

ORARI-TEMUKA-OPIHI-PAREORA ZONE WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF AN ORARI-TEMUKA-OPIHI-PAREORA ZONE WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL, MAIN ROAD, FAIRLIE, ON MONDAY 5 DECEMBER 2016 AT 1PM

PRESENT John Talbot (Chairperson), David Anderson, Kylee Galbraith, Ivon Hurst, Richard Lyon, Hamish McFarlane, Anne Munro, James Pearse, Ad Sintenie and Mark Webb

APOLOGIES Lan Pham, Mandy Home, John Henry

IN ATTENDANCE Olivia Smith (Facilitator), Dan Clark (Senior Hydrology Scientist and Technical Lead), Raymond Ford (Principal Planner), Michael Hide (Zone Implementation Team Manager), Nic Newman (Facilitator), Peter Ramsden (Tangata Whenua facilitator), Alexia Foster-Bohm (ECan), John Benn (Department of Conservation), Jeremy Boys Opuha Water Ltd/Central SC Water), Chanelle O'Sullivan (Landcare Trust), Glen Smith (Orari-Rangitata Catchment Group), Jan Finlayson, Al Williams (media).

1 **KARAKIA**

The meeting began with a karakia from Peter Ramsden.

2 **REGISTER OF INTERESTS**

There were no additional interests advised.

3 **COMMUNITY FORUM**

Jan Finlayson asked that when an issue is raised at the community forum, any further discussion or response, be made when the person who raised it is present, in order to provide the person with a right of response.

Further to her previously raised concerns regarding managed aquifer recharge, Jan asked that committee members re-familiarise themselves with a document, prepared by the Aoraki Conservation Board which had been made available to the OTOP Committee some time ago. The paper was provided when the Conservation Board was looking at the Freshwater Management Policy Statement, and was appended to that document. The document listed a significant number of contaminants in the Rangitata River, outside of what might be expected. She advised that there is an update to the document being prepared which will be available in the next few months.

To help with Jan's query, Mark Webb referred to an appendix to a paper on ECan's state of the environment monitoring which talked about the annual testing of a number of contaminants which may indicate there is more testing being carried out than might be apparent.

It was agreed that ECan staff could follow this up.

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Proposed Richard Lyon
Seconded Hamish McFarlane

“That the minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Management Committee meeting held on 21 November 2016 be confirmed as a true and correct record.”

MOTION CARRIED

5 FACILITATOR UPDATE

- The Facilitator advised that the meeting dates for 2017 have been circulated, with the first meeting to be held on 30 January 2017.
- The draft annual report is not yet available but will be circulated mid December or early January for committee members to comment on, with a view to finalising the report at the meeting on 30 January.

6 OTOP ZONE NORTHERN BOUNDARY

The Committee considered a report by Raymond Ford and Jason Holland, recommending a change to the OTOP zone planning boundary. The current Healthy Catchment Projects boundary does not align with the planning boundary in the Land and Water Regional Plan – which creates a disconnect between where the planning line runs and the area of the technical work of the Healthy Catchments Project (HCP). If the boundary was realigned the whole ground allocation zone could be run as one unit. Realigning the boundary would mean that landowners in the affected area would need to be notified so they engage in the Healthy Catchments Project.

It was pointed out that the area is subject to the Rangitata Conservation Order, which takes precedence and the minimum flow prescribed in that Order must be adhered to. Dan Clark confirmed that the boundary for the technical work is based on hydrological catchments.

Glen Smith, the Chairman of the Orari-Rangitata River Catchment group said he had not been aware till recently that the area was not in the Healthy Catchments Project area. Mr Smith said the underlying concern is around the nutrient status of that zone, given the number of years it has been operating as a green zone. Landowners may have been planning ahead on the basis that it will remain a green zone. However moving the boundary does not overly concern them as sooner or later it will come under the plan change that puts subregional rules in place.

It was then suggested that the area being talked about, (together with the Lyalldale area which is in a similar situation), be considered as part of the HCP - the technical work be looked at and assessed as to whether the actions on the ground are suitable, and to see if the limits are appropriate. If for example there is no need to change say nutrient limits in these areas, there may be no need to change the planning boundary. However if the limits do need to change as part of the project, there will be an opportunity at the end of the project to recommend that the planning boundary is changed accordingly.

Proposed Ivon Hurst
Seconded Mark Webb

- a "That the Committee affirms that the Healthy Catchment Project includes that part of the alpine zone alongside the Rangitata River from Arundel to the coast and also includes the area identified to the south in the Lyalldale region.
- b That appropriate communications are undertaken to engage with the community (including the Orari-Rangitata Catchment Group and Pareora Catchment Group) to advise the landowners in the area affected, and encourage them to be involved.
- c That further advice be provided during the Healthy Catchments Project on technical and planning implications."

MOTION CARRIED

7 ECONOMIC ASSESSMENTS – HEALTHY CATCHMENTS PROJECT

Dan Clark provided an update on the economic assessments – to date, the current state has been assessed (by BERL), with feedback from the zone committee and other stakeholders collated into a report which is now available. There will be a report with scenario 2 – in zone gains – with the economic assessment alongside, in February 2017.

The current pathway is not being fully assessed as a scenario but will be used as a baseline against which all the other scenarios will be assessed. BERL is being commissioned to model what the current pathway looks like so that the future scenarios can be compared with it – this work will include assessment of the regional economics, district and catchment scale economics and industry level assessment. BERL will work with industry stakeholder groups to gain the best data available. Investigation of specific rules or applications in more depth will happen at the solution package phase.

When queried regarding externalities, Dan explained that these are not easy to quantify. However there was some support for these to be included and it was agreed that ECan staff will check on the capability and resources to assess externalities as part of the process.

The economic work on the current state is at a higher level – regional, catchment, industry level whereas at the solution phase, economic analysis of specific solutions will need to occur. Several industry groups such as Dairy NZ, are preparing to undertake some of this economic work in the solution phase. ECan project staff need to determine exactly what work industry groups will complete, coordinate it to make sure there is no duplication and no gaps, and also ensure that the timeframe fits with the HCP to inform the collaborative decision making process. It was suggested that economic yield in value-added industry vs primary industry be made explicit in the reports.

8 COMPLIANCE MONITORING RESULTS 2015/2016

The Committee considered a summary of the compliance monitoring results for the Canterbury Region and the OTOP zone for 2015/16, with Mike Hide talking through the results. A summary of last years compliance report was tabled, in order that committee members could make a comparison. A change in how the results are presented includes aligning compliance results with farm environment plan audits. The Committee indicated it was generally happy with the level of

detail and the current format to continue in order that a comparison between the two years can be made more easily. A little more detail on what the agricultural details are and the result of any court cases would be of interest.

9 PROPOSED PRACTICAL ACTION PLAN

The Committee considered a report by the Zone Manager on the proposal to develop a Practical Action Plan rather than a 5 year work programme. This is suggested because it is hard to build a 5 year work programme with continuous progress being made and recommendations being developed, which means the situation may well change in a few months time. In mid 2017 the recommendations will allow the formation of a longer term plan, including the non statutory actions, and the plan change will be implemented when it comes through.

The action plan would comprise the existing work and incorporate the feedback from the catchment groups and community meetings.

The practical action plan will include –

- Communications
- Consent monitoring
- Immediate steps
- Good Management Practice/Farm Environment Plans.

The priority areas suggested are Kakahu Catchment, Ashwick Flat, Community Protection zone, biodiversity corridor, Washdyke Taskforce programme, Ohapi Catchment, Barkers Creek, urban engagement and weed clearance/creation of gravel islands in the Orari.

The situation with School Creek in Pleasant Point was raised, with the creek often completely dry but on occasions running well. It was agreed that Mike Hide check on the previous investigations on this creek.

Comment was made that good liaison is needed with catchment groups on the Action plan, especially on what is expected of catchment groups and to give them assurance that their views are being taken into account.

10 CATCHMENT GROUP UPDATES

Most of the catchment groups have not met recently as they were involved in the public meetings instead. Nic Newman gave a brief update to the committee on the progress with the Washdyke project.

11 REGIONAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Regional Committee has not met since the last OTOP meeting. As part of the Regional Committee meeting to be held next week, each regional committee zone representative is being asked to report on a number of issues -

- *critical issues the Committee needs to achieve in its zone in order to deliver the CWMS targets* - Committee members suggested that the following be included – access to alpine water, involvement of all people in the zone, changes in people's behaviour (use phormidium issue as a prime example).
- *what has already been achieved over the last 6 years* – work that has been done on the modelling of the demand for alpine water and how that might be distributed, the work of the catchment groups, establishment of Geraldine Water Solutions, and the number of biodiversity projects.

- *what the Committee is currently working on and the challenges and opportunities they present* – Healthy Catchment Project, getting a community water monitoring project underway, involving young people, working with farmers to complete their Farm Environment Plans.
- *what are the priorities over the next 2-5 years* – the Healthy Catchment Project.
- Where could the Regional Committee add value to the work of our zone – solve our access to alpine water, solving major infrastructure issues, phormidium, coordinating the science, establishing biodiversity corridors.

The meeting concluded at 3pm.

Chairperson