

MINUTES OF THE KAIKŌURA WATER ZONE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 12.36PM ON WEDNESDAY 31 AUGUST 2016 AT MEMORIAL HALL SUPPER ROOM, ESPLANADE, KAIKŌURA.

PRESENT: T Howard (Chair), Commissioner D Bedford, T Blunt, A Boyd, J Harnett, M Hoggard, J Murray, G Solomon.

IN ATTENDANCE: M Griffin (Zone Facilitator), K Heays, J Hill, C Armour, S Bragg, S Palmer, G Raymond, T Butterfield, S Syme (Committee Secretary).

APOLOGIES: Mayor W Gray, N McArthur, T Sonal, G Solomon (lateness), M Hoggard (lateness).

Moved by T Blunt, seconded by J Murray and resolved that apologies be accepted.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES 27/07/2016

Moved by J Murray, seconded by A Boyd and resolved that the minutes of the Kaikōura Water Zone Committee meeting held on 27 July 2016 be confirmed a true and accurate record.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM CONFIRMED MINUTES

A discussion was held regarding the different requirements on dairy farmers from Dairy New Zealand and Fonterra. It was noted in Kaikōura the organisations worked well together, however, this was not always the case elsewhere. It was felt it was beneficial to ensure the organisations continued to work well together in the Zone. In terms of roles it was noted Fonterra set the rules whilst Dairy NZ worked in an advisory capacity to assist farmers to work within the rules put forward.

A presentation had been provided to the Environment Canterbury Commissioners regarding Fonterra and Environment Canterbury working together to help farmers to complete Farm Environment Plans and put Riparian Planning Plans in place. It was felt this was a great story and it was hoped the work could be built on in the future.

3. COMMITTEE UPDATES

Love the Lyell

A meeting had been held the previous day. A planting day was scheduled to be held on the 14th of September 2016. The planting and beach clean-up would be undertaken by different groups who would meet afterwards.

Nutrient Management and Water Efficiency Working Group

An irrigation efficiency field day would be held in Kaikōura on 17 October. This was for all farmers who were irrigating. An article would be run in the Kaikōura Star leading up to the event.

Another event had been suggested to increase awareness around nutrients with the aim of getting the majority of sheep and beef farmers to attend.

Regional Committee Meeting

A survey regarding recreational swimming was currently underway and would close on 3 September. A request was made for information regarding the science behind whether sites were safe for swimming, the key elements of the debate, and what was trying to be achieved.

G Solomon entered the meeting at 12.56pm.

Zone Chairs Meeting

T Howard had attended the Zone Chairs meeting. He noted Kaikōura was in a good place when compared with the difficulties experienced in other Zones. It was hoped the Zone could stay in that position and keep improving.

Local Body Elections

There were several representatives on the Committee who were standing for election. Those representatives were T Howard, W Gray and T Blunt. No Committee members had issue with T Howard's continuation as Chair during the election period.

Environment Canterbury had decided that some Committees would continue to function through the transition period following elections and the appointments would remain until the Council resolved to make new appointments. It was anticipated the Kaikōura District Council would make a similar resolution.

Register of Interests

An example of a Zone Committee register of interests was tabled. The form would be emailed to Committee members for completion and then would become a standard item on each agenda. The Register of Interests was seen as a front foot way of dealing with conflicts of interest.

Zone Delivery Team

An update regarding the opening of the mouth of Lyell Creek was provided. It was noted there was an article in the Kaikōura Star which outlined the rationale around why and when the mouth of the Creek was opened.

Meetings with Environment Canterbury, Kaikōura District Council and the Rūnanga had been reinstated. These meetings were focused around protocols and consents.

Visits to properties that could potentially have sewer systems which were secreting waste into drains and creeks had been scheduled, with specific areas being visited each week. People had been very receptive and were concerned when they had found out sewer from their property could be going into the Creek. There had only been two properties where an issue had been detected and one was on a property where the house had been demolished.

Clarence/Waiau Toa Name Change Consultation

A copy of the submission which had been submitted was tabled. An enquiry was made as to what conversations had been held with the Rūnanga as the

submission was against what the Rūnanga had put forward in its proposal. A discussion was held regarding the rationale for the submission made by the Committee.

It was generally felt this was an issue the Committee should be mindful of in future and to make sure communication was held with the Rūnanga sooner rather than later.

Canterbury District Health Board Nitrate Communication Plan

The question was asked regarding whether there was a nitrate risk in Kaikōura in terms of Blue Baby Syndrome. It was noted the Canterbury District Health Board had advised it would target mid-wives to ensure the message made its way to those who were vulnerable.

It was generally felt it would be useful to know what Environment Canterbury, Kaikōura District Council and the District Health Board were responsible for. For example, Environment Canterbury measured water but did not state what people could do with it.

4. CLARENCE/WAIAU TOA MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

The Draft Clarence/Waiau Toa River Implementation Strategy 2016-2021 was tabled.

A workshop had been held the previous week in Blenheim with representatives from a number of organisations including Department of Conservation, Forest and Bird, Fish and Game, Marlborough District Council and Clarence River Rafting to discuss the document. An overview of the document was provided.

The feedback and discussion areas of the document were around aims, outcomes, key priority areas, methods for the following;

- Plant pest control
- Wetlands
- Spring-fed tributaries and springs
- Native fish
- Sports fish
- Braided River and Nesting Birds
- Native Vegetation

The key focus of the workshop was on what partner agencies and operators in the catchment would like to achieve from this integrated plant pest control programme. The idea of a weed map for the whole catchment showing the current situation was discussed.

M Hoggard entered the meeting at 2.13pm.

The second half of the workshop had focused on related considerations like wetlands and the different types of wetlands in the catchment.

A discussion was held regarding actions on the ground. It was suggested a lot of what was talked about could be implemented through people who

had knowledge of the catchment. It was noted Kaikōura had been particularly lucky with both Department of Conservation and Land Information New Zealand being on board from day one.

There would be follow up one on one meetings with individual landowners.

It was suggested K Heays discuss the document with the Rūnanga and see if they would like a presentation. It was felt the Molesworth Steering Committee would also be interested in the Strategy.

5. COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

A copy of the Clarence/Waiiau Toa newsletter was tabled. This was intended to be a special edition newsletter to profile the success which had been achieved in the Clarence catchment. Distribution would be to the whole community. It was also suggested distribution be undertaken in Hanmer Springs and copies be sent to stakeholders with a letter from the Committee.

J Murray left the meeting at 2.49pm.

A number of changes to the newsletter were suggested. It was requested feedback on the draft publication be provided by the end of the week.

A copy of the latest version of the Waterwise brochure was tabled. The document would be delivered to every household in October. Feedback on the brochure was requested by the end of the week. A final version would be presented at the next meeting.

Samples of a poster from other Zones showing their five year milestones and outcomes were tabled. These were intended not only as a public resource but also for the Committee as a reminder of what it was trying to achieve. It was noted the public had a limited understanding of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy.

A discussion was held regarding what the Committee would like to see in a reference publication about five year milestones and outcomes for the zone. A draft would be prepared and presented to the Committee.

A discussion was held regarding topics for inclusion in the spring newsletter. Suggestions were the September planting day, promotion of the waterwise guide, irrigation field day, the drought, and an associated focus on water use. It was noted drought would be a real issue heading into summer if the current low rainfall situation continued. Kaikōura was looking at two years in a row where aquifers had not been recharged. It was suggested the newsletter include information on how a lack of water effects everyone. It was noted urban water users had a part to play with their water use. Ideas for the newsletter were to be sent to T Howard to collate.

6. KAIKŌURA STORY MAP

An overview of the Kaikōura Story Map was tabled. A link to the electronic version would be emailed to Committee members.

A Boyd left the meeting at 4.03pm.

Feedback would be sought at a future meeting. The story map was a powerful tool to make information accessible to the public. It was also an updateable reference tool which could potentially be used by local schools.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

Tourism Fund

Kaikōura District Council would be making an application to the Regional Mid-sized Tourism Fund for funding for the toilets at Ohau Point. If the Committee had any other project ideas for which applications could be made they should contact M Hoggard.

Committee Work Programme

An update on the work programme for the Committee was requested. It was felt it would be beneficial for the Committee to be able to tell the community what it would be working on in future. M Griffin would create a work programme looking forward into the following year.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.18pm.