

WHANGANUI PORT REVITALISATION

FREIGHT & LOGISTICS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP MEETING MINUTES

Date: 19th April 2017

Time: 11:00 am

Location: 1st Floor Boardroom

Present: Bill McDonald, (Vapour Consultants) Chris Miles (Vapour Consultants)
John Jarvis (Vapour Consultants) Neville Johnson (Midwest Ferries Ltd),
Nik Zangouropoulos, Bernard Corkery, Cass Alexander (WDC, Comms),
Cr Graham Young, Doug Smith, Rowan McGregor (WDC)

In attendance: Merle Benson (WDC, minutes)

Apologies: Phil Wardale, Sarah Pomeroy (WDC Comms), Myles Fothergill, Warwick Walbran.

Item	Discussion/Outcome
Welcome	Bill welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked Nik to provide an update on progress on the report.
Minutes	The Minutes of the last meeting held on 3 April were accepted with the following amendments. <i>Page 3 – Nik said the proposition is looking promising. However the Midwest project will <u>not</u> be looking for the port owners to invest upfront to upgrade the port to operate.</i> <i>Warwick explained that the 1/6th or 16% of truck movements</i> <i>Page 4 Warwick advised that a previous report has suggested 10,000 tonne vessels are capable of operating from the Whanganui port.</i>
Nik Zangouropoulos (Consultant for Midwest Ferries Limited)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nik advised the Feasibility Study report he has been working on with Warwick Walbran is on track with around 95% complete.• The report will be available to the public so he is looking at how to treat the community/public aspect of the report.• The financial model is well advanced and while he will continue to work on the financials, it will not impinge on the report.• The report will contain a freight only aspect and a combined freight and passenger aspect.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The group has been in discussions with Nelson City Council and the Nelson Harbour Master, but have not had any further discussions with Motueka or Tasman District Council.• Nik said he has gathered all the stage appropriate information and has revisited the nelson option.• Nik showed an aerial map of the Nelson Port area and said that off the table the option looks physically viable but the options of adding to the port from an environmental perspective is not viable. Nik added that the Nelson Port do not wish to consider the option as the obstacles for consent are enormous.• Nik informed the group that the turning basin options in Whanganui has been reviewed, with Wharf 2 being a possibility with mooring modifications.• Wharf 3 is also a possibility with some infrastructure changes.• Reclamation would also be required.• Nik added that after speaking to captains of similar sized vessels, a 200-250 turning circle is required.• A more detailed study on this aspect will be required after 1 July.• Neville Johnson added that the Tasman District Council have requested to view the same presentation as shown to Whanganui District Council and is in the process of arranging a meeting with Council.• Neville added that the Tasman District Council have an interest in the Nelson Port and do not appear to be so keen to develop a port at Motueka, due to a transfer of value through shipping visits moving from Nelson to Motueka.• In response to a question regarding any financial modelling around Tourism, Nik advised he has only done a desktop exercise with Ray Salter (Consultant). The information will be incorporated into the report but will be predominantly about freight.• Nik added that any reporting around the viability of moving passengers, there need to be considered all sorts of additional items such as developing a destination, marketing etc. Freight is a much easier business and is clearer to define.• Nik said he has used the Strait Shipping business model as he thought it had merit. Doug Smith added that he was the former General Manager of Strait Shipping and helped set up the business and said he is willing to pass on his knowledge and offer advice if needed.• Rowan McGregor asked if the team have looked at the physical restraints such as navigability, environmental.• Nik said these matters will need to be fleshed out in the report which is open to modifications but the report is to make good sense for this stage process.• Nik said he has the Navigation Safety Requirements for the Whanganui River published in 2010 and noted there are some issues to address but he wanted to first overlay the proposal first and then consider the
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	<p>wider safety issues including another level of regulatory issues not previously thought of.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Rowan McGregor questioned if RMA issues had been “parked” at this stage. <p>Communication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Cass Alexander stressed the need for consistent messaging to the public between the two groups.A small discussion took place around whether the information to be provided to Council in 4 May should be in the confidential matters as some content of Mid-West’s report will contain financial information. Nik said he would prefer to have the information open and available to the public but it was decided that part of the meeting could be held in public open forum and other parts as a confidential item.Nik added that a draft confidential report will be available by this group and the PCG group on Monday 24th April. Nik will be seeking feedback from the report in readiness for the Council meeting on 4 May 2017.Chris will advise of the distribution list for the report <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Chris Miles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The report for Council will be information and a request for funding. Nik added that there will also be public messaging for funding.Neville Johnson advised that this group has met with Horizons Regional Council regarding funding.A general discussion evolved around Council meeting procedures, the types of questions that may be asked and perhaps prepare some frequently asked questions and answers in readiness for social media, Facebook. It was also suggested that the public have a perception that the Port Revitalisation and the Ferry project is all one project.The Mid-West Ferry group have not had any discussions with government at this stage, only talks very early on with MoT and MBIE.It was confirmed that the Mid-West proposal does not affect the relocation of Q-West. <p>The Draft Feasibility report will be with Port PCG on 24th April, for feedback. The Final Feasibility report is due on 1st May. Mid-West Ferries are scheduled to make a presentation to the Council meeting on 2nd May. Bill added that the final business case for the Whanganui Port Revitalisation will be presented to government on 30 June 2017.</p>
Meeting Close	The meeting closed at 11.57 pm