

Robinsons Bay residents bordering 11 Sawmill Road

Update and discussion on Community Board
Working Party Draft Terms of Reference

Community Board meeting Jan 30, Lyttelton In attendance

Robinsons Bay Residents

- Lee Robinson
- Sue Church
- Dianne Carson
- Brent Martin
- Suky Thompson
- Chris Moore
- Annette Moore
- Fiona Turner

**Accompanied by
Andrew Dakers eco-Eng**

Takamatua valley residents

- Georgie Osborne
- Mike Osborne
- Page Lawson
- Stuart Jeffreys
- David Shanks
- Nicola Shanks
- Christine Shearer
- James Bell
- Monique Connell
- Stephanie Connell

Apologies

- **Robinsons Bay Residents & Supporters**

- Pat Lyons
- John Thompson
- Joanna Hase
- Ged & Pippa Foley
- Giles & Lil Foley
- John Thacker
- Anne Moore
- Kevin & Averil Parthonnaud
- Ben Navarron
- Karen Watson & Tod Hazeldine
- Joey & Renen Cataliotti
- Kathleen & Doug Liberty
- Andreas Lageder
- Paddy Stronach
- Peter & Tracy Foley
- Richard & Sue Lovitt
- Fran Anderson
- Brian & Nancy Tichborne - Pavitt Cottage Trust
- Late apologies:
- Julian & Trena Calcutt
- Simon Hadfield
- Mike Early

- **Takamatua**

- Katherine & Hugh Fraser
- Bronwyn Hayward & Andrew Ashby
- David, Sue & Harry Thurston
- Sue & Ray Bruce
- Mark & Denise Wren
- Rebecca & Neil Barnett
- Michael & Barbara Harrington
- Brent Shultz
- Sara Parks
- Annette & Stephen LeLievre
- Peter & Elizabeth Haylock
- Peter & Glenys Roberts
- Prunella Downes
- Michael Downes
- Late apologies:
- Frank Shaw & Maryline Suchley

Total apologies: 58

Working Party

- Community Board is setting up Working Party
- Draft Terms of Reference received late Thursday
- Included new information that entire project could take place on 11 Sawmill Road
- Response required asap.
 - First meeting is Wednesday
- Friends Wastewater committee meeting Monday to determine response.
- Purpose of this meeting is to gather views of neighbours to 11 Sawmill Road

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11 Sawmill Road

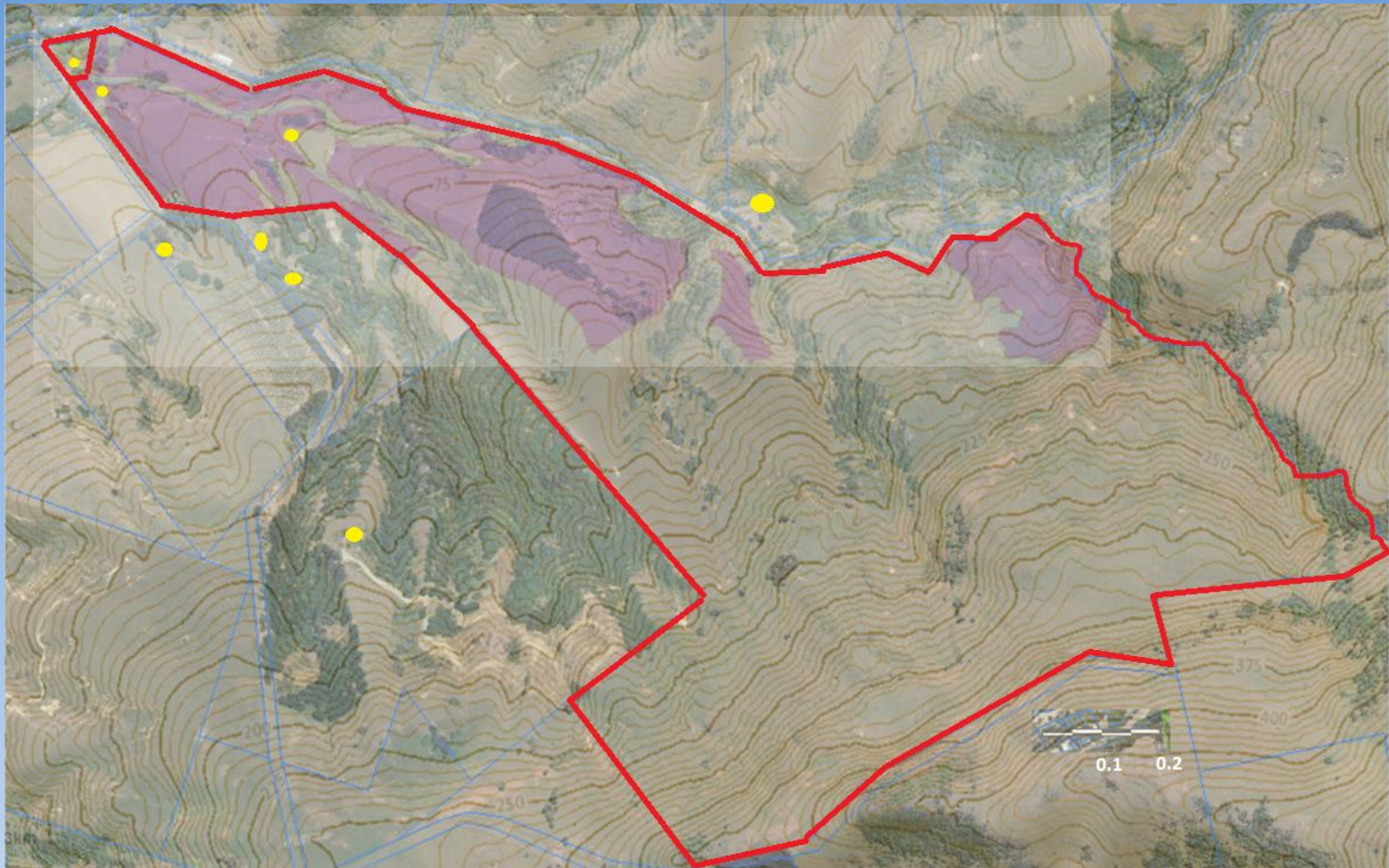


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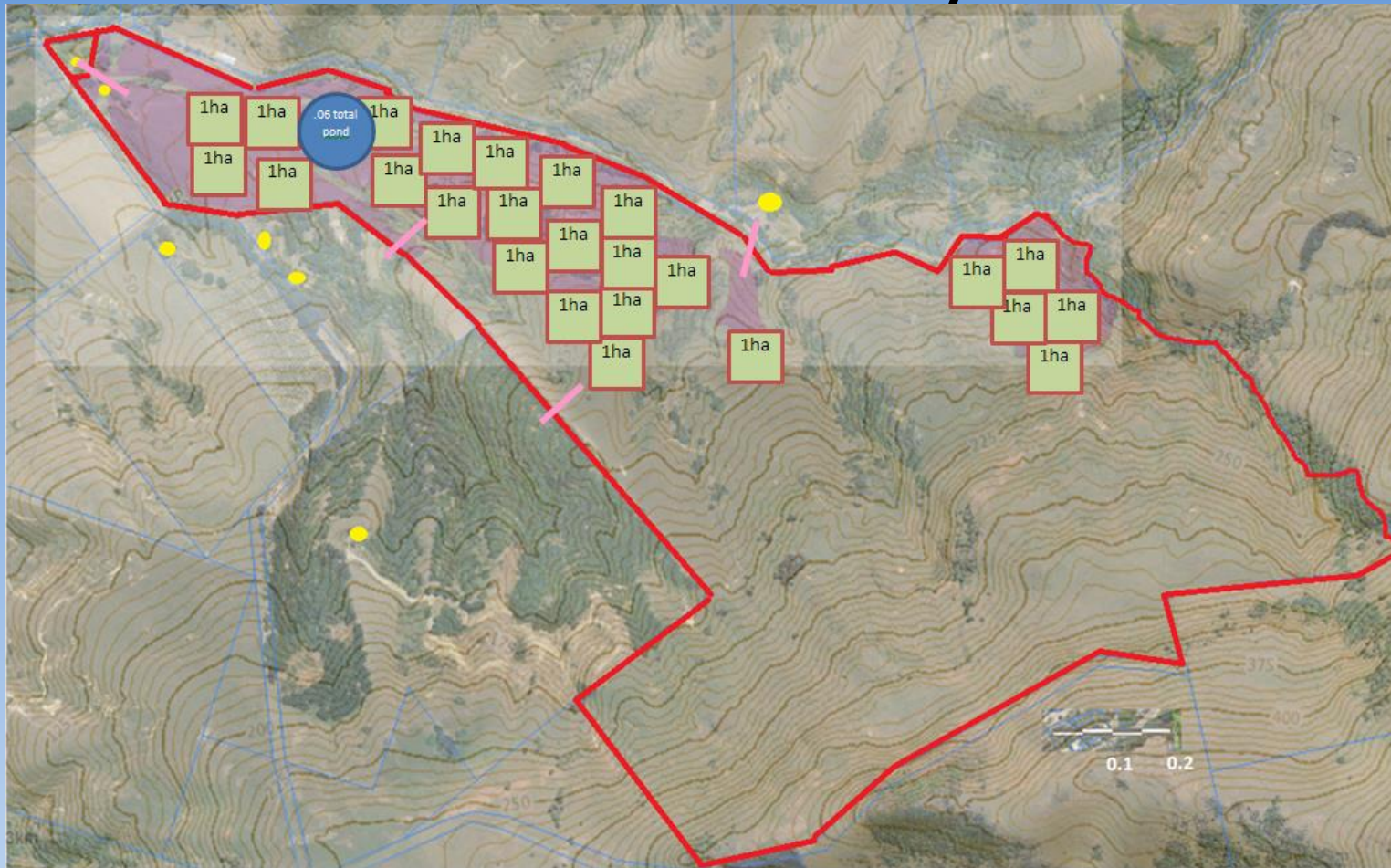
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Land previously identified for irrigation

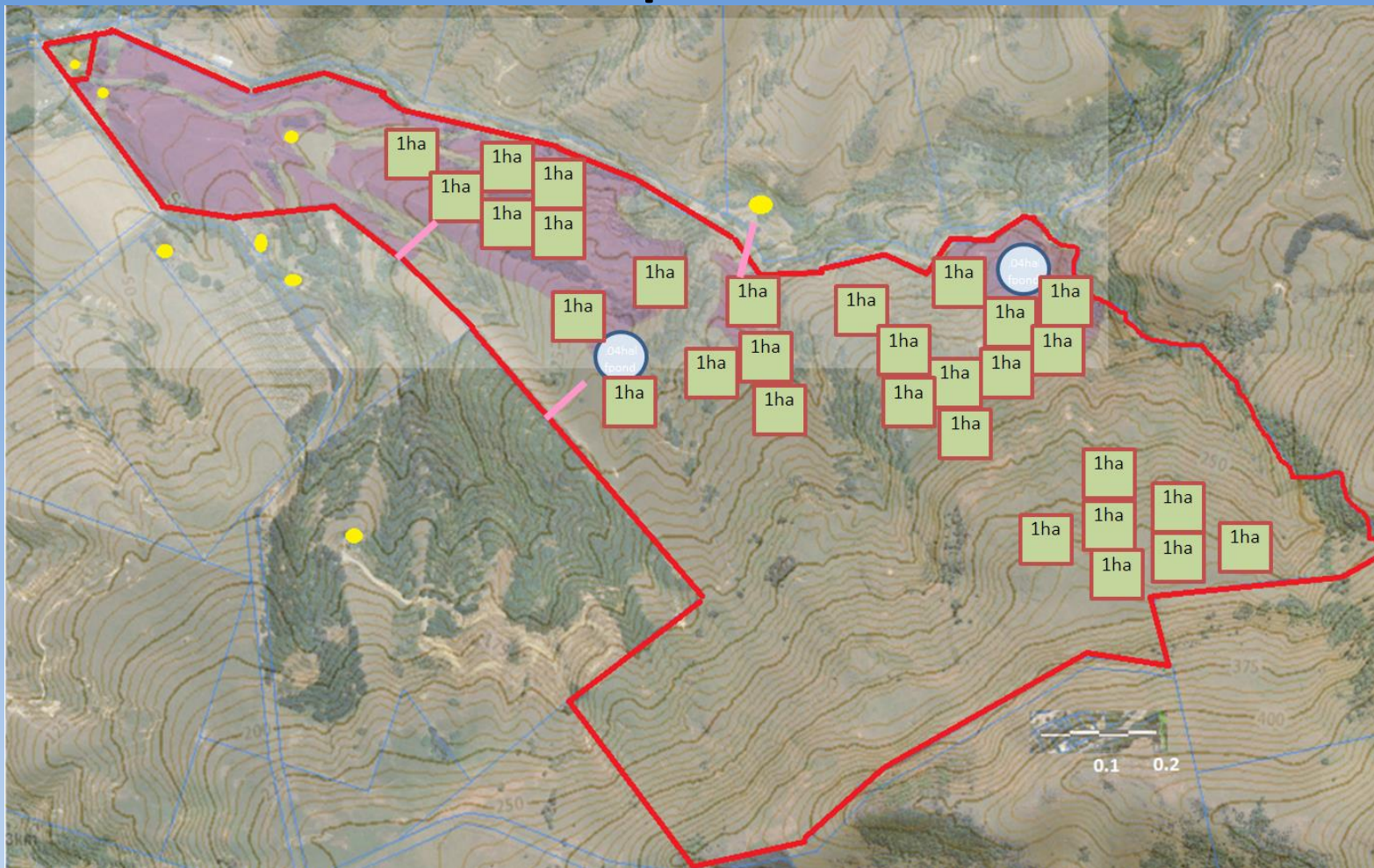


Could they do it?



- 1 pond
- 25 Ha trees
- On Council-identified land but distanced from Pavitt Cottage.
- Pond on old cottage.

2 pond solution



- 2 ponds
- 25 Ha trees
- Uses higher slopes to keep off the valley floor and at least 100m from south boundaries and Foley house.

Objectives of Working Party

- To assist the Council in investigating and consulting on the options for the **beneficial** reuse of Akaroa's treated wastewater, through the steps in objectives 2-5 below, acknowledging that the option of discharge to the Akaroa Harbour will remain part of the wider community consultation.
- To consider the advantages, disadvantages, efficiency, effectiveness, appropriateness, cost-effectiveness and effects of the three short-listed beneficial reuse of treated wastewater options for Akaroa (irrigation to trees or pasture at Robinsons Bay, Takamatua Valley and Pompeys Pillar), including the possibility of irrigation and ponds being solely on Mr Thacker's land at 11 Sawmill Road, Robinsons Bay.
- To consider the joint statement(s) of the independent technical experts on the feasibility and effects of irrigation of treated wastewater to land and to assess what, if any, further technical investigation or other information may be useful for consideration of options, given the time constraints imposed by the Council's need to obtain consent for a reuse or disposal option prior to the expiry of consents for the current plant and disposal method.
- To identify for the Council's consideration any other options that may meet the Council's project objective – to find a solution for the sustainable reuse or disposal of all of Akaroa's treated wastewater which is consistent with the Council's duties under the Local Government Act and is sustainable management under the Resource Management Act - within the feasibility constraints already established by the technical experts.
- To provide comment on the content of the draft consultation booklet for reuse or disposal options.

Discussion

- Views on the 11 Sawmill Road concept
- Do neighbours regard it as “beneficial”?
- If not, are there ways it could be made “beneficial”
- Applying strategy principals

Strategy

Principles A

- **Wastewater treatment must be consistent and to the highest standard**
- *Under the current proposals, sewage will bypass the treatment plant during times of heavy rain and only be subject to basic filtering and minimal UV treatment before passing out of the plant to the effluent storage ponds. If the ponds are full, then the sewage will not be sent to the treatment plant but instead be discharged raw to the Grehan Stream. Neither are acceptable. The storage facility at the plant needs to be sufficient to hold all foreseeable water arriving, even in storm conditions, so that it can be treated to a consistent standard. This means catering for all but the most extreme and unexpected weather events such as a 1 in 100 year event.*
- *The community appreciates that the treatment plant will not remove all viruses, hormones, pharmaceuticals or heavy metals, but stipulates that it must be treated to the highest standard possible and that any further treatment using natural processes to neutralise these (such as passing through soil) must not expose humans, livestock, other animals or the environment to increased health risks.*

Strategy

Principles B

- **Disposal must be in the right area, not one that externalises risks and costs onto adjoining residents, or destroys the amenity or health of the environment**
- *Current proposals for land disposal would put the health, safety and environment of the receiving area at risk and lower the amenity and value of surrounding and nearby properties*
- *Property setbacks from infrastructure and irrigation must ensure that effects such as spray drift, infiltration run-off and shading are not imposed on neighbouring properties and residences*
- *Ideally remote areas should be prioritised for consideration*

Strategy

Principles C

- **Solution must be sustainable in the long term and robust in the event of natural disasters**
- *If land disposal is used, it must not build up nutrients or pollutants over time that nullify the continued use of that land*
- *Water that is still contaminated must not make its way to waterways. If land disposal is the only option used there must be a mechanism to cope if storage ponds are full.*
- *Infrastructure must be robust enough to respond to storms, earthquakes, tsunamis and rising sea levels without creating floods, slips or environmental disasters*
- *A comprehensive risk monitoring and management program needs to be in place*

Strategy Principles D

- **Solution must meet Ngai Tahu cultural values**
- *Alternative solutions must meet Ngai Tahu cultural values and Ngai Tahu representatives must be engaged in the process*
- *Recognise that many other cultures also find wastewater offensive*

Strategy

Principles E

- **Akaroa must be actively involved in the solution**
- *Actions taken at the top of the pipe can have large downstream effects, both positive and negative.*
- *Solution must include plans to minimise the volume of water and maximise the quality of water arriving at the treatment plant*
- *Reducing inflow reduces the size of the outflow disposal problem*
- *The current outflow volume dictates the need for effluent storage ponds occupying up to 3 hectares. Finding a suitable and safe location for these huge ponds on the steep Peninsula topography is one of the most challenging aspects of a land based solution. A reduction in volume, particularly over winter, would ease this.*
- *A large percentage of the water arriving at the treatment plant is stormwater that has infiltrated the sewer pipes.*
- *Currently there are no incentives for existing Akaroa properties or developers of new property to install water recycling systems on site*
- *There is little to prevent harmful material entering the system or public education to minimise this risk.*

Strategy Principles F

- **Managed process and infrastructure**
- *The proposed infrastructure and its ongoing management and whole of life cost of management must be identified and in place at the outset, and subject to public and expert scrutiny to ensure that it is fit for purpose, sustainable and includes rapid and effective response to community concerns.*

Strategy Principles G

- **Ideally find a solution that makes beneficial use of the water**
- *Search for beneficial solutions needs to be realistic about the quality and consistency of the effluent. Under the treatment regime currently proposed the uses of treated water are limited to those which do not give rise to inhalation or ingestion by humans. It is unclear what applies when the effluent is contaminated by wet weather bypass flows*
- *Solution should not facilitate the private financial benefit of some parties while externalising costs and risks onto others*
- *Solution would include a start on re-use in suitable applications in Akaroa and a commitment to install a lavender pipe system to return water to Akaroa.*

Strategy Principles H

- **Obviate the need for compulsory purchase**
- *An acceptable solution that does not harm the receiving community, and for which adequate compensation is paid to landowners and any other affected parties should obviate the need for compulsory purchase*

Strategy Principles I

- **Options put out for public consultation must be sufficiently detailed for the public to make an informed choice**
- *Clear information must be given about the quality of the water and how it can be used.*
- *Where water is to be used for any kind of farming, the withholding periods need to be identified.*
- *Options must indicate the locations of key infrastructure such as effluent storage ponds, pumping stations and pipes and their proximity to neighbouring properties and residences.*
- *Options must include a risk analysis across the full set of risks identified by the community*
- *There needs to be clear information on costings, including how they have been arrived at, and providing the overall land purchase budget for each option.*

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