

Kaikōura District Council Media Release: 07/08/20

Kaikōura Marine Development project begins with a blessing

Local Rūnanga held an official blessing on the Wakatu Quay site before demolition on the old buildings began on Tuesday 11th August. General public were invited to attend, members of the Kaikōura Marine Development Governance Group, the Mayor and Councillors were present.

Mayor Craig Mackle said “There has been a lot of work behind the scenes and some delays with COVID-19 so it’s great to see the project beginning on the ground. The demolition will take approximately 12 weeks so that the site can be opened to the public in time for summer holidays”

Wakatu Quay is now closed to the public. The first step in the demolition will be removing the asbestos from the buildings, this is being undertaken by Scope Ltd who were awarded the demolition tender.

The Kaikōura Marine Development Governance Group are in place to oversee and manage the project in line with requirements from the Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment (MBIE) who administer the Provincial Growth Fund (PGF). The group was formed in late May and held it’s first meeting on June 2nd.

Members of the group are Chair Danny Smith, Mayor Craig Mackle, Councillor Neil Pablecheque, Warren Gillberson; MBIE, Ata Kahu; Chair Te Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura, Darren Kerri Keepa, Chris Sturgeon, Neroli Gold, Lynette Buurman, Joe Van Rooyen and Gerald Nolan.

Chair Danny Smith said, “A memorandum of understanding (MOU) has been developed between the Governance Group and Council who are the recipients of the grant.”

“Members of the group are overseeing the planning and development of the project and Council are providing valued in-kind support. This allows us to tap into the experience of council staff and is much appreciated’

A project lead is being sought, the position will report to the Chair of the Kaikōura Marine Development Governance Group and will take on some of the tasks the Governance Group have been doing.

“The PGF funding really covers two projects, \$9,880,000 for redeveloping Wakatu Quay and \$1,100,000 for a business case for developing the harbour at South Bay. A large part of the project lead role will be preparing a strong business case so we are able to seek further government funding for the South Bay development” said Smith.

More details are available on the website at <https://www.kaikoura.govt.nz/our-council/job-vacancies/>

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