

Port Noise Liaison Committee

Notes of Meeting held on 5 June 2024

Present:

Kevin Winders – Port Otago

Rachel Day - Carey's Bay Association

Dave Cormack - Wenita Forest Products (Chair)

Fred Cross – Vision Port Chalmers

Joanne Dowd – Port Otago

Brendon Shanks – Marshall Day Acoustics

Joe Cecchi – Carey's Bay Association

Steve Duder – Port Chalmers Yacht Club

Carlo Bell - Dunedin City Council

Mike Wheeler – Motion Health

Kristina Goldsmith - West Harbour Community
Board Representative

Joanne Gilroy - Otago Regional Council

Apologies:

Grant Bicknell – Port Otago

Kent Chalmers – City Forests

Welcome from Meeting Chair – Dave Cormack

Dave Cormack opened the meeting at 5.32pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting and Kevin back from his holiday.

Apologies

Apologies noted above were accepted.

Conflicts of Interest

The Chair asked if any members had any conflicts of interest in respect to items that might arise during the meeting. None were declared.

Late Items for the Agenda

The Chair asked if any members had any late items for the agenda. None were declared.

Personal

No personal items arising.

Minutes of previous meeting (17 April 2024)

The minutes recording the meeting on 17 April 2024 were accepted as accurate by the Chair.

This was Seconded by Joe Cecchi.

Actions Schedule from Previous Meeting

Actions & Progress from the April 2024 Action List were noted including:

- Cold ironing – there have been further delays in progressing this and not likely to see any progress before June 2025.
- New noise monitoring system – the trial is progressing at Eastland Port of a new noise monitoring system. The technology being used has not been deployed in a port environment previously so

there are a few issues to address. A Site Hive monitor is currently installed next to one of the existing monitors at Eastland Port (a Jepsen system similar to the ones used by Port Otago). There have been some discrepancies in the results, so they are getting to the bottom of that. The newer generation systems have a lot of benefits in terms of analysis and stability. However, Port Otago need to have confidence in the system before installing it as a replacement. It is likely to be a couple of months to iron out these issues and confirm if the system is a suitable replacement. So will maintain a watching brief for now.

Kevin queried whether provision should be made in the PNLC budget for the replacement of this system. This would be a placeholder and enable the amount to be approved by Port Otago's Board. It was agreed that a sum of \$200k should be set aside for this purpose.

Mike queried why we needed to change the system. Brendon advised that the current system is a bespoke system that has been made up of several different parts and organisations controlling certain elements of it. The original technology is becoming dated and while still reliable, is costly to update. The preference is for a single integrated system. It therefore makes sense to wait on the results of the Eastland Port trial to determine if that system will be suitable for Port Otago.

- Cruise Ship Code of Conduct – Kevin noted that the cruise working group had met on 5 June and were progressing the cruise ship code. A further update will be provided in the meeting in September.
- Property at 11 Beach Street – Joanne contacted the landowner and discussed the landowners' concerns relating to noise. Given the location of the residential property near the D-Shed operational area, it was agreed that external noise monitoring should be undertaken to determine the level of nuisance. The monitoring system will be left in-situ until a full week's monitoring is achieved. The results of the initial monitoring will determine whether further monitoring is required.
- Joanne gave a brief update on the recruitment for the replacement Independent Chair. Five applications were received and will be assessed by the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee will meet on the 12th June and select candidates to be interviewed. A further update will be provided at the next meeting.

Correspondence

No correspondence received in the previous period.

Reports

Noise Reporting – Presentation from Marshall Day

Brendon from Marshall Day briefly highlighted the key points of the pre-circulated quarterly noise report. Brendon noted that several noise sources have been identified as causing spikes in the Ldn (1 day) monitoring. This included an increase in influence from train horns. Noise levels were above 67 dB Ldn (5 day) during one period but was influenced by wind and the local noise sources near the Scotia Street monitor. Brendon investigated the noise events and noted that while there are more than usual on these days, the events themselves would not be fully responsible for the spike in 1-day Ldn.

It is likely that the increase in events is symptomatic of a busy period of activity on the Port and the spike in noise level is just the expected increase due to increased "hum" of the port i.e. a combination

of sources including vessel, straddles, trains etc. However, noise was not high enough to trigger an event.

It was noted that the diesel generator had been deployed during that period and likely contributed to the overall increase in noise. It is proposed to test the generator the next time it is deployed. Joanne will speak to the Operations Team to confirm when this will next occur and advise Marshall Day.

Update from Port Otago

Kevin noted that he had just returned from holiday so his report would be brief. He noted that the port is still busy, and the Polaris is still in operation. This means there have been some record numbers of vessels and has resulted in a really busy season. This has seen the movement of most meat/dairy products from the sheds. Still a few busy weeks to come but things should quieten down towards the end of July. Several ships have come in heavily loaded that can result in increased levels of activity on the wharf and the team are trying to juggle these between the CT and MP wharves.

Kevin noted that there had been some delays in completing the sealing of the old administration building site. He was hopeful that that work would be completed over the next week as the space is needed to free up some of the congestion on the wharf. The wall with the remembrance plaques has been relocated to Beach Street, in front of the museum. The remainder of the stone has been retained for use in the upgrade works to the Iona Church.

The DCC have sent through some correspondence indicating their intent to partially demolish the Sims building. Currently no timeframe for the works to commence.

Noise Complaints

The Chair referred to the pre-circulated report on noise complaints and asked Joanne to give an overview of the report. Joanne noted that the overall number of complaints has reduced in this period. There were several complaints on the evening of the 28 April that coincided with the MSC Lydia being in Port. This incident was investigated, and both the Port Operations Team and the Captain of the vessel noted that there was nothing extra-ordinary to report in relation to port activities on the evening in question. Marshall Day noted that the noise did not trigger an event on the monitoring equipment. However, the ship has been the subject of complaint at other ports and was on the list of ships to be monitored. Monitoring will be programmed to occur the next time the ship is in port.

Kevin noted that we had the Maersk Monte Lascar in port for the last couple of days and it was the subject of complaint. This was a known noisy ship that was on rotation as a replacement vessel because the Rio Blanco needed maintenance work carried out in dry dock in Singapore. Proactive communications were put out to the community advising that this ship would be in port to alert them to the potential for disturbance. Joanne noted there had also been complaints relating to ships in port on Friday 31 May and Saturday 1 June. These are currently being investigated and will be reported at the next Committee meeting.

The Chair asked if there were any questions. Joe noted that all complaints should be anonymised, and names should not be used in the register. Joanne agreed to adhere to that protocol going forward.

Rachel noted that she had been approached by women in the area who advised that they are afraid to comment on the Port Otago Facebook page to complain about noise. This was due to negative feedback often given by other members of the community. Kevin advised that members of the community were welcome to either complete the online form or come into the reception to register their complaint. He added that it was good feedback for the Committee, and it was good to see how the Committee Members were instrumental in this community liaison role. Mike noted that those

Committee Members who use Facebook could also assist in raising awareness of port noise related issues and potentially provide an alternative way for members of the community to raise concerns.

Annual Plan

Joanne spoke to the revision of the Annual Plan. The plan remains largely the same, but the compensation level has been revised to reflect inflation adjustment. The Chair queried if there was a budget that needed to be agreed that would sit alongside the Annual Plan. Kevin explained that there used to be a rolling budget associated with mitigation measures required on properties. There hasn't been a budget as such for a while, since most of that mitigation has now been completed. However, Kevin considered that a budget should be established that will provide for the upgrade of the noise monitoring equipment replacement; potential mitigation works on properties and update to the Noise Mitigation Plan and associated updated noise contour modelling.

The Chair felt it was appropriate for a Schedule to be added to the Annual Plan that included an indicative budget. Joanne agreed to liaise with Marshall Day to confirm the indicative budget, update the Annual Plan and resend to the Committee to review and ratify.

New Zealand Cruise Association

Kevin noted that the Cruise Association had produced some material addressing the Myths & Facts associated with cruise ships. It was provided for information only to Committee Members.

The material was noted by the Committee and no questions were raised.

Update on NZ Ship Noise Specification

Kevin provided a brief update on the proposed NZ Ship Noise Specification. The originally proposed policy that was due for implementation on 1 June. The Port CEO Group will continue to work with Maritime NZ to agree a date for implementation. However, until then individual ports may have their own policies in place with regard to managing low frequency noise emission and management/mitigation.

Other Business

No other business was proposed.

Next meeting, date, time, and location

Next meeting is Wednesday 4 September, 5.30pm at the Port Otago offices.

Meeting closed 6.26pm

Actions

Meeting date	Action	Responsible	Due	Update
December 2023	Prepare cruise ship code of conduct	Cruise Manager	Q4 2024	Cruise season has just completed. Post cruise review occurring.
April 2024	Marshall Day to confirm if the results of the trial of the new monitoring system will be available this year	Marshall Day	Ongoing	MD will maintain a watching brief and report back at next meeting. Budget provision for the upgrade of the noise monitoring equipment replacement.
June 2024	Provide update of noise monitoring at Beach Street property.	Marshall Day/Joanne	Q3 2024	External noise monitoring will be undertaken to determine the level of nuisance
June 2024	Update Annual Plan with Schedule of Budgeted Spend	Joanne	ASAP	Updated Annual Plan and indicative budget schedule will be circulated to committee to review and ratify.
June 2024	Subcommittee to provide feedback on applicants and progress with appointment of the Independent Chair of the PNLC	Subcommittee	ASAP	Sub-committee meeting on 12 June to select candidates to interview.
June 2024	Marshall Day to Update Noise Contour Modelling	Marshall Day	Q4 2024	Budget provision for updated noise contour modelling.