

Minutes

Port Noise Liaison Committee

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| Date: | 12 th September 2023 |
| Venue: | Training and Development Centre, 8 Vickerman Street |
| Time: | 1400 - 1600 |
| Present: | Bob Dickinson (Chair), Ian Wright (residents' rep), Robin Whalley (residents' Rep), Colin Devenish (PNL, General Manager - Environment and Infrastructure), Kim Lui (PNL Environmental Officer), Sophie Anderson-McEwen (Minutes) |
| Apologies | Tony Vining (Residents' rep), Matt McDonald (PNL rep) |

| | | Discussion | Action Points Arising |
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| 1. | Welcome | <p>Apologies recorded, moved by Robin, and seconded by Colin.</p> <p>The committee members welcomed Robin to the committee.</p> <p><i>1.1 Roles and Responsibilities</i></p> <p>Colin recited the Commissioner's Recommendation Clause 11.61 about the role of members of the committee. All Agreed, everyone is here to work towards a common goal.</p> | |
| 2. | Minutes from 29/03/2023 and action points | <p>Colin corrected Tony, who was recorded as an apology but did not advise accordingly, so was changed to absent. Colin also corrected in section 6a in the previous minutes, that the perception sounded like a monitor was already installed at 70 Queens Road but wanted to correct it to that there is currently no monitor installed, but PNL is working towards/investigating this.</p> <p>Robin requested some certainly around installing a monitor at 70 Queens Road. Colin advised it can take several months to install software on the Monitor. Colin also advised that it could be there between January and March 2024, subject to the programming and "learning" of the software. Colin wanted to reiterate that the monitor on the Silo is the baseline as it has been developed over time. Ian questioned if</p> | |

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| | | <p>anyone had done any testing from Queens Road. Colin and Kim advised they would need to look into this as it was before their time at Port Nelson.</p> <p>Minutes Circulated/Read/Accepted Moved by Colin Devenish and seconded by Kim Lui</p> <p>Ian wanted to discuss aspects of the minutes. He advised he has residents call him around noise complaints but does not want to put a complaint in as they do not find it effective. Ian discussed the privacy act; he proposed a tick box be included in the noise complaint process to allow residents to confidently share information with PNLC. Kim advised he can create this box and make it optional.</p> <p>Robin questioned if the box could say something like, "It would be helpful to have this information...". Colin asked the resident's rep to clarify what information they were looking for. Ian and Robin advised the most helpful information would be their location. Colin advised that PNL still needs to treat all complaints equally regardless of location. Robin advised knowing the location of complaints would help the committee to work together.</p> <p>Ian questioned the letter from Hegley Acoustics. In an email chain, he saw a draft letter and a final letter. Robin requested the Resident's reps get the original letter rather than the edited version they have already received. Kim advised that he would try and locate this and send it to Robin and Ian.</p> <p>Ian advised that a conversation occurred at the last meeting with prior resident representative Peter Moffatt and Matt McDonald, which was not recorded in the minutes. It was regarding berthing vessels over 260m on Main Wharf. Ian advised they are unhappy to have meetings where a committee member squashes another member's comments and/or suggestions. This is for the chairperson to do. Colin advised that he could not comment with Matt not being present, but agreed that, going forward, everything to be discussed respectfully by the committee.</p> <p><i>2.1 Update on Actions arising from previous PNLC meeting.</i> <i>a. Marshall Day Report into vessel generator noise</i></p> <p>The committee was provided with a copy of the Marshall Day report into vessel generator noise. What causes the noise and what mitigations work and what does not work.</p> | <p>Kim to modify the form on the PNL Website to include a suggested tick box.</p> <p>Kim to locate draft report and send to Residents Reps.</p> |
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| | | <p>Colin advised the reason for conducting the report. PNL is trying to be more proactive about this and is investigating through these for what others have found to work well.</p> <p><i>b. Video clips for the complaint Investigation</i></p> <p>Kim advised the video clips of the investigation to be shown with the Agenda Item 4. PNL is trying to be more transparent on the complaint investigations by sharing the CCTV footage as the evidence with the committee.</p> <p><i>c. Meeting with NEAG & Hegley Acoustic on 24th April 2023</i></p> <p>Robin said there was nothing to add here. He felt this meeting cleared up a lot. Robin mentioned that 85dBA is at the 65dB Ldn contour line and that should be categorised as the significant noise Event. Colin agreed that this is in the NRMP, but disagreed to the significant noise event being 85dBA recorded by the noise monitor, as the 89dBA at the silo should be equivalent to 85dBA at the closest houses. Both agreed that this needs to be discussed further.</p> <p><i>d. Night-time Visit Arrangement</i></p> <p>All agreed to arrange another date to complete this. Ian advised he is unavailable for all of October.</p> | |
| 3. | Matters arising /issues tabled from residents' reps and/or PNL reps for discussion | <p><i>3.1 Representatives Noise Concerns</i></p> <p>Kim advised this matter was raised by Tony, but was unclear what needed to be discussed. Tabled this discussion for the next meeting with Tony.</p> <p><i>3.2 Feedback from NCC on Monthly Report</i></p> <p>Colin advised NCC is happy with the report and has not advised of any changes so far.</p> | |

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| | | <p>Robin advised that Residents have submitted comments to NCC on the plan change regarding the existing Port noise management two years ago and have not heard anything since then, so residents are unhappy with Council’s response to date.</p> <p><i>3.3 Vessel Generator Noise – (NEPTUNES vessel score system)</i></p> <p>Kim advised on 10 May 2023, all CEOs of NZ ports have signed the Ship Noise Specification, and from now on, all new container vessels will be asked to provide a derived NEPTUNES Noise Label Score or confirm installation with a reactive silencer. From June 2024, all vessels need to provide a certified NEPTUNES Noise Label Score or documentation prove with a reactive silencer installed before arrival, or they will not be allowed entry to NZ ports.</p> <p>For the existing vessels servicing NZ ports before 10 May 2023, they are allowed to operate as usual. If there is any complaint received regarding the generator noise of the vessel, that vessel will need to undertake NEPTUNES Noise Label process and take mitigation if necessary.</p> <p>Colin advised that this is an example of how all the ports in New Zealand to address noise and safety related matters on ships operating within New Zealand’s waters.</p> <p>Robin advised that this is what we need to tell the public in a simplified version, and proposed a possible press release as per what had been published in Christchurch. Robin questioned if we could have the results of the reports put on PNL’s website and possibly contact the local newspapers to put information out to Nelson residents in general. Robin recommends an urgent media release of simplified report information. Colin advised he would talk to the PNL communications manager and draft a release. The release will be sent to PNLC committee members for review.</p> <p>Bob questioned if PNL is struggling to get enough container vessels. Colin advised the shipping lines are returning to pre-COVID levels. PNL has had discussions with all shipping lines. There is no particular problem getting vessels; it is more the route they travel. Bob queried if Port Nelson is getting older vessels into Port. Colin advised this does not seem to be the case; two of the noisier vessels (Nansha and Nadi) no longer call here. Colin advised Maritime NZ is focusing more on safety testing on these older vessels.</p> | <p>Colin to talk to PNL Communications Manager to create a media Release around the Marshall Day report.</p> |
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| | | <p><i>3.4 Effectiveness of PNLC</i></p> <p>As stated in Agenda Item 1.1, all agreed to work towards a common goal with the ground set by the Commissioner’s Recommendations Clause 11.61.</p> | |
| 4. | <p>Noise Monthly Reports – Review and Acceptance by the PNLC of Month Reports</p> | <p><i>4.1 PNLC review of Monthly Reports – Mar, Apr, May, Jun and Jul.</i></p> <p>Kim stated monthly reports provided before the meeting. No comments have been received.</p> <p><i>4.2 Complaint investigation – Mar, Apr, May, Jun and Jul.</i></p> <p>Video Footage was shown for 3 Noise complaints.</p> <p>Kim advised of the March complaint from Robin Whalley. He advised what the sound was from and showed this particular event's video footage/sound recording.</p> <p>Robin commented he is thankful for all the work going into these videos and investigations and has noticed an improvement in this communication.</p> <p>Kim advised of April's complaint from Rod Duke. It was not from the hatch lid but from a flush bollard lid on Main Wharf. Its lid has been flattened back into place to reduce noise. Kim suggested putting rubber around to limit noise further. Robin asked if we could complete this work and be advised of this once it is completed.</p> <p>Kim advised of May's complaint. There was a large vessel on Main Wharf and lots of traffic with container handling. Unable to show video footage of this due to technical difficulty.</p> <p>Kim advised of the 24/25 July report around the ship horn. An alarm was triggered by a fault in the engine, which lasted about 5 minutes. The length was due to the vessel having to figure out the issue before the alarm could be turned off. The second horn was due to an actual event in the ship’s galley.</p> <p>Robin asked if we could put up an immediate media release to explain what is happening to the public. Colin advised we put a release out the day after; we first had to get information from the vessel. Colin advised that PNL is trying to communicate as proactively as possible.</p> | <p>Kim to advise when Rubber has been applied to all lids/where we are at with this.</p> |

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| <p>5.</p> | <p>Update on Acoustic Treatment of Properties</p> | <p><i>5.1 Update on Acoustic Treatment</i></p> <p>Kim advised if residents do not understand the new contour map, he is happy for residents reps to give out his email, and he is happy to try and explain.</p> <p>Robin said the resident's reps finds it illogical that resident at 333 Wakefield Quay is out of Noise Contour Map. Kim advised that it is due to the shield effect by the properties in between the resident and the Port which results with the estimated noise exposure level slightly below the 55dBA. Colin advised that the Noise Contour Map was prepared by the Hegley Acoustic and submitted to NCC and peer-verified by their consultant.</p> <p>Kim advised of the updates on the Acoustics assessment for properties.</p> | |
| <p>6.</p> | <p>What's currently happening at Port – PNL Project Update</p> | <p><i>6.1 Master Plan Update</i></p> <p>Colin advised the Port is looking at a 30-year Master Plan and what this includes. Hopefully, the PNL Board will approve this by the end of the year. PNL is hoping to share this plan in 2025. Colin advised that PNL is almost at the final draft stage of this plan.</p> <p>Robin mentioned the PNLC is to be consulted on this. Colin advised in around February, PNLC was consulted on this, and Ian confirmed that they were consulted on the plan.</p> <p><i>6.2 New Crane</i></p> <p>PNL is looking at replacing Crane 2 with a new LHM 600 E-Drive crane. This would be an electric and diesel crane and would predominately operate in the electric mode. We are also investigating converting Crane 4 to Electric. The new crane will be treated with acoustic treatment. This should contribute to reduce the ports noise further. This is still subject to board approval and will update the committee at the next meeting.</p> | |

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| | | <p><i>6.3 Response from Liebherr on Crane Spreader Safety Feature</i></p> <p>Colin advised PNL approached Liebherr to see if we could remove this software. Liebherr’s has advised that this is a safety function and am not prepared to disable this function in the software.</p> <p>Robin said this was the biggest issue for residents: clangs and bangs. Colin advised that safety is the first priority and PNL is investigating other ways we can help operators reduce noise, such as lighting, camera system, etc. to locate the spreader more accurately.</p> <p><i>6.4 Noise Monitors – Feedback on Self-Learning Software</i></p> <p>Already discussed in Agenda Item 2.</p> <p><i>6.5 Nighttime Visit</i></p> <p>Discussed looking at 1st or 2nd week of November for this visit. Colin advised it would be later at night to reduce the possibility of background noise.</p> | |
| 7. | Other Business | <p>Robin requested if any committee members want to invite others, then it needs to be discussed with all committee members. Everyone agreed to this.</p> <p>Robin mentioned he gets a lot of complaints of alarms going off on the Z Energy side. These alarms go on for an hour or two in the early hours of the morning/night. Colin advised we could find contact information for someone to contact from Z around these complaints.</p> <p><i>7.1 Next Meeting</i></p> <p>Agreed to meet Tuesday, 7th November (Tuesday) and 6th December 2023 (Wednesday).</p> | Colin to talk to the PNL property person and Z/BP to determine their protocols. |