




Flaxmill Bay Erosion MEETING NOTES

Time / Date:	9:00am Friday 16 March 2018	Venue:	Mercury Bay Service Centre	
Present:	Allan Tiplady - District Manager North Andrew Scobie - Engineering Project Manager Bob Nicholls - Deputy Chair, Mercury Bay South Residents & Ratepayers Association Heather Bruce - Community Manager Graham Morcom - Flaxmill Bay Resident			
Apologises	Jan Van der Vliet, Coastal Engineer			
ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION	WHO	
Update from Bob Nicholls	<p>The following issues have been noted in relation to the erosion at Flaxmill Bay:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Purangi Road is compromised by the erosion. ○ People do not want hard structures but are disappointed that the soft options are not working. ○ Spending money on sand push-ups on a regular basis does not appear to give value for money. ○ Presentation tabled showing the wave break direction along the beach and outlining an option for a sandbag retaining wall and groyne. <div style="text-align: center;">  Flaxmill Bay Presentation.pdf </div>			
Historic Information and Future Options	<p>Graham Morcom is a third generation resident of Flaxmill Bay. Graham provided some historic information on the beach and noted changes that have been observed over the years by himself and his family.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Historically the road was placed out into the seaward side of the land creating in effect a hard structure along the coast line. The road is now compromised by the erosion. ○ Earlier erosion was dealt with by gabion baskets which are showing signs of deterioration and a rock revetment wall extension ○ Sand from the western corner of the bay is moving eastward, creating a shallower area out from the hard structures. There has been a significant change in the last 5 to 8 years. ○ Sand flow appears to be along the beach towards the eastern end. 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sand push-ups do not take sand from below the low tide mark. Suggest Council consider options to undertake extensive sand push-ups into the corner to create a beach with dry sand at the base of the rocks below existing high tide mark. ○ Graham notes that a sand bag retaining wall and groyne would be a "hard-sell" to residents. 	Check existing sand-push up consents to see if this option is allowed for	Andrew
Current Council position	<p>Andrew Scobie provided an update on the current Council position in respect to the erosion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Waikato Regional Council consent has been applied for and on hold pending further information. ○ The decision was made to trial soft options in the first instance as rock walls often move the issue along the beach (end effect). ○ Sand bags are not generally referred to as a soft option as the effects can be similar to other hard structures on the foredune ○ New TCDC Infrastructure Manager and Coastal Engineer are now onboard and have both looked at the site. ○ Coastal specialists have looked at the issue and the possible options and suggest a hard structure is required to provide a long term solution, giving preference to a rock revetment wall. A rock wall would cost approx. \$300,000. ○ Existing gabions need repair. 	Go back to TCDC and external coastal experts to assess all options. Bring information back to Bob and Graham.	Andrew