

Organics Processing Plant Community Liaison Group Meeting

Minutes

6.30 pm to 8.00 pm, Tuesday 18 August 2026

Waitai Coastal-Burwood-Linwood Community Boardroom

180 Smith Street, Woolston, Christchurch 8062

Executive Summary of Minutes

1. Welcome and Introduction

The Chair welcomed the group and introductions were made.

2. Previous minutes confirmed in their entirety without amendment

The Minutes of the previous meeting dated 19 May August 2026 were confirmed as a true and correct record, subject to the changes discussed during the meeting.

Geoffery King expressed that his comments, including references to specific individuals, be included in the meeting minutes, regardless of whether those individuals attended the meeting or are still associated with the organisations mentioned.

Action: 1 Council to seek guidance from its Privacy Officer regarding the naming of individuals in meeting minutes.

3. Action from previous meeting

Updates on actions from the previous meeting were confirmed, and all actions were closed.

4. Bromley Residents Lived Experience

An update was provided on the Bromley Residents' Lived Experience Project. Council advised that an independent researcher is expected to be appointed within the next two weeks. The researcher will contact residents directly to arrange interviews and record their experiences.

The project aims to document the community's lived experience over the past 18 years and identify key learnings. Residents were encouraged to suggest other community members who may wish to be interviewed.

5. Affected residents felt experience report and questions arising

Residents reported that odour and dust continue to be an ongoing issues and are more prominent on some days than others.

6. Christchurch City Council Report

The report was taken as read.

Operations at OPP Bromley continues as usual, with compost continuing to be transported to Kate Valley. Planned biofilter maintenance was completed successfully in June, with frequent odour scouting by PDP during the maintenance period.

Construction of the new Organics Processing Facility at Hornby remains on schedule and is progressing well. The facility is expected to begin receiving Council FOGO in April 2027 and to be fully operational by October 2027, after which the Bromley site will be decommissioned.

Council is also continuing to explore future redevelopment options for the Bromley site and will keep the CLG and residents informed of progress.

Action: 2 Photos showing construction progress of the new Organics Processing Facility at Hornby will be provided with the minutes.

- *Post Meeting Note (PMN): Construction progress photos are attached at the end of the Executive Summary.*

7. Living Earth Report

The report was taken as read.

Dust recording continues with no exceedances recorded, and no odour complaints were received during this quarter. PDP continued odour scouting as usual.

Site operations remained low in this season, with tunnels dispatched only two to three days per week as required. The biofilter refurbishment was completed successfully, and the screening shed was part dismantled, with equipment cleaned and prepared for relocation to the North Island.

8. Environment Canterbury (ECan) Report

The report was taken as read.

ECan received 117 odour reports across the wider Bromley community during the reporting period. Seven reports were assessed in relation to composting activities, with six having other factors that indicated alternative sources and one requiring further investigation. Compliance officers undertook approximately six hours of proactive and responsive community monitoring during this period.

One dust complaint was received after hours which was unrelated to Living Earth. Following investigation, the complaint was not substantiated.

Residents expressed concern about the delay between odours being reported and compliance officers attending the area, noting that in many cases the wind direction had changed and the odour had dissipated before officers arrived.

Action: 3 A dust issue arising during the day of the meeting was raised. Council and ECan to discuss this further and report back to the CLG.

10. General Business

Discussion took place regarding the long-standing nature of these issues and their impact on residents' health and wellbeing.

The importance of continuing to report concerns to the relevant authorities and participating in storytelling initiatives was highlighted. This information helps build understanding of residents' experiences and supports efforts to prevent similar issues from occurring in the future.

Meeting closed.

Action:2 Construction progress photos of the new Organics Facility, Hornby – August 2026



Tank farm installation



Processing hall



An aerial view of the Hornby site

Verbatim Minutes

Attendees:

Chair: Carl Pascoe (CP)

Christchurch City Council Staff: Alec McNeil (AM), Lynette Ellis (LE), Gary Watson (GW), Abi Velkumar (AV),

Christchurch City Council Elected Member: Yani Johanson (YJ)

Living Earth: Jaco Kleinhans (JK)

Environmental Canterbury Staff: Lauren Hamilton (LH), Georgia Simmonds (GS), Olivia Hobson (OH)

Environmental Canterbury Elected Members: Ashley Campbell (AC)

Community Members: Geoffrey King (GK), Andrew Walker (AW), Vickie Walker (VW), Bruce King (BK), Carol Anderson (CA).

Minute Taker: Maria O'Neill (MO)

Apologies: Deon Swiggs (DS), Joe Davies (JD)

CP: Welcome folks. As usual we'll do as we usually do. Go round who's in the room tonight.

"Introductions"

Thank you folks. I'm Carl Pascoe, I'm the facilitator chair. We've got an apology from Deon Swiggs. Other apologies from anybody? Nope. Okay, last meetings minutes have been circulated and you have hard copies on the table in front of you.

Taken as read, Any corrections?

GK: Well, I would like to know why names have been redacted. Who gave the authority to do that?

CP: Sorry, what are you talking about? Geoffrey, which particular names?

BK: Those present at the last meeting. There's no names. Normally the minutes have the names of those persons concerned.

GK: Yep, and they have been redacted. Could you explain why that has happened? Were you here and took the minutes last time? Did somebody give you instructions? Page 6, 23 of 46 is one example. Just several examples.

CP: Well, page 6. Page 6 of the minutes is the list of the people who were there

GK: Page 23.

CP: Page 6

GK: 23 of 46 that's what I've got on mine.

BK: Get them in the right order. There's page 6, they are there.

LE: Oh, it says name removed. Mentioned. Yes, the name. Name redacted. So if you look on page 23.

GK: Yeah

LE: It says name removed or name redacted. I think that's possibly just an error that we didn't pick up in the verbatim minutes.

GK: who, who gave the order.

CP: No, we didn't give the order.

LE: We didn't actually remove them. It's the way they've come out in the verbatim minutes.

BK: So who's with the names you mentioned? So who were the names you mentioned? So I can write them down?

CP: Do you know who it was Geoffrey?

GW: Paul Hulse. That's the name you mentioned, Paul Hulse.

GK: Yeah. Okay. Name removed. Mentioned the name. Name redacted. And after she left, she did exactly what the people at the top, the woman at the top at present and name redacted before her said what to say.

LE: So I would say, Geoffrey, that was when there was a discussion about past staff that have been involved that are no longer at ECan. We haven't published their names, but we have published the intent of what you said

GK: The name. But the people are still there.

LE: No, a lot of people have left.

GK: Some might have left. So why isn't their name on it?
This is an honest, straightforward, truthful minutes of the meeting. Who authorised removal of the people's names?

CP: So the question you're really asking, Geoffrey, relates to, and as I hear Lynette talking about it, where someone who once worked for the council

GK: but still works for council

CP: or is no longer there in the interest of their privacy, their name should be redacted? That is the question. And does it change the intent, Geoffrey, of what you're trying to convey?

GK: No, what I'm saying is the minute should be exact. Names are on there. My name goes on there. Bruce's name goes on there.

LE: You've attended the Meeting. You were supplying your opinion about someone else at that meeting.

GK: I've asked a question. Yes,

LE: that person.

GK: Not an opinion, fact.

LE: You were here. You were supplying your understanding of. Of what had happened. That person no longer works for the organisation.

GK: So what.

LE: So we're not going to argue about this one, sorry Carl.

GK: Not a true record. Not a true record of the minute.

CP: So we. What we'll do, Geoffrey, is we'll note in the minutes your. Your view and opinion that all names, regardless of whether the person is still inside either of the organisations of council or ECan should be in the minutes or not, or should they be redacted? And that would be a legal opinion under the privacy stuff I would have taken.

LE: We would get our Privacy Officer to have a look at it.

CP: if you could have a look at it

GK: Privacy wise, my name is mentioned.

CP: Because you are at the meeting Geoffrey
The person that you are referring to was not in this room at the time you made your comments. Right?

GK: We've had 18 ½ years of this bloody bullshit

CP: Geoffrey

GK: Wipe the grin off your face

CP: Geoffrey, Geoffrey, we don't do that here

GK: Well, I'm sick and tired of it. 18 and a half bloody years of it.

CP: If you can't calm - leave Geoffrey

GK: All right, No, I won't calm down

CP: Calm down

GK I'm sick of it

CP: I understand.

GK: Sick of It

CP: I get it.

GK: Lies, deceit, deception, abuse and bullying. Especially from the ECan lot.

AC: Can I just raise another issue? You've got me down as an apology for the last meeting. My apology was that I would be late, but I actually did attend.

CP: Thank you very much.

We'll get it referred to the privacy officer and see what they say about recording names of people who aren't present at a meeting when others name them. What is the correct process to be followed, All right.

GK: It's only just started

CP: I understand that, Geoffrey. It raises a point. We are going to get it checked legally with your privacy people.

Moving on with the minutes. Are there any other corrections to the minutes?

BK: Yes, there is sorry..

It says here page, on page six. It says here there's one thing. It says I said line works, but it's lime works and it's got line works there not L I M E. Okay. Because that's exactly where it is at the old lime work site on the main north railway line.

CP: Okay, we'll correct that. Any other corrections. In that case? We'll take the minutes as read and approved. Moving on, Action one, Council. Where are we at with keeping people informed on the use of the site after it closes?

AM: So there's no further update at the moment. We've got interest from two departments within council for the flat area of the site where the compost used to be windrowed and there's an interest in the building from our department, but not for a waste related activity. So we're just waiting on some further information coming from one of those internal departments and then we'll put a paper up to council.

CP: and that'll go through the community board and usual processes of.

AM: Community consultation and obviously it'll come up in front of the elected members.

CP: ok, the biofilter maintenance went well?

YJ: Okay, can we just ask a question on that?

YJ: Is there any adverse impact of the activity? That's, that's likely.
Of like in terms of the two departments that expressed interest, is there any assessment of any likely adverse impact on the work?

AM: That's part of their due diligence. They've got to present that as well. So if it would impact traffic or whatever the issue might be. So that's part of their work.

CA: Noise issues:

LE: Yeah, that's part of the work they've got to do.

CA: Good, I've had enough noise.

LE Yeah, so they haven't got through that yet.

YJ: Okay, so just before it goes to council, the elected members, is there going to be adequate time for the community to understand what's been proposed?

AM: Yes.

YJ: To provide feedback ahead of any decision?

AM: Yes

CP: Biofilter OK

CA: Complete?

YK: Yeah, complete, full refurbishment done.

CP: Gary, you can talk to us about all the bits that you want to deal with. So you can leave early as you requested.

GW: Firstly, thank you for the feedback. This is about being able to record the journey for the last 18 years. So thank you for the input. We're currently finalising a contractor in the next two weeks. We'll have a researcher contracted to do that. The next steps will be you'll get contacted by the researcher directly to make an appointment to meet you at the best time and place that suits you for her to take down your story. So there's no need for you to rewrite it or do that. That will all be taken down. I said her, whoever this is, sorry, the contractor. That'll get written up at the end of it and then both CCC and ECan will review the report and have a look at it.

And I know from our viewpoint, we want to be able to respond to those touch points that you've recognised that were major issues and how we might deal with those in the future or

how we would maybe never get to that point again in a future project and some of the decisions that were made in hindsight, how we would make them again if we had to make them today. So we really want to hear it. The other thing I'm doing is I'm putting together a list and I'll be. And if you've got family or friends who want to be interviewed, I've got a few other people. I've managed to find someone who was about six years old when this all started and has come through.

So that'll be good to get a young person's view on how it's affected them. So, yeah, really at the moment, in another couple of weeks, as I say, we'll have someone locked in. After that you've contacted him, obviously they'll tell you who they are and what it's about and make a time to come and sit with you and take it down. All right, Any questions and if, honestly, if you have anyone who you would like spoken to, please drop me an email and let me know and contact details would be great. So the researcher can do that, but this is a totally independent researcher. We just pay the bill.

CP: Any questions of Gary? Bruce.

BK: Yeah. First, are you going to do anything about health effects on the people in the area? Are you going to ask any questions of the local doctors about any increase in respiratory problems caused by the horrible stuff that's been floating around the atmosphere for most of that time?

GW: If those are questions you want, absolutely.

BK: Thank you

GW: and so this is a list of who you think should be spoken to.

GK: ECan won't do a bloody thing, they're useless

GW: We might not get to everyone on your list.

GK: You've had 18 and a half years to fix the problem.

CP: We got it Geoffrey, Sorry Gary - anything else you want to add?

GW: No, sorry to shoot out early. All right. But you've got my email address, you got my phone number. Geoffrey and I caught up a couple times. If there's anything you need, you know where I am.

GK: Thanks Gary

CP: Past three months, what's been your experience folks?

AW: I think a bit of a whiff from over that direction at the workshop but, yeah, by the time I get under, doing something about it, that's finished.

BK: Early morning. I find it worse. Like 6 o' clock in the morning when I go to get the paper, let the dog out. That's the worst time.

BK: Yep

VW: a special day?

BK: Most days

CA: I've smelt it a few times, but I've just gone outside and thought, yep, gone back inside. And that's where I've been staying. The dog doesn't appreciate the smell either, so he won't go. He comes to the door, I open it, he sniffs the air and looks at me as much as I. Nah, back inside.

GK: We used to have a dog go outside and then go back inside. Its that bad.

CP: City Council report. Anything you want to add Abi?

AV: Thanks Carl, we will take the report as read. Report structure remains

CP: You'll need to speak up a wee bit.

AV: Ok.

We will take the report as read. The report structure remains the same as usual. It's business as usual regarding OPP Bromley operations. Site remains clear with compost continues to be transported to Kate Valley. We had biofilter planned maintenance in June that went well as planned. PDP had done frequent odour scouting during that period, in addition to what they would usually do, which was helpful. Jaco will talk more about the maintenance in his report. New organics facility at Hornby tracking along really well. Construction progresses as planned and the facility will start taking councils FOGO from April 2027 and become fully operational by October 2027, with eventual decommissioning of Bromley site. And project milestones are tabled in council's report. I'll also share some pictures of construction, progress photos along with these meeting minutes. And lastly, Council are exploring Bromley site redevelopment options internally. As Alec mentioned, the CLG and the residents will be informed of next steps and progress.

CP: Alec, anything you want to add?

AM: No, I think the organics, the new plant in Hornby, as Abi said is progressing well. Once you see the photos, the main buildings are up, the tanks are now all up. A lot of the loading infrastructure, they're just laying the drainage, and the cable runs and things now there's no indication of any issues via shipment. A lot of the equipment is coming from Europe, but a lot of it is on the sea at the moment in transit. There's only one or two final pieces that are still to leave factories, but so far there's been no disruption to the logistics. So they're still on track to be ready to start commissioning in April next year.

CP: Is there anything you want to ask city council people? No, ok, Jaco.

JK: As usual, we'll just kick off with the dust reporting. That is ongoing as normal. Recording the dust on a monthly basis. No exceedances there; under the limit. Odour.. We've not had any odour complaints as Abi identified. PDP is still doing the odour scouting. On site operations, doing about 14 days plus in the tunnels, as its low season, there's not a tunnel out every single day. During low periods we can do two or three days a week where tunnels will go out. The rest of the time there's no tunnels going out. Biofilter maintenance went well. It was a big refurbishment. Full replacement. That was done quite quickly. And then the screening shed.. for those using the Green waste drop off area at eco drop route have seen that the screening shed was dismantled.

So we pulled all the equipment out of there, removed the containers. The container structure was demolished, cleaned up. The equipment is washed down and will be relocated to the north island in the near Future.

CA: Is it still operating through until 2027.

JK: Not the screening shed? No, no. So the screening shed part next to where the Green waste drop off area is, that's been fully decommissioned. The council will do some work on it at one point, but from Living Earth's side, that's.

BK: I can verify that. Yeah, I've seen it, but it's not there

CP: Ok, any questions of Jaco?
ECan

OH: So for us we had. We had 117 smell-its over the three months. But that's for the whole of the Bromley community. Of those, only seven had the characteristics that would be attributed to compost silage or herbals. But six of those were considered unattributed to Living Earth due to the distance away from the site. So we only had one smell-it that was received after hours.

GK: Excuse me, you just say the word

CP: Hang on Geoffrey, let her finish

OH: And then the following. That was after hours. And then the following day in the morning we received a phone call. So a senior compliance officer went out to investigate that odour complaint. But they did not substantiate the odour at that time. They went out the same morning on the 17th June.

So we raised a pollution event from that. So that was the only pollution event that was raised that would contribute to that, but wasn't substantiated as offensive or objectionable beyond the boundary. Yeah. And all of the other ones were attributed mainly to the wastewater treatment plant because it would be faecal or sewer odour. The monitoring officers spent approximately six hours of proactive and responsive monitoring in the community throughout this time period. And in terms of dust, we received one dust complaint unrelated to Living Earth in the community. It was received after hours. So it wasn't substantiated.

CP: Questions?

GK: Yes

BK: I find it rather funny that you said it was too far away to be smelt, coming from the composting plant. Well, that's very interesting because it's been smelt as far away as Hornby from the composting plant. I think that's a rather silly statement you just made then.

GK: And even you can smell it in little bits in the nor'west winds.

CP: Questions? Got any questions?

BK: No, that's just a comment. A general comment.

GK: And you just said six complaints of the OPP

OH: So seven complaints had the compost characteristic, but only one of those was attributed to Living Earth. All the other ones had other characteristics such as maybe sewer, faecal.

GK: Well, I made a complaint. Can't remember the date now. They were renewing the pond, but it was just diabolical. And that went on for two weeks. So I rang up and they took the information. Then later in the afternoon, or was it the next morning, I got told that they went out four hours later. This is ECan. Went out four hours later. The monitoring department four hours later and couldn't smell anything because the wind had changed to the southwest.

OH: If it was the phone call that we received on the 17th. I don't have the date in front of me of what time the senior officer went out, but he would have. They would have gone out pretty quick after the phone call.

GK: Four hours. The bloody smell would have been in Invercargill. you get my drift?

BK: Right, there's another

GK: Hopeless, absolutely hopeless

AC: Can we please ensure that staff aren't the subject of abuse during this meeting?

BK: He's making general statements.

GK: There's no abuse.

CP: I understand that

GK: If anybody gets abused, its us
And who the hell asked you several times before in December to meet with us so we can explain our problems.

CP: Geoffrey,

GK: And you shut up

CP: Geoffrey!

VW: Get out now

GK: I beg your pardon?

VW: You don't speak to him like that. He's running the meeting, not you.

CP: Bruce

GK: You want me to pass to Bruce?

BK: Right, ECan. ECan does not do its job. It doesn't just monitor the odour. It's meant to monitor. Monitor the dust in the air.

GK: Yep

BK: Now the dust in the bio bits and the pieces that come off the plant, we have never seen a proper report of that issue around the place. Now I am, I have had sinus problems all for the last two years continuously. I mean, continuously. I'm on. I'm sick of bloody having antihistamines every day just so I can breathe. Now, you're not doing your job, ECan. You've never done the job about monitoring what particular matters coming through and doing any proper reports on what's in there. And that is very, extremely dangerous to our health. Not only is ECan falling down, the government of this country is falling down and enforcing its health act for how plants are operated. So I think.

AC: Can I ask a question?

BK: Yes

AC: Have you made complaints?

BK: Yes, I have

AC: Have you got the dates and times?

BK: Yeah

AC: Ok

BK: I haven't made anything for two years because I know it's just bloody hopeless. I used to make complaints virtually every day, once, and nothing ever happened. So nothing was done, nothing.

AC: Can't change what happened in the past.
And I'm prepared to bet I wasn't here in the past. I'm prepared to bet that these three women here also weren't here in the past.

BK: That's right

AC: So let's try to go forward and find a way that we can make sure that we get your complaints and that we investigate them.

BK: Sorry, I'm not accusing any person in particular. I'm accusing. ECan as a whole.

AC: I get it. I get it. I really get it. But what actually happens when we turn up and you yell at us.

BK: I have never done that.

AC: or raise your voice at us.

BK: I have never done that.

AC: I, we get that we actually feel very attacked.

GK: Because we're pissed off with it. Frustrated.

AC: It doesn't help us to help you now. We actually want to help you. but we've got to actually have a bit of mutual respect and speak calmly and politely to each other for that to happen. And I'm not going to sit here and have voices raised at these three women who are just trying to do their job. So I just ask that we all calm down a wee bit. And we try and find a way to ensure that if you have complaints about dust, they get to the right people. Can we do that?

BK: Yep

LE: Can I suggest. Can I suggest. Because Bruce and Geoffrey have both talked to me today about the concerns they've had today with the dust and the issues that I'll come and talk to you all about what they've given me today and we'll figure out how we move that forward.

AC: That sounds like

GK: But we. Last December we asked to speak to you about it.

AC: Geoffrey, just a minute.

GK: We asked you. I asked you to send an email last December and you have done nothing in eight months, nine months?

CP: Bruce

BK: I have presented. I have presented the dust to people at ECan over the years, presented it and collected dust. Nothing has ever happened because.

GK: Right

BK: Can I say something as well? I'll let you have your talk.
I'll have another talk.

BK: 18 Years of being treated like a bit of shit by the government body who's meant to be monitoring and doing it and protecting the people of Christchurch does not give me a good attitude towards that certain department anymore.

GK: The government's getting rid of it.

BK: I'm just going to finish off here and after my weekend of talking to people about our situation with that, they said, why hasn't it been closed? Because of what comes off there. Because of that pathogens and stuff that comes off that plant. Now, these are people who are a lot more versatile in our community. And I just felt. Today I didn't feel like coming, but I'm here because I've been here virtually every meeting except for three when I was banned. And we've had the same issues all the time for 18. It's only been going 16 years. The meetings now, the whole thing has just been a charade. We might as well have them puppets pulling strings, because that's what's happened.

Now, even certain people who used to work for ECan told me personally that we were on the right track, but they had their hands tied by the staff above them. They could not enforce what we would. They knew what we were saying was correct, but they couldn't do anything for us. So do you think we have a good attitude towards ECan?

GK: No

AC: No, I suspect you don't

GK: and especially with the female.

AC: Wait, Geoffrey, stop it, please. , I understand that, Bruce. I do understand that. But these people here are trying to help. And actually when they get yelled at, when the voices are raised at them, it makes them. It doesn't help them help you. Now, Lynette has said that she will meet with us and talk through your issues. We will take it seriously and we will figure out what we can do. But. I get it. And I understand that you're frustrated and I understand that you're frustrated at the organisation of ECan, I get that. But we here are actually trying to do our best. Okay?
And I know one person in this room doesn't believe that, but I would ask the rest of you.

CA: To try to believe that. It's difficult.

AC: I get it, I do get it.

GK: Where is your offsider tonight?

AC: which offsider would that be?

GK: Well, we've only got two representatives. You and he's Joe.

AC: So Joe is actually trying to get back from Moldova where he and his partner have had a baby and they're waiting for the passport so that they can get back. So he's on the other.

GK: Oh so, no apology..

LE: he gave us his apology

GK: I'm sorry, I didn't hear it. And the chairman

CP: He sent us his apology, Geoffery

GK: Okay

BK: Okay, now, by the way, him and I are in no way related. Okay? And we're not. Homosexual marriage. Sorry. Hey, don't laugh. People I've gone to and said who I am. And they say this is this rumour that's been going around this town and these people in the government department. So I'm just clearing it up for the new people.

VW: He's got a lovely wife called Ellen.

BK: and I've been married 55 years.

CP: The issues. The issue is that after years of. And as best we can, people are not attacking other individuals. I cannot stop Geoffrey from his voice level. Part of that is caused by his deafness. So he can't self monitor.

GK: sick of it.

CP: We understand, Geoffrey. You're sick of it. You are looking at another four meetings, another 12 months and this stops. There has been identified a secondary issue which belongs with the community board and other parts of council is the dust in the area that is coming off a number of plants in the area. And one of the things I would be saying to ECan is if you are effective in responding to that, you will begin to rebuild some trust and belief in the organisation.

BK: Thank you Carl, well put.

CP: But at the moment you are in a.. When I think about relationships of organisations and communities, I think about it in terms of a bank account. And I've got to say the overdraft is pretty steep at the moment. And it's been ameliorated and reduced a little over the last two

and a half to three years with the actions of city council, with Lynette and her team and doing it. But there has been an ongoing issue of relationship understanding with ECan.

AC: I understand that. And it is very difficult because, of course, there are other things that many of us in this room are aware of that make it very difficult. So all I'm asking for is that when our staff turn up, they get treated with respect by people at this table and that you actually understand that they're here because they're trying to fix this. Okay. That doesn't mean they can fix everything. They probably can't. But they're actually people as well, and they deserve to be treated. Even if you're frustrated as hell and we get it. They still deserve to be treated with respect.

CP: Yani, you wanted to say something?

GK: So do we.

YJ: Carol wanted to say something first.

CA: I just wanted to make you aware I had complained several times about dust on my car. It was covered, absolutely covered in dust. It always is. Unfortunately, due to my ex refusing to clear his crap out of the garage. I can't park my car in the garage. But anyway, that's beside the point. I have to put up with it constantly looking like a dumping pit. Anyway, I did manage to get somebody coming round who came around from ECan, who said she was going to check for dust on the property. So I took her out onto the patio. I've got a nice glass top table. And there she pulled out a Q tip. And she went like that on the top of the table. Popped it in a plastic bag.

I'll send that away for testing. Came back inconclusive. Of course it did. For goodness sake. A Q tip and picking up a little bit of dust on the end of it. It was like, what the hell. My patio is constantly marked with black marks that the only way I get it off is to power wash it. And I can't afford to have somebody coming around every two or three months to clean it off. It's just impossible.

VW: That's what you get when you live on the street mate, because you've got all the traffic going on.

CA: No, Vicki, this is around the back of my property. Yeah, it's not in the front. My house is quite clean, actually, the patio is there around the back and it's sheltered by the house.

AC: I just had a conversation to ask whether that. Ask whether they can give any technical response to the method of testing or whatever.

LE: I think we need to take the dust conversation offline, establish where, because it is also outside of the OPP. It's not the Living Earth.

CA: we're talking about dust. That's my point.

LE: Yeah. I. I understand this, but take it out there and say, we deal with that separately and we'll come back to you through the Bromley Group and through your emails.

BK: The dust at the moment, I have never said that the main dust today is coming from the OPP. I'm just talking about. I'm just talking about the continuous time when I've had stuff around. I've had people around, taken dust to them, given it to them and they didn't want it. Now I've got an Oamaru stone house and I have never had to clean it so much as I have to now.

CA: and mine's cream brick.

BK: Yeah, but that Oamaru stone's a lot different to brick. Bricks fired and sealed. Oamaru stone's porous and it grows into it. And I'm pissed off of having to spend 500 bucks every year to clean my house, to put it bluntly. And if I want someone to do it's going to cost me \$1,500. So, you know, when I'm on a pension, it's hard to keep paying for all these things. We pay rates which are totally ineffective as far as I'm concerned, in the area that I live in. So I've had my complaints, but I'm just telling you what my frustration with this type of thing is going and presenting. And I must admit that I thank you Carl being a chair that has tried to get answers to our questions. So thank you, Carl.

Thank you to Lynette for the way she's dealt with us. Yes, the City Council has completely changed since we've had Lynette coming here. So I'm thankful for the help over the time and Yani for his continuous help. And the only person from ECan that was really a help to us was David Bedford who died.

GK: Yep, oh and Nicole Marshall.

BK: and Nicole Marshall

GK: They're the only two

BK: Now, I'm just telling you about my experience with ECan, and I'm not raising my voice here. I'm just speaking loud so people can hear me. Now, I'm a trained teacher and everything, so I can talk with my voice and control my voice.

The whole thing. We've had ECan people come around to inspect the smell. They've come around to our place. My wife will verify this. They've come around and they stunk so much of perfume, they couldn't smell anything except the perfume they were wearing. They've come around to inspect it and they've had a chair and they've sat in the Bayswater Reserve park and the grass was just cut the day before. Oh, all we can smell is new grass because they're only what their nose was only four feet from the ground. That's the kind of help that ECan has been to us over the years. So when you've had that treatment and the only person that believed in us, sorry, two people in the hierarchy of ECan that's ever believed in us is Jenny Yuri and Paul Hulse.

Paul Hulse, now Paul Hulse. Yes. As Geoffrey says, Paul Hulse has changed. I haven't spoken to him since I spoke to him when he was in Invercargill once and he was still supporting us. Now he did some stuff, but that was a joke. I've been in, presented ECan, Council. I've been represented at the City Council, which I'm about to go again shortly. The guy from the City Council, they were doing over here, they were putting in the sewer

pumping station and the person got up and said, oh, the wind goes like this to bring this smell from there to us when the composting plant is right there now, they would have to do a 90 degree turn to get to us from this farm.

This is the type of crap that ECan's tried to present to us to shut us down. So we have been bullied, we haven't been listened to fairly. So if you feel uncomfortable, I'm sorry, it's not you we're picking it's the general organisation. We're picking on.

YJ: Thank you. I mean, I just want to acknowledge the work that's gone on in the last two to three years. So for me, we've definitely had a different approach and I'm really grateful for that. For ECan, Living Earth and Council staff, I think the frustration is that. And that's why I'm so keen to get the report on people's experiences to learn the lessons. Because if you put the organics part to one side to your overdraft analogy, you know, the dust issue has been repeatedly raised in this community and it has felt like it hasn't been taken seriously from a health impact on people. And we see that with the wastewater treatment plant fire, despite 15 years of the organics plant and the frustration and finally feeling like they've turned a corner, as soon as the wastewater treatment plant fire hit, people went back, not even to square one, well past square one in terms of that deficit. So the need for this community is for the agencies, the medical officer of health, to take the health involving the environmental things that people are having to put up with. And there's a lot of work that still needs to be done, even when you'll get this plant moved. So, you know, I think that's the anger and that's the frustration that although we know what we know now, we are still having to battle to get resources and to understand what's causing the harm to this community.

But I would say it's really. I know it's frustrating and it's like me living next to the bloody container yard. I get sick of ringing up and complaining because nothing gets done. And when you do that, I mean I've only been doing that for about five years. These people have been putting up with this for 18 years and people do not make complaints after a period of time because they feel like it's just a complete waste of time and energy and it's soul destroying. Having said that, the only way that we can get change is if we get a record of the harm that's been caused. So I encourage people and a message to myself when I get woken up every morning at 7am from the bangs of the containers, send a noise complaint in, log a dust complaint. I know it's frustrating, but it's the only way we can create change is when we get the evidence of the problem. And I know that's hard for ECan when they don't get the information then it's really hard for them to respond. The thing that does concern me a little bit is this whole issue of what happens after hours. But we can address that at another meeting.

AC: I can touch on that. Just touching on it is that in our last briefing for the long term plan, the issue of after hours monitoring was raised and was acknowledged as an issue.

YJ: Thank you

AC: and this is across everything and so I don't know where that's going to lead but I do know that it is on our radar and it is on our Director of Operations radar. So we are aware of the issue, we know that it's not ideal, we're trying to figure out what to do.

GK: You've had 18 years of what to do. I'm not getting at you. It's the whole organisation. Before the present CEO Rixeter, we had Bill Bayfield, he threatened Bruce and me. If we continued we would have legal action taken against us. That's what, listen, that's what we've had to put up with. And I tell you what, there have been many times I think I would be better off if I jumped off Whitewash Head Road because I'm bloody sick of it.

BK: I'm sorry. I was on that point of view. I will say Geoffrey came around to my place one day and said that was very off to. So what did I do? I got the Police and they got him before he got around there. Sorry I took that much concern. That's how frustrated he got at times. So that's the mental health that Geoffrey got. And I'm starting to feel that right now because I've got other health problems going through. My mental health has never been prepared and accept it as being a term that's caused by the conditions we've been living in now. Over the years, ECan has had some good people. When the stink first started, we were told by a young guy to put a petition around.

My wife and I petitioned Bayswater Crescent. They got 35 complaints in one night telling them what to do. Ring up ECan. They got 35 complaints. You can go back. This would be 15 or 14 years ago.

We first used to complain to the City Council and when I asked, I used to take a date. I had a whole list of the dates and when I rang up the City Council. What have you done about this? We've never heard of those. So that's the attitude we had in the early times. But we had this one guy who helped and he moved on from ECan because he was obviously hitting his head against the brick wall. You had an ex policeman do a survey around our area and he went round and interviewed everyone and he got the majority of people agreeing with their complaints we're making. Did anything happen then? No.

The CEO or the people in charge just thought it wasn't worth it because we live in a lower socio economic group area everywhere in the world. Everything that's got to be controversial is put in the lower socio economic group. Because you look at out of probably 30,000 people that are affected. There are, how many people here from our area? 5. That is what happens and that's why they do it. If it was America, they put it in the black area, the black people. Because if they start causing problems they get picked on really bad.

And the only time I've ever seen ECan back down on anything and I've been and seen what happened when they were going to put a shredding plant tyres at Prebbleton, they had a good petition and a good protest outside ECan. And because they had money behind them because there are money people out there that was stopped like that.

GK: Yeah. But we didn't know that this plant was going to be put where it was because they put the information, et cetera, around Christmas week.

BK: That's right.

GK: When everybody's busy and everybody's gone away and you had about two or three weeks.

The deceit and the deception. We've had it for 18 years.

CP: So one of the things that happens in communities where I have spent some years, because I'm no longer young, when there are issues that are damaging people in communities, one of the ways in which people, when they are so frustrated and feel so impotent in the process, no matter what they say, is they do this storytelling of their experience and it somehow begins to help. And it isn't directed at individuals in the room, but when you have a lot of grief, because there's been a lot of grief and loss in this community for lifestyle loss. And so, in a sense, this is a bit of a therapeutic point in place. And I'm sorry that sometimes the voices get raised and the yelling starts. Right. But it is the only way this community has of being able to express what has gone on in their lives. And sometimes I encourage staff and organisations, when you're listening to this, put yourself in their shoes and think about what it would have been like for you for 18 years if it had happened to your house, your family, and that's what they're trying to convey to you. And sometimes it's. And I try to keep Geoffrey a little held as best I can because he does become loud and he does sometimes use language that is abusive of others and I'm sorry for that, but it is the only thing that this community has left.

GK: I lie in bed at night and it goes round and round in my head. I don't get any sleep. I might get off to sleep about 10 o' clock in the morning. I want to go back to bed. It's just frustration that nothing gets done, even from the elected members, the appointed members, The permanent people at 200 Tuam Street.

CP: So, without wanting to labour the point, but I will slightly, in a sense, this event of this plant on this community is having the same impact as the earthquake had on a community.

BK: yep, yep

CP: And it is. It is in some of the labels that are being used. It is post Traumatic stress syndrome. And we need. We. We need to recognise that in the summer months, Geoffrey Bruce wants a crack.

BK: Right, I'll just go back a bit more about ECan. When this was originally put out, I think there were 10 objectors to this plant and the two of them was my wife and myself. Now, when that was issued, that first. The first consent was issued, it said, if any changes to this. We got the hearing thing back. If any changes of this consent are made, those who are objected will be notified in writing. Yeah, come along. The changes were made back when my mother was about to die and it was advertised the Saturday before Christmas in the paper and I was rushing to Invercargill. My mother was told she was dying, so I never got notified. So I couldn't object the second time. And this is. And when I asked ECan for the papers, the copy of the letter and information they sent to me, telling me all about what was going on the first time, they conveniently can't find them. Now, that is not good records of a public records office. Now, that is what I call good, honest treatment by. In my opinion, that's bullying of me, withholding the information they had. They should have an office and should be able to record me with. And they just did it. I have been refused information under OIA from ECan over the years. And you'll probably find. Oh, you mightn't find that on record because they could have conveniently lost that as well.

There were a couple of people at ECan who did help me and give the information that one of them got told off for giving me the information for. Because he told me about that as well. So that's the type of treatment ECan has given to me over the last years. You know, I feel thoroughly disappointed and let down by a person, a governing body who's meant to protect the citizens of the city, but they've done nothing to. There are lots of areas where they've done nothing to the people out by the quarries. You know, I've been to a committee when somebody. Oh, sorry, the ECan council meeting. And this guy was presented this. Presented his. His petition and everything, and the chairman turned around and said, next. Didn't even have any decency to say thank you for that person. Next. And that was it. And that's how they treat people of the city. Sorry, that's my. That's my experience of ECan.

GK: But it's coming to an end.

BK: It's not coming to an end.

CP: no, it's less than two years Geoffrey.

BK: It's a year

CP: One year.

GK: Oh, they've gone in one year?

CP: No, no

AC: He's talking about us actually. These people will still be here. I'll be gone.

GK: Yeah. They might be under a new regime that will take the people at heart because the City Council has changed in the last three or four years.

CP: Right, thank you very much. The issue for us is that it.

GK: Just wanted to say one more thing at night time because we sleep in the house. We've got two bedrooms in the house upstairs. We have to have the bedroom windows open. All right. Because it's too hot in the summer months. The stench comes into the house. I get in my car and I go to Sumner. I used to go to New Brighton, but it was dangerous sleeping in the laybys there with all the bush around. So I now go to Sumner. I didn't have to do it last December was the last time I did it. I have to go to Sumner to sleep in my car. Third world.

VW: So it's getting better though.

GK: Hey listen, it is being fixed that in the sewerage plant is being fixed.

VW: We're going to look forward to having clean air and be free of it all, aren't we?

VW: and our properties hopefully go up in price too.

CP: Yani, to bring this piece to an end point is there anything you want to add from your perspective of what you see in this community?

YJ: So I think this is the importance of the work that Gary talked about happening is the story will be recorded and it will go down in history as what's happened and hopefully what can be done better in the future. So I just, I know it's hard, I know it's difficult, but sharing your stories through that process that Gary has identified is critical to try and stop this from happening to other communities and to stop it from happening to this community going forward.

But I think aside from that process, the issue of the dust and the resourcing needs to be addressed and that will be up to us as elected members to whether it's ECan or council or whatever the new body is, we need to put resources in to monitoring what's happening in our environment in this part of the city as a priority. We can spend hundreds of millions on a stadium, we surely can spend a couple of million putting in monitoring equipment to understand what's causing the problem and what could be done to address it.

CA: Can you also do anything about the businesses in the area, the industrial businesses that are creating the problem in my opinion.

YJ: So I know in the report.

BK: Sorry, we need you to report that.

CA: It's obvious, you've got to look at the businesses that are in that area.

YJ: So I think in the report it did talk about ECan and I think Council going and doing some proactive working or looking at some of the existing businesses. But you're absolutely right. When the organics plant moved, it's not the end. There's other things that still need to happen and we will continue to find whatever best process like I will. And actually, well, I'm sure to make sure that that continues because we do have other things in the area like the dust that does need to be taken seriously, the scrap metal, the noise. But, but also, and not to make excuses, but the legislation, the central government legislation makes it incredibly difficult at times for enforcement staff or compliance staff to hold people accountable.

And some of the changes are going to make things way worse for people than what they already are now. So just, you know, the staff I know do as much as they can sometimes within the existing framework, but pressure on local MPs is equally as important.

CP: Right. So thank you, Yani. Folks, we've got most probably four more meetings.

GK: Then you'll be unemployed.

CP: Well, yes, Geoffrey, I will be. And I'll be devastated not to see you.

GK: You'll hear from me.

CP: It is important that you recognise that the end is coming and that the end is nigh, Geoffrey. And you need to think through how.

VW: I guess we want to celebrate that.

CP: How we want to mark that. I. I suggested earlier that the last truck out of the OPP, we should put a sign on it called Geoffrey.

BK: Put him inside it.

CP: Folks, I want to say thank you. Have a nice evening. Don't get blown out across the car park and we will see you in three months time.

Meeting Closed.