

Minutes

Coromandel Great Walks Governance Meeting

Date: 1 September 2016

Venue: TCDC - Whitianga Meeting Room

Present:

Glenn Leach (TCDC - Mayor)	
Gemma White (DOC)	Karen Vowles (Hahei Business Association)
Peter Johnson Jnr (Ngati Hei) - Iwi	Mike Wilkinson (Lees Road Stakeholders)
Ben Day (Deputy CEO TCDC)	David Speirs (Director, Operations DOC)
Laurna White (TCDC)	Jacqui Thorby (TCDC)
Allan Tiplady (TCDC)	Ross Ashby (TCDC)
Brent Page (Governance Group)	Kirstin Richmond (TCDC)
Paul Kelly (TCDC - MB CB Chair)	
Gary Fitzsimons (MB Business Association)	

Hahei Stakeholder Presentation

- Gary Fitzsimons and Karen Vowles spoke to the Board about their concerns with the Lees Road carpark, they have concerns about numbers of visitors that will be sent to Lees Rd for parking and will bypass the village. It was discussed that Karen and Gary have joined the group at a later stage they have not been present for previous meetings and may not fully understand the rationale around why the Lee's Road carpark is important for the project.
- It was acknowledged that the Stakeholder group have concerns that they have not had sufficient time to digest the information in the Parking Strategy
- Gary raised concerns that the car park at Lees Road was at the middle of the walk
- Karen also stated that promotion of cathedral cove access should remain in the Hahei Village and not from Lees Road
- Stakeholders group would like to see Grange Road further developed as a pick up and drop off point. This is addressed in the Parking Strategy.
- Health and Safety of Lees Road is a concern for the Lees Road Residents.
- Lees Road Residents Group are in support of the walk however request to see full design of the Lees Road walk and final carpark plans.
- Lee's Road Residents would like the consents to be publically notified.

Actions

- Ross Ashby and Allan Tiplady to meet with the Hahei Business Association and the Mercury Bay Business Association separately to give full overview of walks project.
- Stakeholders Group to provide feedback to the MB Community Board in relation to the MB South Parking Strategy prior to end of September 2016.
- Ben Day will liaise with Paul Davies (Legal) to see if TCDC are able to release the full Business Plan document that went to Council in relation Lees Road Carpark.

- Ross to arrange update meeting for Lee's Road residents to discuss final carpark and track designs.

Governance Group

- Overview of minutes from last meeting – Giblin Group are looking at alternative funding - Iwi related funding once track alignment at the Pa sites has been finalised we will approach Giblin for an updated funding proposal.
- Brent page would like to see updates on the Action Schedule - Ross advised some of the actions are prioritised further out – Brent advised from a governance point of view there needs to be progress shown.
- Stage 2 landowners meeting being held 1 September 2016.
- Gemma White introduced David Speirs – Operations Director, Hauraki Waikato Taranaki – Department of Conservation. David is based in Hamilton and may become more involved in the Governance Board but this is still being discussed internally by DOC.

Action

- Ross Ashby to provide more detail on the project Action Schedule and due date, date completed and progress made in the comments box.

Project Status Updates

- Ross provided overview presentation about the project status and key tasks and progress.

Lees Road Carpark

- Jacqui advised that the Lees Road Carpark will be fully notified, TCDC is proud of this project and there has been great Community Consultation and engagement to date.
- The carpark entrance design will be a T-Intersection. The Carters will have a separate access to their farm. The carpark will be low tech design using a pay n display process., No barrier arm is proposed at this state but may be needed later.
- A business case is to be written for an extra Enforcement Officer to work in Mercury Bay South.
- Kiosk to be built in the carpark. This will be owned by Carters. TCDC are including the kiosk in the consenting process.
- Gemma raised issue around who would be the holder of the consent for the kiosk? TCDC or Ian Carter?
- Gemma also raised the issue around operation of the kiosk work and how this would be managed?

Action

- Seek legal advice form Luke and Paul Davies on approach for consenting and operation of kiosk and get back to GAB next meeting.

Purangi Crossing

- Preferred option of a manually propelled punt is of no cost to Council, has low impact, no need for additional structures, and will be all season. This will require a concession from TCDC. Winter will be on an on-call basis, details are still being negotiated. A performance level agreement will need to be discussed with the proposed operator.
- Boardwalk will eventually become a significant project and would ideally be funded by Mercury 250 Celebrations as a legacy project.

- Mayor Glenn would like to see this flagged in the next Long Term Plan. Ben Day advised the planning and design costs should be in the 17/18 Annual Plan.
- Mayor Glenn suggested we could use the road on the northern side of the Purangi to avoid NIMBY objections about a boardwalk in their front view path.
- Extension for lotteries funding granted till June 2018.

Action

- Project Board to progress Purangi investigations within the Annual Plan - Project Board met on September 5 and determined to provide capital for the Purangi within the LTP, and to progress with estimates/business case during the 2017/2018 year.

Parking Strategy

- Paul Kelly advised that this is a fluid document, it has been approved as a draft by the Mercury Bay Community Board. There are opportunities for the final document to be influenced where necessary

Village Entrance Carpark (Pa Road Carpark)

- Limited notification process currently underway. Period for submissions close 21st September. Main issues – campervan parking at neighbours back fence, wanting carpark locked up at night. If this has to go to hearing there is significant risk that this won't be built by 2016/17 summer.
- If the parking strategy is not through Council, TCDC will not be able to charge for parking in Pa Road for the first year.
- If it is not built then will still operate as though it has for past summers.

Summer 16/17 shuttle

- Expression of Interest from Commercial Operators will be an open process, there is strong interest from local operators.

Action

Take the parking strategy and test it with financial analysis, expertise in the tourism industry.

Provide a copy of the strategy to the Economic Development committee - EDC reviewed this at their 6th of September meeting and recommended that the parking strategy be tested with John Sanford and Graham Osborne.

Property/Legal

- 3 productive meetings have been held between Doc, Ngati Hei and TCDC for TCDC to gain statutory management of Te Pupuha Recreation Reserve, Hahei Beach marginal strip and the Grange Road carpark.
- Control and manage arrangements is a work in progress through DOCs legal team, Gemma advised this is to be resolved this side of Christmas.
- There is an outstanding decision on Te Pare – leave to lie for time being, outstanding decision to make reregarding longer term decisions on Cathedral Cove walkway.
- Long Term Purangi boardwalk marginal strip, does this need reclassification, what is Treaty Settlement context.

Terms of Reference/Funding

- Ngati Hei –Doc is funded by tax payer, TCDC funded tribally, funded by property owners paying rates. Ngati Hei has outgoings but no incomings. There is pressure on Ngati Hei to come to party but not get anything revenue in return.
- Peter advised that Ngati Hei would like to put more time into meetings and documents but realistically he has to also work full time.
- Mayor Glenn advised that revenues will be coming in, at some point they will be worked through. Ngati Hei's services to the project should be financially met on a defined contractual basis. Discussions with Peter will be follow up by Jacqui and Ross over the coming week or so.
- Gemma advised that DOC, at a Ministers level is considering how they might generate revenue for conservation issues. What would the flow on effect be to funding if there were charges to DOC walks.
- David raised the idea of a Boarder Fee, there is currently options being looked at around other amenities, car parking fees etc. David advised that this has been acknowledged in parliament. There is the also the idea of increased tax based funding or looking into user pays.
- Rather than purchase land, they could pay for a permanent easement. DOC has done this for other tracks.
- Cultural assessment has not been done for the whole walk (west of Te Pare) – this would be needed for Giblin Group and we need to be mindful of other consenting issues.
- Peter wants it noted that Ngati Hei believe the 'local' people should get benefit of revenue possibilities.
- Decision making needs to stay as a Consensus – 3 out of 3 every time there is an approval item.
- Chair of meeting – rotational meetings and shared costs – should the chair be rotational? Jacqui advised TCDC are happy to arrange, host and chair the meetings as they involve a lot of preparation by TCDC staff in particular.
- Meetings may be attended by others however this doesn't really work for Ngati Hei, this needs to be agreed / communicated prior to future meetings.
- Meetings to remain at TCDC offices unless otherwise agreed.
- Gemma – TOR document should be signed prior to elections. Jacqui undertook to incorporate feedback and make some changes and arrange final for signing.
- DOC advised the TOR are agreed in principal and should be approved by end of September.
- Jacqui – would like written approval form signed from Doc, Ngati Hei and Ian Carter – for consenting purposes. Doc to review the draft consent and then send a written letter supporting the project
- TOR Specific Changes:
 - Page #2 Project Outcomes - highlight local entrepreneurs first
 - Page #3 cultural impact assessment needed for all of walk including stage 2 and to Whitianga to Te Pare.
 - Decisions making section could be reduced and simplified from 4 points to 2 points.
 - Need to change decision making form Consensus to unanimous
 - Proxies must be identified and mandated to a particular decision or motion.
 - Meeting chair TCDC or nominee.
 - No rotational basis of meeting location unless otherwise agreed - Whitianga and Hahei working well at present.
 - Provide a summary of what each role of each party is bringing to the table (Ben Day)
 - Update with new name.

Actions

- Jacqui to update TOR and discuss and agree appropriate fees with Ngati Hei. DOC to advise whether they will contribute towards Ngati Hei meeting attendance fees once established.
- Jacqui to seek a price from Ngati Hei to update the existing CIA to encompass the wider project area.

Bath Site Access – Issues Paper

- Unanimous agreement to have TCDC signage – Stay away – enter at own risk at a location off the main track so as not to bring attention to the option.

Project Name – Te Ara O Hei –The Pathway of Hei.

(Southern end of Pauanui – Whangapoua)

- A 'soft' launch to be held at end of September 2016 - looking Like October now.

Action

- Ngati Hei to advise Andlinger section name prior to opening.