

MEETING MINUTES

Subject	Longbush Drain Consultation Meeting	File No.	
Time/Date	4.30pm, 7 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)
3.	Scheme Member 1 (SM1)	Landowner/Scheme Member
4.	Scheme Member 2 (SM2)	Landowner/Scheme Member
5.	Scheme Member 3 (SM3)	Landowner/Scheme Member
6.	Scheme Member 4 (SM4)	Landowner/Scheme Member
7.	Scheme Member 5 (SM5)	Landowner/Scheme Member
Apologies: A total of 19 scheme members were not present		

Item		Completed By	By When
1.	Introduction		
	TL – Introductions	NOTE	
2.	Longbush Drainage Scheme Presentation/Feedback		
	TL proceeded with the presentation	NOTE	
	SM3 questioned, so the bits in light green, is that the ones that didn't get sprayed?	NOTE	
	TL answered, no it's just that the green is what we hope to spray, and the red is the areas we've been asked not to spray	NOTE	
	SM3 queried, so you don't know what areas were sprayed?	NOTE	
	TL responded, last year it was the bits north of Millars Road, so up here and I think this bit down here	NOTE	
	SM3 advised, that was not sprayed	NOTE	
	TL responded, was that not sprayed?	NOTE	
	SM3 advised, that was not sprayed; because I said I didn't want it sprayed because there was water in the bed of the creek, and it was a waste of spray	NOTE	
	TL responded, not sprayed then okay, probably just that north end	NOTE	

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SM3 queried, are you being charged for that? Or do you put out a fee to spray the whole lot and that's the cost that they charge whether they spray or not?	NOTE	
TL responded; no we get charged for what they do	NOTE	
SM3 queried, well they said they've done that and they haven't	NOTE	
TL responded, well that's off the top of my head, that's what I remember, but I can go and check	NOTE	
SM3 advised, you need to know that	NOTE	
TL replied, I will double check the records and make sure	ACTION	BY NEXT MEETING
SM3 advised, and also, it's got an area in my property there that says do not spray. I don't know how long that's been in and why it's been in	NOTE	
TL responded, which bits that? that one there yup	NOTE	
SM3 advised, because that's where those seven Poplars were growing	NOTE	
TL replied, okay yes	NOTE	
SM3 advised, the guy who came out, who cut them said; well, he used to do the spraying and he says, why haven't these been sprayed. He said we used to spray them every year when we came along and that's why you haven't had it, until, you know obviously that it hasn't been sprayed for 3 years	NOTE	
TL replied, no. So the spray maps should have gone out to you all before each spray run, I think they posted them out	NOTE	
SM3 advised, yeah they did that and they came and saw me	NOTE	
TL replied, yup	NOTE	
SM3 advised, I said do not spray this area	NOTE	
TL responded, do not spray at all, yup	NOTE	

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	<p>SM3 queried, but why that was a do not spray over the creek and obviously it hasn't been done for 3 years because maybe that red mark is there. But that's what created the seedling Poplars</p>	NOTE	
	<p>TL advised, so know we can change that. So, yeah, I was just going to say that the spraying is, whether the drain on your property is sprayed is entirely down to the landowner, so any time you want to change the spray map, just get it touch with us and we can update it. When the sprayers need to cross your land to get onto the drain as well, they will contact you, and if you decide then like SM3 said, that you didn't want it sprayed again, you can say to them, please don't spray. So, it's entirely your decision, but we will get that changed on the map for this year. We've spoken to the sprayers and again we are going to try and get all the spraying done November, December time subject to the weather</p>	ACTION	BY NEXT MEETING
	<p>SM3 responded, I'm not too sure that's the right time to do it, because there's usually water in the drains through my property at that stage and you know, you don't want to be spraying. You need the bed cleaned, not the sides</p>	NOTE	
	<p>TL advised, yup, well absolutely that's the point of these meetings as well to try and determine when</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM3 replied, yeah and it always used to be done, end of January, early February which is an ideal time. You have good growth through there</p>	NOTE	
	<p>TL queried, so that's when you prefer it to be done?</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM3 responded, yeah, yup</p>	NOTE	
	<p>TL replied, okay yup</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM3 queried, um just a point, have we got anybody online?</p>	NOTE	
	<p>FW advised, yes we do, yup. We've got SM5 and SM4 online</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM5 responded, how are you?</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM4 replied, hey guys</p>	NOTE	
	<p>TL responded, welcome</p>	NOTE	

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TL advised, so yea that's the spray map as I say. You can change your mind anytime and before anyone goes across your land to spray, they will get in contact	NOTE	
SM3 responded, yea that's worked pretty good, but I was just concerned about basically saying that they have sprayed and they haven't, sort of thing	NOTE	
TL advised, no the areas in green are the ones that we are targeting to do, so	NOTE	
SM5 queried, what does that relate to sorry? (\$15,500 invoice – machine cleaning and regrading work)	NOTE	
TL advised, some machine cleaning and drain regarding work that was done by Millars Road, so at the top end of the scheme	NOTE	
SM2 replied, that's on the side of the road and the neighbours, yup	NOTE	
TL advised, so the scheme currently holds a reserve of over \$2,700	NOTE	
SM5 responded, so looking at that, it is actually operating in surplus and I'm just picking up on the letter that we've received where it says its operating in deficit. Can you give us a bit of context to what's in the letter about it being in deficit	NOTE	
TL advised, the bit in deficit talks about the aspirational maintenance which is an annual spray and a machine clean of the entire drain every 5 years and we've got some indicative rates and looking at those rates there's not enough income to cover that if that's the way you want to proceed	NOTE	
SM5 queried, so what's a machine clean? is that an excavator?	NOTE	
TL advised, yes, basically an excavator and a bucket and it will remove all the sediment and silt that has built up at the bottom of the drain	NOTE	
SM5 replied, right, look I think, you know, if I can offer my view on that. I mean we've been here 25 years, 25 + years almost and we've never had a mechanical cleaning of the drain, but I would, you know, if that, that needs to be a discussion point because I don't think that it's probably	NOTE	

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	<p>necessary anyway. I don't know if you've seen those drains when they get filled up with water, nothing can sit in there. There's no real ability for sediment certainly to gather in the sections that we've got you know and probably most of it would be like SM3 would probably testify that, I mean the thing is V-shaped, groove and in a straight line and water just whips through it, you know, so maybe we need to just challenge that as a requirement. I mean from my experience its more about spraying and perhaps the occasional remedial work, when something washes out or something like that</p>		
	<p>SM3 advised, um that is also the side drains through our property which you know probably could benefit from a clean. But they've been done once in the 35 years that I've been there and the last time that happened would have been 25 years ago. So not a lot gets done down that area of the drain, on the south side of the Eringa Stream</p>	NOTE	
	<p>TL advised, yup, so that's the point of these meetings, is to try and get an understanding of what actual maintenance you want on there so it sounds like the machine clean probably isn't required as we planned, every 6 years and we can change that as we go through</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM5 advised, but I think so. If it's the aspirational spend that you are talking about you know, laying/setting a rate for the future then that's a big driver behind it, then definitely I would suggest that</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM1 queried, I would sort of like to talk about the \$15,900 I think it is that was spent. I haven't actually seen the details of works that was done, but for that sort of money you would be expecting, roughly 100 hours of digger work minus obviously transport; that's a fairly large volume of material that would have been moved. I'm wondering if you would talk about that a bit and just expand on it because I've got no idea on where it was and what it was?</p>	NOTE	
	<p>TL responded, it was done before I joined so I don't have personal experience of it</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM3 advised; interesting thing about it, also is that if you talk to the neighbour, he says that it would be less than 1 km that was done and your estimated cost of cleaning is \$3,000 a Km, yet we get a bill for \$15,000. Okay, the spoil was carted away</p>	NOTE	

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	<p>but I would have expected that to be at the most double the cost of your \$3,000 so you know, there is a big hole there</p> <p>TL replied, yup, as I say I'm not familiar with those one's personally, but I can try and find out some more information</p> <p>SM1 advised, yea we kind of need to see an invoice for that</p> <p>SM5 advised, I definitely would agree and it needs to be understood the detail of that when we are just looking at high level numbers we can't drill down into it so it's difficult to have a meaningful conversation about it you know</p> <p>SM3 advised, well Paul and I are probably the longest standing members here, back not long after I first arrived they did some major works on that northern drain and there was a holders meeting to discuss it and a special rate was put out to do that extra job and since then there has only been minor cleanings and things that they've done which is shown out by your graph of that the scheme was in surplus until that money was spent which was spent to nobody's knowledge apart from the neighbours and the dairy farmers, I think that had it and probably to spend that amount of money and obviously it must have been done without a quote otherwise you would have said that there is not enough money in the funds to finance that lets have a meeting</p> <p>TL responded, yea, you would hope so wouldn't you</p> <p>SM3 advised, at which we would say okay, we will have a 2 year special rate imposed to pay for it</p> <p>SM2 advised, it seems like the drains, I've got a drain that runs through our place on the north boundary I keep that reasonably clear but on the other side its quite chocker. That's when I had the blow out at the bridge, when the bridge actually came up and the culvert was running backwards. The whole lot had come up like that, instead of the water running that way it was running that way</p> <p>TL responded, yup</p> <p>SM2 advised, and it sort of more or less all come down to level with our drive and then started coming up the lamppost, bottom of the lamppost then flowing right down. I keep our side clear but I notice on the other side, on the, where the old</p>	<p></p> <p>ACTION</p> <p>NOTE</p> <p>NOTE</p> <p>NOTE</p> <p>NOTE</p> <p>NOTE</p> <p>NOTE</p> <p>NOTE</p> <p>NOTE</p> <p>NOTE</p>	<p></p> <p>BY NEXT MEETING</p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p>
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SM3 and SM2 advised, no just down a little bit, about there	NOTE	
TL advised, but yeah, it's only this drain here that are in the scheme	NOTE	
SM2 responded, so basically it all comes, I keep my part clear but it's trying to coordinate other people too	NOTE	
TL advised, yup, so that might be one of the things you want to think about, is whether you want to expand the scheme to cover/include other people so you can coordinate the cleaning of those drains	NOTE	
SM3 queried, so all of those side drains going into the main drain are not part of the scheme?	NOTE	
TL advised, no	NOTE	
SM3 replied, Oh	NOTE	
FW advised, it's not the shaded area there, it's only the highlighted lines that you can see there	NOTE	
SM3 replied, but, well that seems, cause no doubt the shaded areas will be all rated for it	NOTE	
TL advised, yes	NOTE	
SM3 queried, but they get nothing for their rates. They are paying rates for that land, but they've got to clean the thing themselves so it's a bit pointless them paying rates for it, isn't it	NOTE	
TL advised; well, the shaded area has probably been calculated as the. As we explained, what the rate-age person pays is dependent on the benefit of the drain to them and the area of the land that benefits	NOTE	
SM3 advised, so there's multiple side drains coming from the eastern side of the road going across there	NOTE	
SM2 advised, and that's actually the problem and that's where I had that blow out and the bridge. I actually had clay boulders this big, with the blow out and it went back, the blockage went back about 600 odd meters, the bridge come	NOTE	

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	<p>up, the culvert started running backwards. Next thing you know I had our telecom and where the cable was going from the lamppost to the house, I actually had water tracking to the house</p>		
	<p>SM3 queried, well that would be district council wouldn't it. That's responsible for keeping that culvert dug under the road clean?</p>	NOTE	
	<p>TL replied, if it's under the road then yes it probably would be</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM3 advised, well there's plenty of those blocked everywhere</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM2 advised, well that's it, I went to the council and then I had one guy come out and he had a look and I told him don't come on Friday. He turned up on Friday and he told me I can tell him to leave if I wanted too. He said I don't want to walk too far though and that just upset me a bit</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM1 queried, so just on the matter of what's in the scheme and what's not in the scheme?</p>	NOTE	
	<p>TL responded, so the map there, basically everything covered, the bits covered in blue, is what the scheme covers</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM1 queried, has that changed over the years?</p>	NOTE	
	<p>TL advised, I'm not aware that it's changed recently no</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM1 replied, because I'm more meaning when the scheme, between when the scheme was started and when it was not. Because when you go back to your first slide, I think it was, where you had a profile of it in the 1950's</p>	NOTE	
	<p>TL advised, yup</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM2 queried, so what's in the green is actually in the scheme</p>	NOTE	
	<p>TL advised, yup</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM2 replied, can you flick that back?</p>	NOTE	
	<p>TL advised, yup, so again this map is available on the website</p>	NOTE	

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SM1 advised, they had one earlier because down, it's obviously changed at my place because my ones originally got all those squiggly ones through it	NOTE	
SM3 advised, because they used to cover up through Pat's and all around there	NOTE	
SM1 responded, yeah. The scheme must have changed at some point	NOTE	
FW advised, this presentation will be put on the website as well so you can look at that	NOTE	
SM3 advised, but you know, regardless, going back to the situation that we are now in. That should never have been allowed to happen without consultation with the scheme owners	NOTE	
TL replied, no it shouldn't happen, it's your money, you should agree to the works	NOTE	
SM3 advised, it's a drastic overspend without any control by us actually. Okay well I'm not arguing that it should not have been done but the way it was been done doesn't sound right	NOTE	
TL responded, no	NOTE	
SM5 advised, well particularly for a large number of us where the work that was actually carried out was kilometres up the road, you know and we're not even aware of it happening and you know, that's just not right	NOTE	
TL responded, no it's not right, it's your scheme and it's your funding and you should be controlling that	NOTE	
SM5 advised, yup	NOTE	
TL advised, I will try and find out more detail of what work was done there	ACTION	BY NEXT MEETING
SM3 advised, they actually sent that out to us, with the first rate instalment, yea its Carterton District Council (in terms of rates)	NOTE	
SM5 (expenditure) advised, you know, I don't, that risk of being accused of being sanicle, um you know, people see that	NOTE	

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	<p>reserve tracking up to \$15,000 and think oh we bet to spend it and then you know up it goes and then funnily enough the spend is very close to what the reserve is and you know, yea it just seems coincidental doesn't it?</p> <p>TL advised, I'm sure, because I say the schemes are yours and the funding is yours so you should be in control of that, so there shouldn't be anyone saying odds, if you decide the reserves are too high, then you can perhaps think to reduce the rates, it doesn't have to be spent, its earning interest, and the interest that it earns gets plugged back into the scheme, so the reserve doesn't need to be spent at all</p> <p>SM3 advised, yeah, well I think, it was ticking along quite nicely</p> <p>TL replied, yes, up until then</p> <p>SM3 advised, up until then. Well, I was quite surprised to see that there was only two people that were paying over \$1,000 a year in rates and I was one of them. I thought there would be 3 people paying as much as that and um you know</p> <p>SM1 queried, how is that calculated, is it just based on meters of drain per property or?</p> <p>TL advised, no its to do with, it's based on the area of land that you benefit from and I think the quality of land as well. So that's why you have a Class A and a Class B, representing the different qualities of land</p> <p>SM3 advised, I sort of also find, just looking around today that the integrity of the scheme is getting compromised a bit by some of the small landholders that have planted trees alongside the drain and its now preventing a mechanical clean of the drains and that is creating quite a problem at my place because basically at this stage of the year the only way the water is going is up into the atmosphere</p> <p>SM2 responded, and that's why I keep trimming them so I can get a digger there, you know what I mean, if I need to get a digger there, I keep trimming them</p> <p>SM3 advised, but you know, they should never have been allowed to plant to the extent they have and that happened 15 years ago</p>	<p>NOTE</p>	
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TL advised, unfortunately we have very little power to prevent that	NOTE	
SM3 advised, well I mean, well you should do really, I mean because basically in my situation the blockages are occurring at the very end of the drains coming through our property so therefore its compromising the whole scheme, so I may as well not pay any rates because it's really, it's only benefiting me in high water times	NOTE	
TL advised, well as FW was saying, the ideal situation would be to have an easement all the way along the drain to allow access and to prevent trees from being planted against it	NOTE	
SM3 replied, I thought that would be a given	NOTE	
TL advised, so again that can be something that the scheme members can	NOTE	
SM3 queried, it's a bit late now isn't it?	NOTE	
TL responded; I don't know why would it be too late?	NOTE	
SM1 advised, well the trees are 15 years old	NOTE	
SM5 advised, yeah, it's interesting because a number of years ago when Graham Ready (ex GW) was managing the drain, he indicated that it was no problem with planting trees because we've definitely planted trees and I would like to have trees along the water way there. I see them as beneficial overall as long as it, I mean we don't have blockage in our part of the drain anyway	NOTE	
TL advised, trees also provide shade and that helps stop the growth of weed in the drain as well	NOTE	
SM3 advised, the main drains good you know, no problems really, a few slumps this year but it's the side drains that are the problem	NOTE	
SM5 advised, yup. I mean, I think that the key thing is that the thing is able to flow freely and If there's access required to get in then it might be a matter of selectively removing some trees but just in the experience that I've had with it, we haven't had to do that, anything like that yet so it kind of bit	NOTE	

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	<p>of a moot point but I mean I can't speak for the, well I know we do have a side drain running through our property but again it runs quite freely that one also but I could imagine other ones might not</p> <p>SM3 advised, basically the, well all, not saying all, but probably 90% of the money is being spent on the northern end of the scheme. Because the original scheme diverted the Erigna Stream south and everything else went north and basically on the south end of the Eringa Stream where it crosses the road there has been bugger all money spent in the 35 years that I have been there and nearly all of the money has been spent on the northern end. So maybe there is a requirement for the adjustments of the rates, you know maybe the south end of the stream should become a B rating and more of the northern end go to an A rating</p> <p>TL responded, that's certainly something you can think about as part of the review, we can look into that and put that to the scheme members</p> <p>SM2 queried, I've seen that other one that you've got Millars Road what's the other road on the opposite side?</p> <p>SM3 replied, Riddells?</p> <p>SM2 advised, it goes inland going east</p> <p>SM3 replied, Eringa?</p> <p>SM2 advised, Eringa Road yeah. And you've got the, it goes down, you've got Eringa Road here and then it comes through, goes through the dairy farm. I've actually seen it, the water coming over into the dairy farm, you know you just go up there and you see the actual height of the water was so great that it was actually bursting/going over the top of the bank you know into the dairy farm</p> <p>SM3 advised, well it's not as bad as it was until they did that major clean 15-20 years ago. It used to be known as lake Longbush, it arrived in the middle of May and stayed there until October, that now drains away. So, they have got a tremendous benefit from it, you know that dairy farm involved, and they are the main beneficiaries in my opinion</p>	<p>NOTE</p> <p>NOTE</p> <p>NOTE</p> <p>NOTE</p> <p>NOTE</p> <p>NOTE</p> <p>NOTE</p> <p>NOTE</p>	
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SM2 queried, is that like a, looks like a clover type (in relation to celery weed)?	NOTE	
TL advised, yea looks a bit like a celery, with a hollow stem, but it grows really, really quickly and it becomes quite thick	NOTE	
SM5 replied, haven't seen that one	NOTE	
TL advised, that's good	NOTE	
SM3 responded, weed – we called it carrot weed or something	NOTE	
SM2 advised, I've got a lot of that and that's only since that blowout where I used to have just grass through there. When its dry I've been grazing the sheep on the grass there to keep it down and it literally would have been normally dry, and I've got a couple of Alpacas and I let them in there and they go in and clean it up, but they always do there poop up on the bank. They're pretty good, that weed, there is a lot of it	NOTE	
TL replied, you don't want that it grows really quickly	NOTE	
SM3 advised, as soon as you cultivate the paddock next to it to, it comes up	NOTE	
SM2 advised, I've been raking it out and pulling it out, trying to clear it	NOTE	
SM5 advised, we've had, I've noticed in the last 2 years and I have sprayed it once but it hasn't affected it too well is wandering willie	NOTE	
SM2 advised, I was cleaning it out with the rake and I was pulling eels out this big, it's incredible	NOTE	
SM3 replied, it must be healthy. Because that main drain has been fenced off ever since I arrived	NOTE	
SM3 advised, It is a petty because there was a lot of knowledge there (GW staff not completing the maintenance work)	NOTE	
SM3 queried, as far as your overheads are concerned. Do you inspect the drains as of right or do you only come in when we call you?	NOTE	

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TL advised, we only come in when called	NOTE	
SM3 advised, well it used to be, you know, somebody, the supervisor used to walk the drains every year and say that's all fine or it needs something done there	NOTE	
SM1 queried, going back to your health and safety requirement, the onus is on you guys to actually look at the details of work before you have contractors on because you overview them. So, if you're saying you don't inspect the drains but then you're getting contractors in and that's not part of your overheads then how are you meeting the health and safety requirements?	NOTE	
TL advised, we have, we basically have to do risk assessments and give those to the contractors	NOTE	
SM1 queried, so you do inspect the drains?	NOTE	
TL advised, we don't inspect the drains	NOTE	
SM1 queried, how do you do your risk assessment if you're not inspecting the drain?	NOTE	
TL advised, because we know what the drains like	NOTE	
SM1 advised, but you don't know if you haven't been and looked because it changes	NOTE	
SM3 responded, so you just say you can fall in the main drain with all the rest, trip over and it will be alright	NOTE	
TL advised, if the scheme members want an annual inspection we can price for that and you can decide whether that is included	NOTE	
FW advised, just going back to health and safety, so its quality assurance making sure the contractors got the right items in place for the works he's carrying out	NOTE	
SM1 advised, yea that's part of it. Like obviously I work in forestry and this is just putting a massive red alert in my head because we are ultimately trained owners. We are the buck stops for health and safety as far as the contracting goes	NOTE	

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FW advised, we can't direct a contractor, what to do. It's up to the contractor to provide the health and safety information	NOTE	
SM1 replied, no you are buggered mate. The buck stops at the top	NOTE	
FW responded, PCBU yes	NOTE	
SM1 advised, this is all what changed after Pike River	NOTE	
FW advised, so the contractor is a PCBU	NOTE	
SM1 replied, yeah	NOTE	
FW advised, Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking, yup	NOTE	
SM1 advised, so are you guys (GW)	NOTE	
FW replied, yes	NOTE	
SM5 advised, the contractor is required to have a robust procedure of their own that they need to show us, so we don't have to do that for them. So, we can say, please provide us with your process and we'll look at it and say no that's not good enough or yes that fine, make sure you work to it, you know	NOTE	
SM1 advised yeah, but you have to do your due diligence around it and as owners of it, we are responsible to you guys so we are trusting that you guys are doing it right because we are where the buck stops as well as the ultimate owners and there is plenty of issues with other industries like forestry, building and construction and stuff where owners who, like satellite owners who have no idea what's going on in their entities are having problems with this so	NOTE	
TL queried, what do you expect? what would you like to see?	NOTE	
SM1 advised, I think it's an absolute requirement that you are looking into the drains	NOTE	
TL queried, how will that, how do you envisage it working then?	NOTE	

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	<p>SM1 advised, well you probably just do an annual inspection or something or an inspection before contracting works is undertaken and this is probably what's come to you know, going back to the \$15,000 digger bill this sort of happened without no one knowing it and no one knowing what the details of it are and it all looking like a bit of an overspend has happened as well, so there hasn't really been any administration done by you guys on it</p>	NOTE	
	<p>TL responded, as I say I don't know enough about that to respond</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM1 advised, yea I get that</p>	NOTE	
	<p>TL advised, we will look into that</p>	ACTION	BY NEXT MEETING
	<p>SM1 queried, so what you are saying, going forward though is that you don't intend to do it going forward either so why would the same problem not happen again</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM5 advised, someone must be because somebody, is, it's already been mentioned that there's aspirational spend so that has to have come about by some sort of knowledge of the drain doesn't it</p>	NOTE	
	<p>TL advised, the aspirational spend is based on an annual herbicide spray and a 5 year machine clean and we've got rates for those, and we've multiplied them along the length of the drain and come up with a rough annualised funding requirement</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM1 replied, it's a calculated number</p>	NOTE	
	<p>TL advised, yeah</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM5 advised, yea so it could be that the drain just needs to be inspected every year and any determination made over any immediate kind of work required and perhaps potential future work required and then that gives us a stare as to manging the reserve, to have the right money in it at the right time, you know</p>	NOTE	
	<p>SM3 advised, I mean a bit of flexibility could go into it to. I mean after the year we've had its probably important that there is a drain inspection but if you get a normalised year with no major floods or anything you say oh well basically, we</p>	NOTE	

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<p>don't need to look at it this year everything should be fine, we will come back and look at it next year</p>		
<p>SM1 advised, ultimately, we are paying \$800 odd dollars for administration, if it was \$100 hour which is probably fair, we'd expect 80 hours' worth of work, like 2 weeks of work out of an individual to administer the drainage scheme</p>	NOTE	
<p>TL advised, I can ask our accounts team exactly what the administration charge is basically fixed</p>	ACTION	BY NEXT MEETING
<p>SM1 replied, yeah, I get that</p>	NOTE	
<p>TL advised, it covers the cost of doing the accounts and managing the reserve fund and paying invoices and stuff</p>	NOTE	
<p>SM3 queried, what managing of the reserve fund is there?</p>	NOTE	
<p>TL advised, they put it in and out of investments, I believe and stuff. So, it's not all</p>	NOTE	
<p>SM3 queried, so does that come back into the scheme?</p>	NOTE	
<p>TL advised, yes. All the interest comes back into the scheme. So, if you look on the financial, you have been getting interest on the reserve. So basically, all the reserves, my understanding is that all the reserves across GW are sort of put into a big lump sum and then that's invested. So, they aren't treated as individual accounts as such</p>	NOTE	
<p>SM3 advised, anything else is as required (in relation to an annual spray and inspection). If it's going to use up more than what the reserves is then there needs to be a meeting</p>	NOTE	
<p>TL queried, you would rather have an increased rates over the next couple of years to pay for any larger works?</p>	NOTE	
<p>SM1 advised, well if that's required yeah</p>	NOTE	
<p>TL replied, if that's required, yup</p>	NOTE	
<p>SM1 advised, based on the accounts that you have put to us, its one bill that's caused the problem that's you know if that bill wasn't there or was managed</p>	NOTE	

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TL responded, well no, we have only machine cleaned. I mean how long the drain, the drains 9 Km. If you say there is only 1 Km been machined cleaned than the rest	NOTE
SM1 advised, well, less than yeah	NOTE
TL responded, the rest hasn't, has it. So, we haven't been doing this aspirational	NOTE
SM3 advised, and the cost of that 1 Km is pretty much up there	NOTE
TL replied, yup	NOTE
SM5 advised, if you see that main drain in flood, you soon come to appreciate that it's pretty well self-cleaning you know yeah. I mean I've said that before, but you know not much can sit around in that part of the drain	NOTE
TL advised, yeah that's good, we've got some good direction there	NOTE
SM3 advised, I think everybody alongside it's in it you know, well the must be because they've been you know (in relation to inviting other landowners into the scheme or not)	NOTE
TL queried, well you said that there's other drains that aren't, invite other drains that aren't part of the scheme, yeah?	NOTE
SM2 advised, yeah, the drains that lead into that drain yeah, because you know that's what worries me it was because like, I've gone over next door, jumped the fence and it's just a build-up of willows about this high and you know it's about that high, I spent half a day pulling out bits of willow and soon as that backs up it comes right back to our house you know and affects the run off there	NOTE
TL advised, yup, so it also talks about this sort of aspirational maintenance, it sounds like, well have a look at that and look at some alternatives	NOTE
SM3 advised, the problem with that is that if I'm at the end of the scheme and everything is going fine with me (in relation to disbanding the scheme) you know the fact that its causing problems further down you know, I'm not going to spend	NOTE

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	<p>money to do that unless I'm affected are you, so for the integrity of the scheme it needs to be, yeah</p> <p>TL responded, well as I say it's up to you, you are the owners of the scheme</p> <p>SM3 queried, have we being getting these figures sent to us every year (in relation to managing communications between us) including the COVID? Because you know I remember them being sent out every year and anything to discuss you know, let us know sort of thing but I don't remember apart from this one we got this year, but we got a copy of it for the last two years</p> <p>TL advised; okay I will double check on that</p> <p>SM3 advised, yea because basically, until this letter came out that was the first time we all asked about this major works that had happened</p> <p>FW queried, is that the financials SM3?</p> <p>SM3 advised, yeah</p> <p>FW replied, yeah</p> <p>SM3 advised, but basically this came out every year</p> <p>FW advised, going forward we can put that up on the website as well. We are hoping to put more information on the website so you can just refer to the website and see what's happened etc..</p> <p>TL advised, I think when there's works planned as well like the spraying and stuff we can put those on the website sort of once the spraying has been done we can put the spray maps up showing what's been done on there. So yeah, have a think about that</p> <p>SM3 queried, do all those things mean that there is perhaps other funding coming from a high that we could actually use to continue to keep our drains nice and clean (in relation to the new legislation) and fish life maintained?</p> <p>TL advised, I'm not aware of any potential, but it's just, you know, this could have an impact on the drain and stuff. So as I</p>	<p></p> <p>NOTE</p> <p>NOTE</p> <p>ACTION</p> <p>NOTE</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p>BY NEXT MEETING</p> <p></p>
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say, I'm sure, once we have unpacked this and have got a better handle on it there will be further communications coming out		
SM3 responded, I mean I'm sort of considering you know like the catchment schemes that are being, because basically this is a catchment scheme isn't it	NOTE	
TL replied, yeah	NOTE	
SM3 queried, so there's funding available for catchment schemes for various reasons and you know, can we tap into that?	NOTE	
TL advised, well the catchment schemes are funded by targeted rates as well, so any other funding and subsidies can be, are eligible to be applied for if they can be	NOTE	
SM2 responded, there won't be any in your shoes, I mean if I get a digger in and dig out my creek, that small creek, because it's starting to, you know like with that weed that was in there	NOTE	
TL replied, yeah	NOTE	
SM2 advised, and just tidy it up because I've got Toe toe's that have sprouted like Toe toe's along that I want to get them out of it	NOTE	
TL advised, yeah, there is permitted activities and sort of cleaning drain is part of those, as long as you comply with the permitted activities you are allowed to work on your property, yup	NOTE	
SM2 advised, I would love it if next door did it as well, downstream you know	NOTE	
SM3 queried, is that the neighbours?	NOTE	
SM2 replied, no, the actual, where the old dairy farm used to be	NOTE	
SM3 responded, oh that is, that's the neighbours	NOTE	
SM2 replied, the neighbours yeah	NOTE	
SM5 queried, is that Toe toe or pampas grass?	NOTE	

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	<p>SM3 replied, is there a difference?</p>	<p>NOTE</p>	
	<p>SM2 advised, yeah, its heaps of and bits of willow root, down low, you've got willows and you've got the roots and it's just like land bridge, it would be the width of this coming up about this high and you can walk across it and not even get your feet wet and then on the other side of it it's about a meter deep, you know</p>	<p>NOTE</p>	
	<p>TL advised, yup, so provided you stick within the permitted activities you can maintain your drains yup</p>	<p>NOTE</p>	
	<p>SM2 replied, yeah that's all good</p>	<p>NOTE</p>	
	<p>TL advised, (in relation to next steps), first of all we will dig out that information on those machine works and get that out, we will publish them on the website or email them out or however</p>	<p>ACTION</p>	<p>BY NEXT MEETING</p>
	<p>SM1 queried, is it the ambition of GW for us to set up a committee, like you've mentioned it a couple of times</p>	<p>NOTE</p>	
	<p>TL advised; it is entirely up to you. So, some of the smaller schemes, when there's only a few people it's really easy to communicate with everyone at once. Some of the bigger ones, we've got ones with 50 and 100 people in, so a committee seems to work better. But it's entirely up to you, if you want to say no, we would prefer everyone to come along to a 6 monthly or an annual meeting that's up to you, it's your scheme</p>	<p>NOTE</p>	
	<p>SM1 advised, yeah personally I think just a little bit more letter writing and basically when works are being undertaken and I think you hit the nail on the head with the notion of continuing with the spraying and consulting with us when machinery works need to be done. I think that's pretty much what everyone who's part of this meeting has come to you and said. And I think that if any members think that works need to be done then they should contact whoever the person who's been assigned to do the annual review on the drain or, carry on forward like that, just sort of putting it out there as a suggestion</p>	<p>NOTE</p>	
	<p>SM3 queried, who's our first point of call? you or Robbie?</p>	<p>NOTE</p>	

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	TL advised, either one of us, it doesn't matter	NOTE	
	SM4 advised, that sounds good, and I support the conversation today, certainly in terms of more regular communication, certainly support that	NOTE	
	SM1 advised, the only other thought I had was whether it's possible to get a price per distance for hand cleaning of the drain, say like weed eating or something like that for areas that don't want to be sprayed that maybe need to	NOTE	
	TL replied, yup	NOTE	
	SM1 advised, just as an alternate to places you need to clean that can't be mechanically cleaned or something	NOTE	
	TL advised, yup we can do that	ACTION	BY NEXT MEETING
	TL closed out the meeting	NOTE	
Meeting Closed: 5.29pm			