

## Paraparaumu Wastewater Treatment Plant –

### Community Liaison Group (CLG) Meeting

#### Minutes of Meeting

##### Held:

Wednesday 4 December, 11AM-12:30AM, EOC Briefing Room, Fytfield Place, Paraparaumu.

##### Chair:

Tess Drewitt (Compliance Manager, Council) (TD)

##### Present:

Ramesh Pillai (Manager Water and Wastewater Services, Council) (RP)

Grant Stuart (WWTP Manager, Council) (GS)

Ben Thompson (Water conservation & trade waste officer, Council) (BT)

Reuben Mackey (WWTP Supervisor) (RM)

Anna Muspratt (Resource Advisor, GWRC) (AM)

Robin Falconer (Friends of the Waikanae River) (RF)

Pip Parkin (Regional Public Health) (PP) – online

Ami Coughlan (Fish and Game) (AC) – online

##### Apologies:

Kim Mazur (Laboratory Manager, Council)

Sean Mallon (Group Manager – Infrastructure Services, Council)

#### Distribution: PWWTP CLG

Item	Action
<b>1 Welcome/ Introductions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>TD did a quick welcome and introduction. No roundtable as all attendees regularly attend CLG meetings.</li></ul>	-
<b>2 Agenda Overview</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>TD presented an overview of the meeting agenda.</li></ul>	-
<b>3 Matters arising since previous meeting</b>	
<b>3.1 WWTP resource consent publicly notified</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The WWTP resource consent was publicly notified and submissions closed on 7 November. TD advised CLG members when it was notified. Some CLG members made submissions. TD acknowledged the work involved in reading through all the notification documents.</li><li>RP gave an update on the submissions. 8 submissions were received, 1 further submission made by Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki after the submission deadline. Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai Charitable Trust, F&amp;G and Public Health all submitted. Nearby residents also submitted.</li><li>The Council decided not to extend the deadline, so the late submission has not been accepted. In making this decision, the Council referred to previous communications with Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai where iwi confirmed that the WWTP is within their rohe.</li></ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ RP confirmed that the Council intends to work directly with submitters, including providing additional information and context to the application, to see if all submitters wish to continue with the process or withdraw submission.</li> <li>■ RP confirmed that the Council is also working with Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai Charitable Trust to regain support. RP's understanding was that support was withdrawn due to personnel changes at Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai Charitable Trust. It is likely that the application will proceed to a hearing in 2025.</li> <li>■ RF queried whether the Council had engaged with Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai Charitable Trust as per the Treaty House model or whether this approach would help. TD confirmed that the Council engages with Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai Charitable Trust through the Wastewater Project Governance Group, which is consistent with these principles.</li> <li>■ RP understands a summary of submissions has been prepared. RF queried if this could be shared with the CLG. TD said it would likely be shared as part of the hearing process; RP will confirm if it can be shared prior. The Council will also keep the CLG in the loop on how things progress.</li> </ul> <p><i>Update: GWRC has provided a copy of the summary of submissions and confirmed it can be shared with the CLG.</i></p> <p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Summary of submissions to be shared with CLG.</li> <li>2. Council to keep CLG in the loop with progress.</li> </ol> <p><b>3.2 Water Outlook – New report format</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ TD introduced the new reporting format and went through the format in the presentation. TD mentioned that there was no chart with the influent/effluent/rainfall tables and that this would be helpful to show visually how close the discharge gets to the limits and how rainfall changes discharge volumes. BT agreed to prepare a chart for the next report (blue: rain, green: effluent, red: influent). RF also requested that the date be reformatted so it's more visible. The group agreed that the chart would show discharges to date.</li> <li>■ RP suggested adding groundwater to the chart. The Council monitors groundwater levels under the storm pond to show the relationship between rain and groundwater. Level and finished storm storage basin floor depth. For example, groundwater levels were 0.5m higher during the August/Sept rain events this quarter.</li> <li>■ RF made a comment relating to groundwater level monitoring through the Waikanae River Recharge Consents, noting that groundwater levels have been observed as dropping through that monitoring. The group had a general discussion around groundwater monitoring, and BT noted that the Council is investigating the groundwater findings through the river recharge consents but that they are unrelated to using the river recharge scheme as the Scheme did not operate over the time the changes were observed.</li> <li>■ Report triggered discussion around potential changes in consent limits under the new consent. RP mentioned about Nitrates that would likely have lower limits (0.1mg/litre) conforming to the NPS expectations. Same limit applied to Otaki WWTP's consent.</li> </ul> <p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. BT to include influent/effluent/rainfall chart in Q2 report with suggested edits.</li> </ol>	<b>RP</b> <b>TD</b>
	<b>BT</b>
<p><b>4 Review of Quarterly Report – Q1, FY24</b></p> <p><b>4.1 Q1 report summary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ TD presented a summary of Q1 report:</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fully compliant with consent conditions in Q1.</li> <li>• The Council held CLG meeting in August 2024.</li> <li>• Storm storage pond used 2x in Q1, FY25.</li> <li>• Further upgrade projects underway.</li> </ul>
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Storm storage pond</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ TD showed data of storm storage pond, confirming it was used twice in Q1 due to high rainfall. TD showed photos and drone footage of the newly lined pond, with capacity increased to 43,000m<sup>3</sup>.</li> </ul> <p><i>Note: Further discussion on storm storage pond under Item 5.1.</i></p>
<b>5</b>	<b>CAPEX Activities – Q1</b>
<b>5.1</b>	<b>PWWTP improvements plan</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ TD noted that the CLG regularly discusses capex projects, but that it would be helpful to link this to the proposed WWTP medium term (15-year) consent.</li> <li>■ For reconsenting, the Council proposed a two-stage approach: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1. Medium term consent with improvements (15-years)</li> <li>• 2. Longer term consent with BPO</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ Council proposed an improvements plan for the 15-year consent, which is currently being progressed.</li> </ul>
<b>5.2</b>	<b>Improvements plan – work completed</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Aeration system upgrade</b> – Made the performance of the aeration system more effective and energy use more efficient. New aerators have significantly reduced energy costs (saved 10%).</li> <li>■ <b>pH correction</b> – Keeps effluent at a neutral pH, around 7.3.</li> <li>■ <b>Storm storage pond upgrade and lining</b> – Significantly increased capacity and lined, which means the storm pond provides higher buffer for storm flows and eliminates the discharge of contaminants to land from the storm storage pond. RM commented that if the pond was in place when the Council last had an emergency overflow (December 2021), the overflow would have been avoided as the pond could contain all flow before pumping back to the WWTP. RP raised the issue of whether the Council could discharge stormwater from cleaning the pond into the stormwater network but confirmed that the Council needed to discuss the approach internally before seeking more advice from GWRC. RP also queried the consenting status of using the pond more than 3/year now that it is lined. TD noted that GWRC's position is that you cannot s.127 a consent that is operating under s.124, but that the Council has agreed to be lenient given it is outside the Council's control.</li> <li>■ <b>RAS-1 upgrade</b> – Returns activated sludge to the clarifier, enhances performance of the clarifiers. GS noted that the better performance will allow our workhorse bacteria to better digest the sludge and remove nutrients. Council is optimistic it will reduce the nitrates in the effluent further. The RAS1 works complete, and Council hopes complete by Christmas.</li> <li>■ <b>Stormwater improvements</b> – The stormwater team has investigated I&amp;I and is now implementing site-specific improvements. This will help reduce storm overflows into the WW network and reduce pressure on the WWTP.</li> </ul>
<b>5.3</b>	<b>Improvements plan – work underway</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>A-Recycling System upgrade</b> – planned for completion end of Q2 – improved nitrate treatment</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Hydraulic debottlenecking and UV Upgrade</b> – Concept design is complete, but the Council is waiting feedback from GWRC about the log reductions for virus removal in the treatment need to be achieved.</li> <li>▪ <b>Inlet structure upgrade</b> – Preliminary design is progressing.</li> <li>▪ <b>Mazengarb Stream planting</b> – The Council is working with iwi on sourcing the plants, and planting/maintaining the plants. Hope to start planting in June 2025. The focus of the planting is to improve shading.</li> <li>▪ <b>Sludge bed decommissioning</b> – In progress. Council has cleanfill but still confirming with GWRC what characteristics the cleanfill needs to meet. RP to discuss with AM directly.</li> </ul>	
<b>6</b>	<b>CLG Feedback on Quarterly Report</b>	-
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No feedback.</li> </ul>	-
<b>7</b>	<b>Other CLG feedback</b>	-
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No other feedback raised.</li> </ul>	
<b>8</b>	<b>Other matters</b>	
<b>8.1</b>	<b>Biosolids</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ BT gave an update on biosolids. The Council has currently parked the trial with Friends of the Waikanae River as want to confirm any consenting requirements or other issues with GWRC and iwi before proceeding. Currently looking at doing a trial at the WWTP site. Lowe Environmental Limited is providing advice on the soil standards to be achieved from use of the biosolids. The main issue seems to be odour when biosolids get wet and potentially metal contaminants that cannot be tested in NZ.</li> </ul> <p><u>Action:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. AM agreed to have a look at the regulatory framework for biosolids and report back at the Q2 meeting.</li> </ol>	AM
<b>8.2</b>	<b>GWRC compliance report</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ AM hopes to have this complete in the coming weeks and will present at the next meeting. The Council will circulate the compliance report to CLG members once it's available.</li> </ul> <p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. AM to submit compliance report to Council for 2023-24.</li> <li>2. Council to share with CLG.</li> </ol>	AM TD
<b>9</b>	<b>Next Meeting</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Next meeting proposed for late February 2025.</li> </ul>	

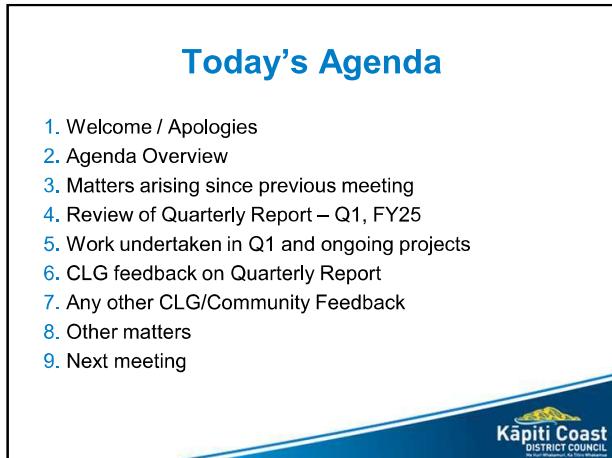
**Minutes by:** Tess Drewitt, Kāpiti Coast District Council



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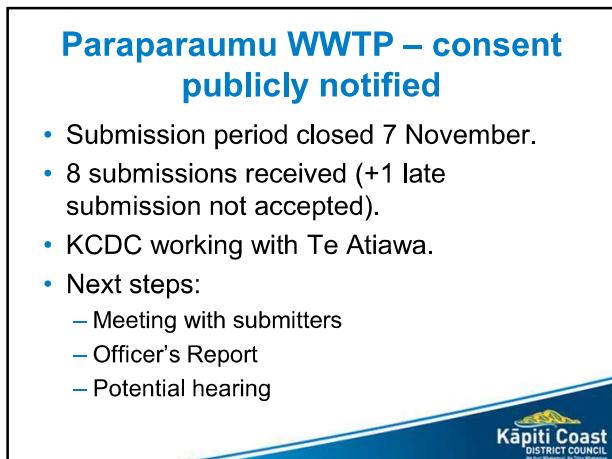
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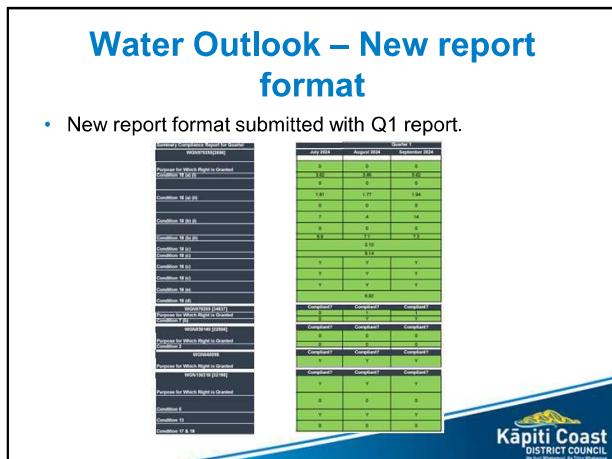
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## Resource consents assessed

### WGN970255 [34837], [27633], [2656] – Paraparaumu WWTP – Discharges

To discharge treated wastewater from the plant to land (unlined storage area) and the Mazengarb Drain and to discharge contaminants to air from all facilities.

### WGN030149 [22566] – Paraparaumu WWTP – Overflow basin

To discharge screened, diluted wastewater as overflow from the overflow basin at the WWTP to the Mazengarb Drain in an emergency.

### WGN130218 [32196] – Paraparaumu WWTP – Sludge drying

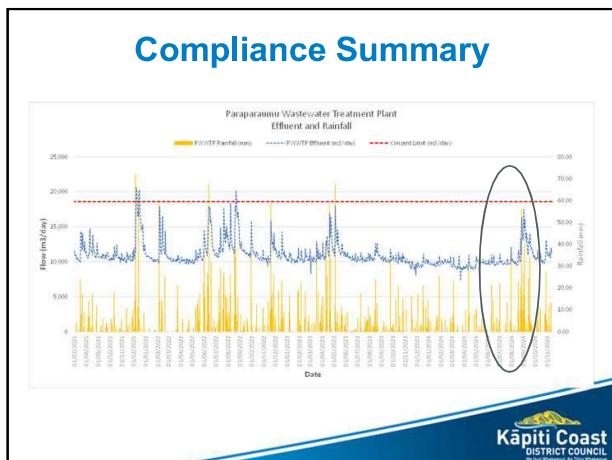
To discharge to air from the boiler and biofilter associated with sludge handling.

### WGN040098 [34794] – Paraparaumu WWTP – Sludge lagoons

To discharge contaminants to land from the decommissioned sludge lagoons.



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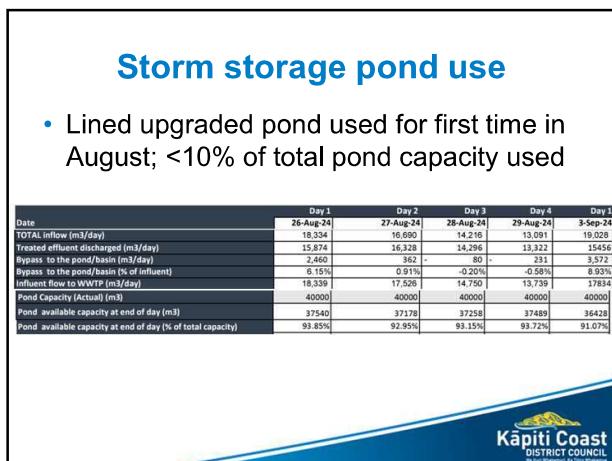
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## Compliance Summary

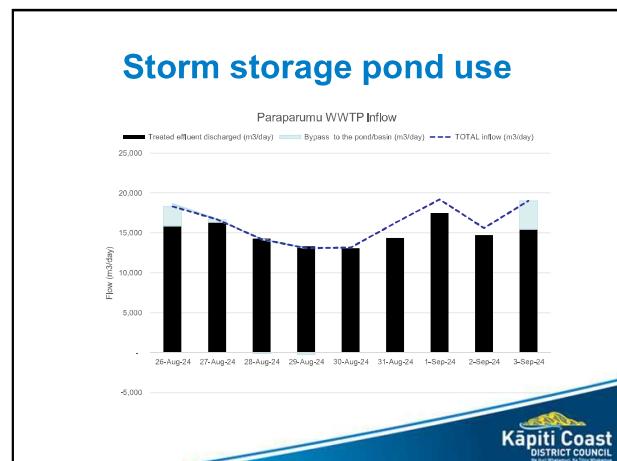
- Fully compliant with consent conditions in Q1.
- The Council held CLG meeting in August 2024.
- Storm storage pond used 2x in Q1, FY25.
- Further upgrade projects underway.



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## Capex Activities – Q1



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## PWWTP Improvements Plan

- For reconsenting, Council proposed a two-stage approach:
  1. Medium term consent with improvements (15-year term).
  2. Longer term consent with BPO.
- Council proposed an improvements plan for the 15-year term consent, currently being processed.



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## PWWTP Improvements Plan – completed projects

- Aeration system upgrade – completed in 2022.
- pH correction – completed in 2024.
- Storm storage pond upgrade – completed in 2024.
- Upgrade of RAS-1 – Completed in Nov 2024.
- New pH dosing plant commissioned in May 2024.
- Revised Stormwater Management Strategy – adopted 2022.
- Inflow & infiltration (I&I) investigations complete – site-specific solutions being implemented.



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## PWWTP Improvements Plan – projects underway

- A-Recycling system upgrade – planned for Q2.
- Design progressing for hydraulic debottlenecking of clarifier-3 and UV upgrade.
- Preliminary design for the inlet work complete and detail design to commence in 2025.
- Clarifier-3 maintenance complete.
- Sludge bed decommissioning – Work in progress.
- Riparian planting plan for Mazengarb Stream – finalizing implementation plan with Te Atiawa – Work in progress.
- Waikanae Duplicate Rising Main consenting underway.



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## CLG Feedback on Quarterly Report



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## Other CLG Feedback



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## Other matters

### Other matters

- Confirming the consenting requirements for discharges from the storm pond in between high rainfall events.
- Earthworks seasoning underway, so final works for sludge pond decommissioning to commence over summer.
- Continuing to investigate UV treatment upgrades for treating viruses while waiting for the consent decision.
- Biosolids investigations ongoing.

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## Next Meeting

- Feb/March 2024 – Q2 reporting, FY25.
- Topics to discuss at next meeting?

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