
Banks Peninsula Water Management Zone Joint Committee OPEN MINUTES

Date: Tuesday 19 June 2018
Time: 4pm
Venue: Governors Bay Community Centre, 1 Cresswell Avenue,
Governors Bay

Present

Chairperson Paula Smith – Community Representative
Members Gina Waibl - Community Representative
Ian Lloyd - Community Representative
Garrick Thorn - Community Representative
Fiona Nicol - Community Representative
Andrew Turner - Deputy Mayor Christchurch City Council
Elizabeth Cunningham - Councillor Environment Canterbury
Benita Wakefield - Te Runanga o Wairewa
June Swindells - Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke/Rapaki

22 June 2018

Principal Advisor
Peter Kingsbury
Principal Advisor Natural Resources
Tel: 941 8487
Christchurch City Council

Zone Facilitator
Olivia Smith
Zone Facilitator
Tel: 027 886 3949
Environment Canterbury

Committee Advisor
Warren Brixton
Council Secretariat
Tel: 941 8999
Christchurch City Council

www.ccc.govt.nz

The meeting opened with a karakia led by Elizabeth Cunningham.

The agenda was dealt with in the following order.

1. Apologies

Committee Decision

That apologies from Manaia Cunningham, Pam Richardson and Pere Tainui, and an apology from Andrew Turner for lateness, be accepted.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Committee Decision

It was decided that the minutes of the Banks Peninsula Water Management Zone Joint Committee meeting held on Tuesday, 15 May 2018, as circulated be confirmed.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Nil.

4. Deputations by Appointment

Living Springs Trust – Denis Aldridge firstly thanked the committee for its funding support with biodiversity projects, since the 2011 earthquakes.

He gave a summary of the work being carried out on Trust land towards developing an eco-sanctuary. The work included retiring land from stock grazing, the establishment of fencing and a major planting programme. The Trust receives help from several volunteer groups. The Trust has also established a predator control programme trialling some new technology.

5. Identification of Urgent Items

Landcare Research Soil Sampling – Gina Waibl raised the need for better communication with landowners about work being carried out, suggesting a letter to land owners in advance of the work.

The Zone Facilitator is to follow this matter up with Landcare Research.

8. Environment Canterbury Forestry Working Group Update

Committee Comment

The report was taken as read.

Virginia Loughnan, ECan Consents Section Manager, elaborated on her report with a presentation which provided an overview of the National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry (NES-PF).

Key discussion points included:

- Historically, Councils across New Zealand had differing rules which applied to forestry. The NES-PF was developed by MPI to provide a national framework to ensure some consistency in how forestry is managed in New Zealand.
- The forestry industry has been very involved in the development the NES-PF and Councils have had an opportunity to participate in working groups and comment on the draft.
- Councils are no longer required to have forestry specific rules in Regional and District Plans as the NES-PF includes rules. Councils now need to review their plans to align with the NES-PF.
- NES-PF covers activities associated with forestry and manages these using a risk assessment. This includes an assessment of erosion, fish spawning and wilding tree risk.
- Many of the activities are permitted if they meet the conditions of the relevant rules. To undertake a permitted activity, a management plan must be prepared and the Regional Council must be notified in advance of the activity taking place. Councils can also monitor permitted activities and will Environment Canterbury will be developing strategy for doing this.

In June, Environment Canterbury hosted a workshop with MPI which involved over 50 representatives from District Councils and the forestry industry. At this workshop it was agreed that an industry working group would be established.

Environment Canterbury are preparing a webpage and some factsheets to help inform landowners and operators about their responsibilities under the NES-PF.

Discussion took place about the importance of informing landowners who neighbour forestry blocks about the new NES-PF. If neighbours are aware of the requirements they would be able to notify councils of potential issues.

Staff Recommendations

That the Banks Peninsula Water Management Zone Joint Committee:

1. Receive the verbal update
2. Note the attached summary of zone committee feedback on managing the environmental risks of forestry on Banks Peninsula (relevant to the Canterbury Water Management Strategy).

Committee Decision

That the Banks Peninsula Water Management Zone Joint Committee:

1. Receive the verbal update.
2. Note the attached summary of Zone Committee feedback on managing the environmental risks of forestry on Banks Peninsula (relevant to the Canterbury Water Management Strategy).
3. Recommend that guidance information is promoted through media (initially a half page in the Bay News).
4. Agree that a specific information card be created with guidance for landowners' neighbouring forestry blocks.

6. Identification of General Public Contributions

Forestry - Mark Belton advised he had been involved with RMA issues for some 40 years with substantial experience in the forestry industry. He has a keen interest in the environment and the sustainable management of forestry. Mark is currently providing expert advice to Phillip King regarding the incident that occurred at Loudon Farm.

Mark expressed concern about the implementation of NES-PF on Banks Peninsula along with specific concerns about the situation at Loudon Farm. Mark advised that there is evidence that over 30 significant slips have occurred in forestry area above Loudon Farm and spoke about the significant amount of sediment at the head of the harbour. He also highlighted that drone footage has identified another debris dam in Waieke Stream which could potentially cause another catastrophe. Mark advised that he has contacted Environment Canterbury staff regarding this evidence but is getting no response. He was frustrated at the lack of response and questioned the expertise and qualifications of staff dealing with this issue. He encouraged the committee to go on a fieldtrip to the site.

Councillor Turner joined the meeting at this stage of the proceedings

The Committee was reminded to think about their role and advised that it was not the role of the Committee to get involved in compliance investigations such as Loudon Farm. For this reason, the Committee decided it was inappropriate to have a fieldtrip to the site.

Ian Lloyd reiterated that the incident at Loudon Farm was subject to an ongoing investigation. He also advised that he has been contracted by Phillip King as a consultant to investigate this incident.

7. Facilitators Update - 19 June 2018

Committee Comment

The report was taken as read.

Matters Arising from update:

- i. Farm Environment Plan Workshop – the date of this is now Wednesday 27th June 2018.
- ii. Whakaraupō Catchment Management Plan Update – At the recent governance group meeting it was decided to advertise for a Project Manager and establish a Community Advisory Group. This group will include zone committee representation along with community representation from around the harbour. Zone Committee members raised some concern about the potential for duplication and it was advised that good communication should prevent this been an issue.
- iii. Geoff Thompson has met a Septic Tank Cleaning operator to discuss issues with septic tanks. Further follow up is required.
- iv. Communications- Fiona has developed a soap box article on Forestry. She advised that she is happy to progress this with the support of the committee. Discussion then took place about whether it was appropriate to do so this month. Although there were some differing views, it was agreed that an amended version of the article should be published this month.

Committee Decision

That the Banks Peninsula Water Management Zone Joint Committee:

1. Receive the Facilitators update report.
2. Receive the report on the Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) Fit for the Future project.
3. Recommend that Environment Canterbury include Zone Committee representation on the task groups for the CWMS Fit for the Future Project.
4. Agree that the Forestry Soap Box item be amended and published this month.

A dinner break was taken from 6.15pm to 6.45pm.

10. Banks Peninsula Zone Committee Implementation Plan - Next Steps

Committee Comment

The Committee discussed the need for a clear, concise 3-year action plan to incorporate relevant aspects of the 5-year plan. The purpose of this is to replace the current document '5 year outcomes and milestones'. It is intended that this new document will provide clarity about what outcomes need to be achieved in catchments and what actions need to occur in the next 3 years to achieve/make progress towards to the outcome. The plan will also identify who can help make these actions happen and the zone committee's role.

The 3-year action plan will likely include some recommendations from existing documents including the ZIP, ZIPA, Whakaraupō Catchment Management Plan along with other actions that are currently relevant/priorities in catchment communities now.

It was agreed that this exercise should not take up too much of the committee time and that a useful way to do this would be to use large catchment maps with key information about the catchment. This would be used to identify:

1. Priority outcomes
2. Measures
3. Actions/tasks
4. Lead agency/contributors
5. Zone Committee actions

It was also suggested that the committee needs to focus on thinking about how they can better influence agencies. It was noted that there is an opportunity to have significantly more influence at Christchurch City Council. It was suggested that it could be useful to have specific training on this. It was also suggested that the zone committee needs to play a key role in profiling actions and successes in the zone.

Committee Decision

That the Banks Peninsula Water Management Zone Joint Committee:

1. Support the proposed style and structure as set out in the report.
2. Complete the proposed framework for the "Little Akaloa and Okains Bay catchments" in July 2018.

The meeting closed with a karakia.

Meeting concluded at 8.00pm.

CONFIRMED THIS 17TH DAY OF JULY 2018