



Minutes – 29 June 2022

In Attendance: Stefan Corbett (Group Manager, Partnership & Operations), Sheil Priest (General Manager, Communications & Engagement), Amanda Bradley (General Manager, Policy & Governance), Tim Langley (Roading Manager), Nigel Carter (Health & Safety Advisor), Kaitlyn Carmichael (Committee Advisor)

Also in Attendance: Hinekura Residents, support agencies and community group representatives, elected members

Meeting opened with a karakia

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mr Corbett acknowledged the ongoing challenges for Hinekura residents and the impact the ongoing accessibility challenges have had on their lives.

2. MEETING PURPOSE AND GUIDELINES

Mr Corbett noted that the purpose of this meeting was to provide an update on the status and plans for the road and to hear the concerns of Hinekura residents. Mr Corbett noted that the Hinekura Relief Fund would be discussed and that several support providers were in attendance.

3. ROADING UPDATE

Mr Corbett noted that that Hinekura Road has been rendered unusable at the site of the landslide and stated that the priority of Council is to create a new road that is available to all traffic and meets current safety standards as quickly as possible.

Mr Stewart (WSP Engineer) provided residents with a presentation detailing the initial and secondary landslide on Hinekura road and outlining potential route options for moving forward. Mr Stewart noted that some potential routes were currently uncertain as further movement of the land was expected. Mr Stewart requested feedback from the community on the proposed route options and residents noted that all considered routes must be suitable for all vehicles, including stock trucks.

Mr Stewart undertook meeting with Mr McCreary and Mr and Mrs Hancock (landowners in the area) to walk through the proposed routes and discuss further options.

Residents queried a timeline for the work and possible funding options. Mr Corbett noted that an external project manager would be appointed and undertook providing a workplan publicly when available. Mr Corbett noted that Council will complete the program of work as quickly as possible, but that the initial phase of verification and design would take many months.

Mr Corbett noted that current alternative access via Admiral Hill Road was open for all vehicles. Mr Corbett acknowledged the ongoing work being done to

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increase the useability and safety of the road including: widening of the road in problem areas; cutting back of vegetation impacting visibility; adding of road markings and signage where needed; and looking at adding of cattle grids. Residents noted concerns with the safety of the road and Mr Corbett requested any residents with specific problem areas or suggestions on how to further mitigate risk provide him with this information urgently.

Mr McCreary, with support of Mr and Mrs Hancock, presented a plan to bulldoze a track through private property to act as a route for light vehicle access until the alternate road is complete. Mr McCreary was asked to propose a budget and timeline for the project. Hinekura residents noted they were in full support of this plan.

Mr Corbett acknowledged the generous offer from the McCrearys and Hancocks and undertook seeking legal advice on the implications of this temporary route. Mr Corbett undertook working with Mr McCreary to explore this option as a possibility.

4. WELFARE AND SUPPORT FOR RESIDENTS

Mr Corbett acknowledged the disruptions the road closure is having on the community and noted that support for the residents is a priority for Council. Mr Corbett noted that the \$20,000 Hinekura Relief Fund has been set up for the community and provided information on how to apply. Residents made suggestions on how the funds could be used, including: grocery/petrol vouchers; support with farm labour/employee wages and travel costs; renovations to the Hinekura Hall; support with travel costs to work and school; accommodation costs in Martinborough or Masterton; childcare; community rented accommodation in Martinborough; funding for community wellbeing events; purchasing a defibrillator for the Hinekura Hall; and first aid courses for residents.

Mr Corbett noted the importance of creating a confidential directory with resident information in the case of the closure of the alternate route. Ms Donaldson undertook working with Mr Corbett on this.

Support organisations provided information on what they were able to offer residents:

- Work & Income (Ministry of Social Development) – able to work 1:1 with farmers towards retaining and transportation of employees.
- Fire & Emergency Services New Zealand – outlined the triage/emergency management system for residents.
- Ministry of Education/School Transport – Looking to work with families in the area on the best solution for continued education and school transport. Requesting suggestions on what the community would like to see in place.
- Ministry of Primary Industries – Willing to continue to work alongside Rural Support Trust and provide support as available.

Residents noted some additional concerns and Mr Corbett undertook following up:

- Potential for reflectors and white lines on the alternate Admiral Hill route
- Working with Scan Power to ensure continuity and reliability of power
- Liaise with NZ Post on delivery – mail will be delivered to the Hinekura Hall on a biweekly basis.
- Follow up with Carterton District Council on the communications to the Admiral Hill community. (**Update:** *Carterton Council has been updated and*

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will manage their communication with residents as needed. At this stage they believe the only impact is increased traffic. And the joint roading team will assess if there is a need for cattle grids.)

- No exit and additional signage on Admiral Hill – Residents to follow up with Mr Corbett on locations.

5. NEXT STEPS AND CLOSE

Mr Corbett noted the next steps:

- Council to create a directory of support organisations for residents
- Ensure ongoing communication with residents through email distribution list, the website and social media and share a plan of work including the timeline when it is available.
- Council to meeting with Rural Support Trust on an ongoing basis and work with them to create a confidential residents directory.
- Council to work with Mr McCreary on the feasibility of the temporary farm track.

End.