

Waiohiki Stakeholder Advisory Group

Meeting Minutes

Date: 10 March 2026

Time: 4:00 PM – 5.30 PM

Location: Waiohiki Marae

Meeting Chair: Andrew Caseley

Attendees: Caroline Gunn and Denis O'Reilly (Landowners), Andrew Dunning (Mana Whenua Rep), Debbie Hurst - online (Compliance – HBRC), Jacqui Davis, Lynn McCowan and Mell Anderson (Project Team - HBRC)

Apologies: Jonathan Dick (Pou Taiao), Laurence O'Reilly (Landowner), Gareth Boyt (Mana Ahuriri) and Hinewai Ormsby (Ngati Pārau)

1.	Opening Karakia led by Denis	Actions
2.	Welcome and Apologies Andrew Caseley opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees.	
3.	Review of Previous Meeting Minutes Minutes of the 3 February 2026 meeting were circulated prior to the meeting. Caroline sought clarification regarding the previous discussion about her use of woodchips in the swale on her land to absorb water. Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2026 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.	
4.	Action Items Review	
5.	Project Manager's Update – Mell Anderson The Project Managers Update was circulated prior to the meeting and taken as read. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Full-height matting and seeding will be completed in one continuous stage over approximately 750 metres of the stopbank.	

- The stopbank has been designed to withstand a 1-in-100-year flood event, with consideration given to ensuring that during an overtopping event, water velocities would not cause erosion of the stopbank.
- Flood velocities have been modelled and that the matting will protect the stopbank. The modelling and consequential flood review was undertaken by T&T and independently reviewed by BECA.
- It was explained that while near Denis's property is the lowest point, it forms part of a terrace, and modelling shows that flow behaviour differs across this area. The way river flows interact with the terrace makes other areas less susceptible to erosion.
- Additional armouring was discussed and it was confirmed that resilience against potential overtopping will be provided through the matting.
- Contaminated building waste had been found along the towpath.
- The haul road and building site will be removed shortly and the site office re-established at the far end near the golf course.
- The stopbank has now reached its design height.
- The cycleway is being constructed on the river side of the stopbank and is designed for resilience, using compacted gravel, lime stabilisation and a constructed swale.
- Stream works will include wetland planting and fish habitat improvements.
- Concerns were raised about natural microbes and the potential for run-off entering the stream.
- It was noted that worm castings are being used as well as nitrogen. The nitrogen release is short-term. It is critical that grass establishes as quickly as possible to protect the stopbank.
- It was discussed that pedestrian access gates to the river will be installed. Damage to the matting by tyres was a major concern. For those with mobility scooters, Mell will work with Denis to identify the most suitable access locations.
- It was noted that a maintenance manual has been developed for the works group to allow mowing of the stopbank. Protocols will be developed to ensure grass cover is not compromised, as this would affect the integrity of the stopbank. It was emphasised that the surface should not be driven on, particularly when wet with no motorised vehicles (allowance for mobility scooters) and use of the cycle track where appropriate.
- Vegetation along the river edge was discussed, noting that edge protection is critical and active vegetation management of the river will continue.
- Mell confirmed discussions with HDC and WSP had taken place and that the haul road and hardstand will be retained temporarily to support bridge construction.
- Following bridge works, the area will be levelled and hydro-seeded. The risk of debris build-up is expected to reduce once the new bridge is constructed.
- A scheme review is underway, considering other stopbanks in the wider area.
- Any additional imported material will be remediated by HDC. The sediment pond will be filled, and waste material removed from site.
- Woody debris from site clearing will be managed by Mell with availability to the community where appropriate.
- The anticipated completion date is 20 April, allowing for weather.
- Mell confirmed that the swale on Victoria Lane will be retained, as shown in the design but that it would no longer connect to the drain on Caroline Gunn's property

	as there was no land access arrangement in place for this to occur and the drain on Caroline's property could drain direct into the swale at the toe of the bank.	
6.	Review of Information and Advice Log <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nothing new added	
7.	Ecologist Report <p>The Ecologist Report was circulated prior to the meeting and taken as read.</p>	
8.	Next Meeting <p>The next meeting will be 7 April 2026 at 4pm.</p>	
9.	Closing Karakia led by Denis	

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