NOTE
TL responded, if you can let us know their contact details, we will give them a call and we will see what they can do, if they are able to, that would be good	NOTE
SM1 advised, Sam Thomas, because he might be a better option aye, and would definitely be cheaper than \$5,000. How many Kilometres is it, 7 Kilometres?	NOTE
TL replied, 7 kilometres yeah	NOTE
SM1 responded, 7 Kilometres	NOTE
SM1 advised, so what kind of options are you putting forward, are you, whether we spray or not. If other scheme members don't want to spray, then we don't have a leg to stand on	NOTE
FW advised, we have no legal right to spray scheme members drains that don't allow spraying, just so you are aware of that	NOTE

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	SM2 responded, it is a community scheme	NOTE	
	TL advised, it is a community scheme, and we can discuss the issues with other scheme members	NOTE	
	SM1 responded, that's good I think we are all on the same track. It's getting better	NOTE	
	TL advised, that's brilliant. I'm really pleased that the cleaning we did works, it's helping so	NOTE	
	SM1 responded, it's made it better. It's still not perfect but it's getting there	NOTE	
	TL advised, well we can always; next time when we are going down there we can always meet up and have a look at some other problem areas if you want to	NOTE	
	SM1 replied, well can we go back to the map so next time you just happen to be down there and if we aren't around, just have a look at this bit out here	NOTE	
	TL advised, you can clean your drains out, as long as you just do the base, that is permitted works	NOTE	
	SM1 responded, thank you. And that's the other thing just on a side note; with the guys that come in and do the spraying, you know because they have a boom, so they are spraying on the bank which you don't want to spray, you just want to spray down the centre	NOTE	
	TL replied, no they need to be just spraying down the base if it	NOTE	
	SM1 advised, the whole centre because otherwise everything falls in	NOTE	
	TL responded, yeah it does	NOTE	
	SM1 advised, you know, with like a gorse sprayer, you just walk along and spray	NOTE	
	TL replied, yeah just a bit	NOTE	
	SM1 advised, which they might be doing, I'm not too sure, I'm pretty sure. Oh maybe they do that, yeah	NOTE	

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	TL replied, well if your able to give us the contact details for those, we will give them a call and have a chat with them and see if they are able to	NOTE	
	SM2 advised, yeah, I'll have a yarn with them. I'll just see; I'll ask him what a price would be for that	NOTE	
	TL responded, okay yeah	NOTE	
	SM1 advised, we will have a chat with him and yeah. Who do you normally get now?	NOTE	
	TL replied, they are called Biosecurity Services	NOTE	
	SM1 & TL discussed getting a cheaper price for the herbicide spraying. TL will contact them and have a chat	ACTION	BY NEXT MEETING
	TL closed out the meeting	NOTE	
Meeting Closed: 5.06pm			