

## ASHBURTON WATER MANAGEMENT ZONE COMMITTEE AGENDA

A **Meeting** of the Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee will be held as follows:

**DATE:** Tuesday 22 May 2018

**TIME:** 1.00 pm

**VENUE:** Council Chamber  
2 Baring Square East  
Ashburton

**MEETING CALLED BY:** A Dalziel, Chief Executive, Ashburton District Council  
B Bayfield, Chief Executive, Environment Canterbury

**ATTENDEES:** Mr Chris Allen  
Mr Ben Curry  
Mrs Angela Cushnie  
Mr Gordon Guthrie  
Mr Cargill Henderson  
Mr Bill Thomas  
Mr John Waugh  
Mr Arapata Reuben (Te Ngai Tuahuriri Runanga)  
Mr Karl Russell (Te Runanga o Arowhenua)  
Cr Stuart Wilson (Ashburton District Council)  
Councillor David Caygill (Environment Canterbury)

**Zone Facilitator**

Dave Moore

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**Environment Canterbury**

**Committee Advisor**

Louise Glennon

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**Ashburton District Council**

**Tangata Whenua Facilitator**

Vacant

**Environment Canterbury**



## 4 Register of Interests

Representative's Name and Interest	
Chris Allen	Farm owner of sheep, beef, lambs, crop Water resource consents to take water from tributary of Ashburton River and shallow wells National board member Federated Farmers of New Zealand with responsibility for RMA, water and biodiversity Member of Ashburton River Liaison Group
David Caygill	Environment Canterbury Councillor Chair - Business NZ's Energy Council
Ben Curry	Chief Executive Officer – Rangitata Diversion Race Management Limited Chair of Recreation and Amenities Working Group Committee
Angela Cushnie	Owner of Country Copy, a communication and promotion business based in Mid Canterbury Operates a very small lifestyle block in Eiffelton On the Communication Committee for Advance Ashburton Community Foundation Co-author of 'Water, Farming and Families' Freelance writer for Latitude Magazine Author of 'Project 4 Life' a document created with the objective of "Building trust, balance and goodwill through communication and education" and a vision to cultivate a shared vision of environmental, social and financial best practice in rural Canterbury.
Gordon Guthrie	CEO Electricity Ashburton Limited (t/a EA Networks) Farming partnership – Winchmore (Ashburton North branch)
Cargill Henderson	Environmental Manager – ANZCO Foods Ltd
Karl Russell	Arowhenua Marae Trustee
Arapata Reuben	Trustee – Tuahiwi Marae Trustee – Tuhono Trust Trustee – Mana Waitaha Charitable Trust Member - National Kiwi Recovery Group Rūnanga Rep and Chair – Christchurch – West Melton Water Zone Committee
Bill Thomas	Farm owner of Longbeach Estate Ltd (sheep, beef, lambs, arable, dairy) Member of Eiffelton Irrigation Scheme
Stuart Wilson	Ashburton District Councillor and Chair of Service Delivery Committee A son who is a Director of Mayfield Hinds Irrigation Co and RDR
John Waugh	Member of the Ashburton Branch of the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society Member of Hydrological Society



## 5 Confirmation of Minutes

### Unconfirmed Minutes

**Minutes** of a meeting of the **Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee** held on Tuesday 24 April 2018, commencing at 1.00pm in the Council Chamber, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton.

#### **Present**

Councillor David Caygill, Cr Stuart Wilson, Bill Thomas (Chair), Chris Allen, Angela Cushnie, Gordon Guthrie, Cargill Henderson, Arapata Reuben and John Waugh

#### **In attendance**

Environment Canterbury: Dave Moore (Facilitator), Ashburton District Council: Louise Glennon (Business Support Officer – minutes)

9 members of the public attended the meeting.

#### **1 Welcome**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and the opening karakia was offered by Arapata Reuben.

#### **2 Apologies**

Ben Curry and Karl Russell

#### **3 Extraordinary Business**

Fish screening to be discussed later in the meeting.

#### **4 Register of Interests**

None

#### **5 Confirmation of Minutes**

**That** the minutes of the Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee meeting held on 27 March 2018, be taken as read and confirmed with the following amendment.

- 16 The majority of high school students have a good understanding of the environment, however the Ashburton College students were in the minority and could do with working on this further.

Thomas/Caygill

Carried

#### **6 Correspondence**

None

#### **7 Public Contributions**

None

#### **8 Facilitator's Update**

- Angela advised that the Committee has been invited along to attend a Youth Council meeting and this is a great opportunity to engage with them. Bill, Dave & Angela to discuss further how to progress with the Youth Council and other youth groups.
- Faecal source testing is to be carried out at Carters Creek to investigate where the E.coli is coming from. It was agreed to include Carters Creek as a standing item on the agenda going forward.
- It was noted for the Omnibus Plan Change that there is a risk with moving forward on Plan Change 2 on half of the zone and then on Plan Change 5 on the other half of the zone, that it

could become confusing and difficult for people to understand. Also it would be helpful to align the definitions across the region. Dave to look at implications between Plan Change 2 and Plan Change 5 and whether this needs further discussion.

- ECan are currently implementing a new system for work planning across the region and aligning it with what the Committee and Regional Committee are looking at.

## **9 ADC Surface Water Strategy Update**

Cr Wilson spoke to the tabled summary report.

## **10 5 Year Outcomes & Milestones Delivery Quarterly Update – January – March 2018**

Milestone 2.4

- Work on Mahinga Kai sites has been delayed due to availability of landowner and ongoing discussions with Arowhenua.

Milestone 1.5

- There has also been a delay with the preparation of an advice sheet based on key learnings from summer student programme.

Donna Field gave mention of the recent passing of Mandy Holmes before speaking to her presentation.

Donna thanked everyone involved with the monitoring of the bird habitats and predator control over the past year. She said around 3,000 black billed gulls were noted at SH1 and around 8,500 at the river mouth.

Janine commented that she wasn't sure if the outcomes, milestones and projects were transparent enough, and is reviewing the format to enable better reporting.

Cargill suggested it would be useful to have some tangible numbers to relate to.

Cr Price advised that the Biodiversity Working Group would be happy to have a member of the Committee involved. The Committee will discuss further and nominate a member.

David suggested that milestone 3.1 should be a priority and wondered if technical work was still on track. Commented that for the second half of this year this needs to be key to enable engagement with the community. Janine advised work is currently on track to be delivered mid-year.

## **11 Hinds Drains Working Party - Update**

Bill spoke to the tabled report.

Recommendation to defer flow and allocation regimes until 2022.

Bill declared his interest in the Eiffelton scheme and noted that it would be most likely 2022 for a hearing on this scheme.

It was confirmed that if a consent is surrendered then the water is retired from allocation.

Planners to provide some further information on what will be presented to the Omnibus at either the May or June meeting.

Minimum flows to remain until 2025.

Would like to push the 2022 deadline out to 2025 to allow for further trials at Eiffelton as data won't be ready for 2022. Actively considering this and will be meeting with planners shortly and will report back.

## **12 Sustainable Hill Farming Tool (SHiFT)**

Ian Lyttle, Senior Land Management Advisor at ECan spoke to his presentation and report.

Project due to finish in June 2019 and next step to work with Beef & Lamb and Dairy NZ on an extension plan.

## **13 Fish Screening**

Nick Daniels, Senior Manager Service Delivery, gave a brief update on a programme of work for compliance monitoring of fish screens being developed by Environment Canterbury. The programme is currently going through stages of executive signoff and will be reported to council in May. Once approved Nick will provide an overview to the Zone Committee at May meeting.

## **14 Reports for Committee Information**

### **14.1 Ashburton River E.coli Results**

Adrian Meredith spoke to his tabled report.

### **14.2 Consents Update**

Cr Wilson noted that the water consent for MAR is due to run out soon. A resolution will be required to go to Council before end of June for approval.

## **Next meeting**

The next meeting of the Ashburton Water Zone Committee will be held on Tuesday 22 May 2018.

The meeting closed at 3.13pm with a karakia from Arapata Reuben.

Dated this 22 day of May 2018 \_\_\_\_\_ (Chair)

# Ashburton Zone Committee Report

Date 22 May 2018  
Report to Ashburton Water Zone Committee  
From Don Vattala and Clare McDaniel  
Subject Plan Change 2 – Hinds/Hekeao Plains Area

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## 10 Plan Change 2 – Hinds/Hekeao Plains Area

### Purpose

To provide the committee with an overview of the operative version of Plan Change 2 (PC2) and the implementation pathway for the plan.

### Recommendation

The committee considers the update.

### Plan Change 2

The Council had resolved to make the Hinds/Hekeao Plains Area plan, PC2 to the Land and Water Regional Plan, operative on 1st June 2018. The plan change sets limits, targets, timeframes and additional policies and rules on water quantity and quality for the Hinds/Hekeao Plains Area. PC2 provisions apply to the area shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1: Map showing Hinds/Hekeao Plains Area



The operative plan restricts further land use intensification until nitrate levels are at or below an average annual groundwater concentration of 6.9 mg/L. Rangitata Diversion Race management and Barrhill-Chertsey Schemes can continue to develop until the expiry of existing discharge permits. PC2 provides a pathway (through a resource consent) for the continuation of the BCI and RDR schemes, but there are limits on the amount of nitrogen leaching that is allowed. In the PC2 area, good management practice is required for all farming activities. Farming activities are permitted to increase nitrogen losses up to 15 Kg/ha/year. Properties exceeding 20 KgN/ha/year are required to reduce their discharge beyond good management practice over time. Abstracters are allowed to switch from surface to deep groundwater to leave more flowing water in surface water bodies.

### **PC2 Implementation**

Over the past 12 months, we have been using a targeted approach to informing Ashburton farmers of their responsibilities under the Land and Water Regional Plan (LWRP). This has included the Hinds area under Plan Change 2 as the current individual farming rules have had legal effect since the decision's version of the plan change was released in 2016. Due to the appeals being targeted at the irrigation scheme provisions, we were comfortable that the individual farming rules were not going to change through this process and we could implement them.

In 2017, our initial focus was on farms than had over 50ha of irrigation. This threshold was selected as these larger irrigated farms generally have higher nitrogen losses and would more likely require a consent. Over the past year, we have provided support and guidance as well as some compliance follow up for a small group of farmers. The results are very promising with recent analysis showing 99% of farmers in Ashburton Zone being either permitted, consented or on track to get a consent. Many are however on a waitlist for support from a consultant.

In April 2018, this work continued with letters being sent to 166 Hinds farmers who have properties 5 hectares or over and less than 50 hectares of irrigation. We have just finished a series of drop-in sessions in Ashburton where farmers can come and get more information and we can support them in determining whether consent is required. Having a small property size threshold has meant a lot of the small farming operations and lifestyle blocks are picked up. These farmers generally need more help as they have limited interactions with primary industry bodies. Of those we have talked to so far, the majority have been permitted activities under the Hinds Plan and do not require consent.

This staged approach ensures that we have capabilities to work closely with farmers, supporting them to take the action required through phone contact, free drop in sessions and pre application meetings, as well as industry support.

The main irrigation schemes (RDR and BCI) in the Hinds catchment have been operating under existing consents and have been managing the farms that are their responsibility. The Zone Delivery team has been working with them to ensure they comply with consent conditions and supporting them in that process.

## Ashburton Zone Committee Report

Date 22 May 2018  
Report to Ashburton Water Zone Committee  
From Sarah Heddell  
Subject Immediate Steps Fund New Projects for Consideration

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### 11 Immediate Steps Fund New Projects for Consideration

#### **Purpose**

To present two projects for consideration.

#### **Recommendation:**

That the zone committee supports funding these Immediate Steps projects.

#### **Report**

#### **Project Updates:**

To date \$70,948.00 has been allocated of this year's funding allocation of \$100,000. This leaves us with \$29,052.00 available for biodiversity projects allocation prior to June 2018.

The funding request is for \$13,550.00 and would leave us with \$15,502.00.

#### **Projects for consideration**

Two projects will be presented for consideration at this meeting. The details of these are provided in the following pages.

<b>Projects name</b>	<b>Funds recommended</b>
Staveley Stream – Morrows	\$9,950.00
Staveley Stream - Curries	\$3,600.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$13,550.00</b>

# Staveley Stream – Morrows

## Project Details

<b>Supporting Organisation/ Community Group</b>	David & Rosemary Morrow
<b>Project CWMS Zone</b>	Ashburton
<b>Project Location</b>	483 Springburn Bushside Road
<b>Nature of Project</b>	Enhancement
<b>Habitat Type</b>	Hill country catchments, Lowland streams
<b>Project Aim</b>	To successfully plant natives along the stream and fence.
<b>Project Outcomes</b>	Adds to the native corridor that is being created along Staveley stream across a number of properties. Fencing will exclude stock from the stream and the plants.
<b>Actions proposed to achieve outcomes</b>	Area to be fenced (ha): 0.40 Length of protective fencing (m): 800.00 Planting area (ha): 0.40  Fencing and planting

## Overall Assessment Scores

Criteria	Score
Ecological Assessment (Existing and Potential) /39	<b>15</b> Highly visible to Springburn Bushside Road. Adds to the corridor being created along the stream. Enthusiastic applicants who have two previous large successful planting and protection projects.
Cultural	Unknown *assessment with Rūnanga at time of writing
Other Criteria Overall Rating	Medium
Immediate Steps Rating	Medium

## Funding Requested

From ECAN	From Other Sources	Estimated Total (Applicant)
\$9,950.00	\$26,850.00	\$36,800.00

## Funding

Project Tasks	Funds Requested	Contributions from Other Sources	Totals
Fencing & materials		\$9,600	\$9,600
Planting – site prep and contractor	\$5,400	\$400	\$5,800
Plants	\$4,050		\$4,050
Combi-guards	\$500	\$850	\$1,350
Maintenance		\$16,000	\$16,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$9,950</b>	<b>\$26,850</b>	<b>\$36,800</b>

## Project Map



Map showing property. Purple dot marks the stream and project location



Photo looking downstream at part of the project section

# Staveley Stream - Curries

## Project Details

<b>Supporting Organisation/ Community Group</b>	Nathan & Greta Currie
<b>Project CWMS Zone</b>	Ashburton
<b>Project Location</b>	3366 Ashburton Staveley Road
<b>Nature of Project</b>	Creation, Enhancement
<b>Habitat Type</b>	Hill Country Catchments, Lowland Streams
<b>Project Aim</b>	Successfully plant along the stream and around the pond
<b>Actions proposed to achieve outcomes</b>	Planting area (ha): 0.40  Planting and maintenance

## Overall Assessment Scores

Criteria	Score
Ecological Assessment (Existing and Potential) /39	<b>15</b>  Enthusiastic Landowners who are keen to add to the corridor being created along Staveley stream. Owners are also a big part of their community. This is a low value ecological project in that it is creating a riparian margin strip. However, the stream itself will have fish and invertebrates that will benefit from the plantings as well as providing linkage from above and below plantings and native biodiversity.
Cultural	Unknown *assessment with Rūnanga at time of writing
Other Criteria Overall Rating	Medium
Immediate Steps Rating	Medium

## Funding Requested

From ECAN	From Other Sources	Estimated Total (Applicant)
\$3,600	\$4,000	\$7,600

## Funding

Project Tasks	Funds Requested	Contributions from Other Sources	Totals
Eco-sourced Plants	\$2,800		\$2,800
Combi-guards	\$800		\$800
Planting		\$1,600	\$1,600
Maintenance		\$2,400	\$2,400
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$3,600</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>	<b>\$7,600</b>



## Project Map



Map of property. Purple dot marks the stream and project location



Photo looking around the edge of the pond. Hard to see the native biodiversity but there are some *Carex Secta* on the far side.

## Ashburton Zone Committee Report

Date 22 May 2018  
Report to Ashburton Water Zone Committee  
From Tania Harris and Ian “Whit” Whitehouse, Environment Canterbury  
Subject Update on BRIDGE Project – Ashburton River/Hakatere Reach

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## 12 Update on BRIDGE Project – Ashburton River/Hakatere Reach

### Action required

1. Zone Committee note the proposed approach in relation to Ashburton River/Hakatere, one of the four BRIDGE Project braided river reaches;
2. Identify people or interests that should be invited to be part of the “River Reach Group”;
3. Zone Committee members participate in the River Reach Group meetings and field trip;
4. Identify a ‘Go-to’ person that the River Reach Facilitator can work with to:
  - a. Find a local meeting venue;
  - b. Find and access a viewing point overlooking the river reach for the field trip;
  - c. Help with contacts for local farmers.

### The BRIDGE Project:

- *determining the extent of the “river bed” in braided rivers*
- *and how to manage for the multiple values in braided river beds and their margins, in particular through RMA regulation*

The Project is working at four braided-river reaches (in Waiau Uwha, Ashburton/Hakatere, Waihao and Ahuriri Rivers) to come up with a Canterbury-wide solution.

It is expected that the project will recommend changes to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan to include provisions that determine the extent of braided river beds and for how the river beds (and margins) are managed. These changes will be part of the “Omnibus” plan change notified in mid-2019.

### Approach and work programme

For each of the four river reaches we will work with land owners and a wide range of other people with an interest in the river and its margins – see below for an indication of the range of interests that will be invited to be involved in the “River Reach Group”.

1. The initial get together of the River Reach Group will be at a local hall (or woolshed) with a visit to the river reach in June. This will:
  - Familiarise people with the project and key background material:
    - Satellite image of the reach showing 5-, 10-, 20-, 50- and 100-year flood lines;
    - Image of the reach in 1960s or 1970s;
    - Regulation that applies in the “river bed”.
  - At a view point, people describe:
    - The extent of the “river bed” as they see it and why;
    - The values they associate with the river bed and its margins.



2. The second get together of the River Reach Group (probably in July) will:
  - Share with the Group the description of the extent of the river bed that has been developed from the discussions with the four River Reach Groups and from independent technical work;
  - Present and discuss information from draft reports identifying the values in the river bed and margins, including identifying values that have been missed;
  - Identify and discuss how the river bed might be managed to provide for these values, particularly through RMA regulation that would apply to all Canterbury braided rivers.

The discussions by the four River Reach Groups will inform the development of options for changing the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan, as part of the “Omnibus” Plan Change. Environment Canterbury will consult on these options as part of the early stakeholder consultation, including Zone Committees, in October, on the Omnibus Plan Change.

### **How the Zone Committee can help**

We ask the Zone Committee to help by:

1. Participating in the “River Reach Group”;
2. Identifying people or groups that should be invited to be part of the “River Reach Group”;
3. Providing a “Go-to” person who can work with the “River Reach Group” Facilitator (Ian “Whit” Whitehouse) to:
  - a. Find a local meeting venue;
  - b. Find and access a viewing point overlooking the river reach for the field trip;
  - c. Help with contacts for local farmers.
4. Providing updates, from those committee members in the “River Reach Group”, to zone committee meetings.

### **River Reach Group – proposed membership**

Invitations to participate in the meetings and field trip at the River Reach will be sent to:

- Rūnanga;
- Zone Committee members;
- Local farmers (who have farms adjacent to the river reach);
- Other landowners (DOC, LINZ);
- District Council;
- Other interests such as:
  - Fish and Game
  - Forest and Bird
  - BRaID
  - Jet Boating New Zealand
  - Whitewater NZ (and other kayaking interests)
  - Transit NZ
  - Federated Farmers
  - Local interest groups

Ashburton Zone Committee Meeting

Tuesday 22 May 2018

Timetable		
Time	Item	
1:00 pm	Meeting Commences	

Order of Business

1	Welcome, Karakia and Introductions	
2	Apologies	
3	Extraordinary Business	
4	Register of Interests.....	1
5	Confirmation of Minutes .....	3
6	Correspondence	
7	Public Contribution	
8	Facilitators Update – to be tabled	
9	Update on Fish Screening – to be tabled	
10	Plan Change 2 – Hinds/Hekeao Plains Area .....	6
11	Immediate Steps Fund New Projects for Consideration .....	8
12	Update on BRIDGE Project – Ashburton River/Hakatere Reach.....	14