

HAURAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL

EASTERN PLAINS DRAINAGE DISTRICT

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EASTERN PLAINS DRAINAGE DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD AT THE NGATEA COUNCIL OFFICE, ORCHARD ROAD WEST, NGATEA ON TUESDAY 30 AUGUST 2016 COMMENCING AT 1.30PM

PRESENT Messrs R Hunter (Chairperson), K J Reid, K R Caddy, A Green, P Schouten, R Webster and Cr J H Thorp

IN ATTENDANCE Cr B A Gordon, Messrs Mr ID McLeod (Drainage Manager), Mr B Stephens (Drainage Overseer) and Ms C Black (Council Secretary)

APOLOGIES

RESOLVED

THAT the apology of B Conroy and T Nicholson be received and sustained.

EPDD16/09

Caddy/Schouten

CARRIED

LATE ITEMS

There were no late items.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MEETING HELD TUESDAY 28 JUNE 2016 (1554208)

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Eastern Plains Drainage District Committee held on Tuesday 28 June 2016 are confirmed and are a true and correct record.

EPDD16/10

Hunter/Thorp

CARRIED

DRAINAGE REPORT AND FINANCIAL REPORT TO JULY 2016 (1577815)

The Drainage Manager's monthly report on the operations of the Eastern Plains District Drainage Committee for the July 2016 was presented.

RESOLVED

THAT the monthly report on the operations of the Eastern Plains District Drainage Committee for July 2016 be received.

EPDD16/11

Thorp/Webster

CARRIED

Re-commissioning of Green Drain

The Green Drain from a point 340m east of Campbell Road to an intersection with the Factory Outlet Drain was de-commissioned around 20 years ago. An annotated aerial photo was attached detailing the location of the drain.

The New Campbell Drain flows north from SH 25, past the east end of Shelly Beach Road, then west to the Campbell Floodgate. The Campbell Floodgate was recently reconstructed by Waikato Regional Council, on its existing alignment, and utilising the concrete mattress of the old structure.

The local landowner north of Shelly Beach Road contends that he has suffered extensive ponding since the Green Drain was decommissioned, and that this ponding has worsened since the new floodgate was constructed, allegedly at the same invert level which is estimated to be 0.6m low under current tidal conditions.

In addition, the design of the new gate, with a 'fish friendly' flap is prone to damage and jamming open, thus letting tidal water onto pasture.

The landowner has requested that Council investigate the re-commissioning of the Green Drain to intercept some of the flow in the New Campbell Drain and divert this to the Factory Outlet Floodgate approximately 1 km upstream from the Campbell floodgate. The Factory floodgate has a shorter outlet channel which is less susceptible to silting and provides a better discharge capability.

Council staff and the Chairman inspected the drain and culverts on 11 August. The drain is essentially still operable, although has reduced capacity due to lack of maintenance since its decommissioning. It bisects two properties, one each side of Campbell Road. Both landowners are comfortable with the drain being upgraded and taken over as a Council drain. There are six culverts, ranging from 600 diameter to 1200mm (under Campbell Road). As the drain will primarily act as a balance drain, it is not proposed to upgrade culverts initially. Depending on the flows in the two catchments, it may be necessary to install some control at the intersection of the New Campbell and the proposed Green Drains to ensure that the intended relief to the northern area is effective.

The works will involve the felling of a number of small trees adjacent to the drain upstream of Campbell Road, and the upgrade of the drain with a reasonable machine clean.

It was recommended that this upgrade is carried out, and the 1100m extension to the Green Drain be taken over as a Council drain.

RESOLVED

THAT the Green Drain in Area 1 in the vicinity of Campbell Road, Orongo, be re-commissioned and taken over as a Council Drain.

EPDD16/12

Thorp/Webster

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS

MEMBERS' COMMENTS

The members are invited to comment on any general drainage issues of interest in their areas.

Roger Hunter – Healthy Rivers Initiative – attended meeting. Discussion points were issues around pesticide/herbicide residues and fertiliser runoff into waterways.

Andrew Green – Te Kauri Drain Bridge on Hauraki Road has been cleared.

Kim Reid – H Drain – where it runs through Les Smith's property is in need of machine cleaning.

The Drainage Manager tabled a letter from the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) advising that the overall conclusion of the review is that Glyphosate (used in Roundup) is unlikely to be genotoxic or carcinogenic to humans and not require a classification under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act.

The meeting closed at 2.40 pm.

CONFIRMED

R P Hunter
Chairperson

27 September 2016