

Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee [Unconfirmed Minutes]

Minutes of a meeting of the **Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee** held on Tuesday 29 November 2016, commencing at 1.00pm in the Council Chamber, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton.

Present

Councillor David Caygill, Ben Curry, Cr Stuart Wilson, Gordon Guthrie, Chris Allen, Jackie Wright, Arapata Reuben (Te Ngai Tuahuriri Runanga), Karl Russell (Arowhenua Runanga), Bill Thomas (Chair), John Waugh, Peter Ramsden (Tangata Whenua Facilitator)

In attendance

Environment Canterbury: Olivia Smith (Facilitator)

Ashburton District Council: Louise Glennon (Business Support Officer – minutes)

Approximately 6 members of the public attended the meeting.

1 Welcome and Karakia

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, with a special welcome to Karl, John and David. The opening karakia was offered by Peter Ramsden.

2 Apologies

None

3 Extraordinary Business

None

4 Register of Interests

None

5 Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee meeting held on 25 October 2016, be taken as read and confirmed.

Guthrie/Curry

Carried

5.1 Matters Arising

Jackie advised the group that applications are now open for the Rakaia Enhancement Fund and a press release will be going out shortly to this effect.

Ben provided an update on the supplementation of the Hinds River. He did a site visit three weeks ago to look at two possible sites, one was the South Hinds spillway and the other Silver Stream, with South Hinds being the preferred option.

As a new member, John gave a brief overview of his background.

6 Correspondence

Resignation letter received from Jackie Wright with effect from 31 December 2016.

7 Facilitator Update

Due to Jackie's resignation from the Committee, Olivia advised that the selection working group will meet in the New Year and consider committee membership.

Olivia advised that the meeting dates for 2017 have now been set and will be circulated to the group shortly. The first meeting date of 2017 has been confirmed as 24 January.

Draft annual report – nearly there but not complete as yet. Will circulate draft by email for comment and reply. Newsletter will be out shortly.

Donna Lill's team have looked at the Ashburton River and advised that all direct surface water takes have minimum flow except for community and stockwater takes. Surface water takes with minimum flows are tied to a specific number (flow) in consent conditions. In addition, most shallow ground water takes don't have minimum flow conditions.

Work has been completed to clarify the swap provisions in PC2 and communication of this will begin in the New Year. ECan and community and public health have drafted a communication on drinking water risk which will also be communicated to the public in early 2017.

8 Barrhill Chertsey Irrigation Scheme Update: Farm Environmental Plan Programme and Auditing

Eva Harris, Environmental Manager at Irrigo and John Wright, General Manager of the BCI Scheme spoke to their presentation on the BCI 2016 Annual Report.

Peter Ramsden left the meeting at 2.01pm.

9 The Future of Managed Aquifer Recharge in the Hinds Catchment

Rab McDowell and Phil Everest spoke to their presentation on MAR. Rab gave apologies from Peter Lowe and Bob Bower who were unable to attend.

Following the presentation, it was agreed that a workshop needs to be held to further discuss the formation of a MAR Governance group. Specifically, the purpose of the workshop would be to confirm the membership and terms of reference of the group. Bill proposed having a workshop on the morning of 24 January 2017. Chris and Stuart suggested that it would be appropriate for District Council and Regional Council staff to also attend in order to get their input. It was agreed that the workshop attendees include the Committee members, relevant council staff and members of the MAR working party.

Gordon asked for Rab and his group to propose suitable members for the MAR Governance group and for the group terms of reference to include consideration of future implementation structure (e.g., community trust).

Following the discussion about the workshop on the MAR Governance group, attention turned to the continuation of the pilot project. It was agreed that a letter be sent to ADC to seek ongoing support (in the form of supply of water) for use on the Managed Aquifer Recharge project for a further four years. This will enable completion of Phase 2 of the pilot project and establishment of further recharge sites. . In addition, Brett and Olivia will continue a discussion at ECan regarding support for the ongoing Pilot Project costs and will report back in the New Year.

The Committee adjourned for afternoon tea at 3.05pm until 3.18pm.

10 Dairy NZ Update on Research and Future Work in Zone

Angela Harvey from Dairy NZ spoke to her presentation on Sustainable Milk Plans. Dairy NZ have a targeted programme for providing SMP support in the zone from now till May 2017. She spoke to need to support farmers with producing good farm management plans and practices. This led to a discussion about the original intent that FEPs should be something a farmer can complete themselves without the help of a consultant. Members noted that a number of landowners currently require the help of consultants to prepare these.

11 Immediate Steps Fund New Projects for Consideration

Sarah Heddell spoke to her presentation on Okawa Wetlands Stage 2. Stage 1 has now been completed and she requested approval for Stage 2.

That the Zone Committee recommends funding Stage 2 of the project.

Wilson/Caygill

Carried

12 Summary of Monitoring Results for 2015/16

Gillian Jenkins, Principal Resource Management Officer at ECan, spoke to her report on the monitoring results for 2015/16. Members provided feedback on layout of report which is to be passed on to ECan staff to consider.

13 Reports for Committee Information

13.1 Consents Update

David Just updated the committee on the consents. He mentioned that following refusal of the consent application for Yollom Farm Limited an appeal has been lodged.

Olivia queried the cost of land use consents and David Just advised that median rate is approximately \$1,725 for ECan's costs. This cost does not include the cost that consent applicants may pay to a consultant.

Jackie reminded everyone about the Snap Send Solve app which will refer issues to relevant authority, such as ADC, ECan etc.

Following Jackie's resignation, Bill gave thanks to her for all her effort and hard work on the Committee since she joined. Jackie was presented with a gift and card.

Jackie responded with her thanks and her reasons for wanting to part of the committee in the first place. She noted that there is still lots to do with water management and reminded everyone to keep the first and second order priorities in the CWMS front of mind when making recommendations. She wished the Committee well for the future and is grateful for the knowledge she has gained.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the Ashburton Water Zone Committee will be held on Tuesday 24 January 2017, commencing at 1pm.

The meeting concluded at 4.30pm.

Dated this 24 day of January 2017 _____ (Chair)