

# **AGENDA**

## **Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting Monday, 3 August 2020**

**Date** Monday, 3 August 2020

**Time** 1.30pm

**Location** Council Chamber, Council Building, King George  
Place, Timaru

**File Reference** 1358953

## **Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee**

**Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee will be held in the Council Chamber, Council Building, King George Place, Timaru, on Monday 3 August 2020, at 1.30pm.**

### **Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Members**

Phil Driver, Suzanne Eddington, John Henry, Lucy Millar, Clr Anne Munro, Clr Elizabeth McKenzie, Luke Reihana, Glen Smith, Mark Webb, Clr Barbara Gilchrist and Clr Tom O'Connor

Quorum – no less than 7 members

**Order Of Business**

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- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Identification of Items of Urgent Business**
- 3 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature**
- 4 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**
- 5 Public Forum**

## **6 Confirmation of Minutes**

### **6.1 Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 6 July 2020**

**Author:** Jo Doyle, Governance Advisor

#### **Recommendation**

That the Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 6 July 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

#### **Attachments**

- 1. Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 6 July 2020**

# **MINUTES**

## **Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting Monday, 6 July 2020**

**Minutes of Timaru District Council  
Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting  
Held in the Council Chamber, Council Building, King George Place, Timaru  
on Monday, 6 July 2020 at 1.34pm**

**Present:** Hamish McFarlane (Chairperson), Phil Driver, Suzanne Eddington, John Henry, Cr Anne Munro, Cr Elizabeth McKenzie, Glen Smith, Mark Webb, Cr Barbara Gilchrist and Cr Tom O'Connor

**In Attendance:** Zone Facilitator (Lyn Carmichael), Lesley Woudberg, Chris Eccleston, Janine Roux, Brad Waldon-Gibbens (Environment Canterbury), John Benn (Department of Conservation), Bailey Lissington (Youth Rōpū), Tom Henderson, Jim Anderson, Jan Finlayson, John de Witt (member of the public), Minutes Secretary (Jo Doyle)

The meeting opened with a karakia

## **1 Apologies**

### **Resolution 2020/4**

Moved: Suzanne Eddington

Seconded: Tom O'Connor

That the apology received from Luke Reihana be accepted and leave of absence granted.

**Carried**

## **2 Identification of Items of Urgent Business**

### **2.1 Resignation of Herstatt Ulrich**

The Chairperson advised the Committee that he had received a letter of resignation from Herstatt Ulrich effective immediately.

### **Resolution 2020/5**

Moved: Tom O'Connor

Seconded: Glen Smith

That the resignation of Herstatt Ulrich be accepted and that a letter of appreciation be sent with acknowledgement of his input to the Committee and regret that he is leaving.

**Carried**

### **2.2 Resignation of Hamish McFarlane**

The Chairperson Hamish McFarlane tabled his resignation letter which is effective as from the end of this meeting, and thanked the Committee, Staff and Councillors. After a turbulent 4 years,



he explained he is not leaving on a bitter note, and this has provided an educational experience and he has enjoyed the relationships built.

### **Resolution 2020/6**

Moved: Tom O'Connor

Seconded: Phil Driver

That the resignation of Hamish McFarlane be accepted and that a letter of appreciation be sent with acknowledgement of the passionate commitment Hamish has provided to the Committee.

**Carried**

The Committee was advised that an Interim Chairperson will run the next meeting until an election of officers is concluded at that meeting.

### **3 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature**

Mark Webb to discuss a matter at the end of the meeting.

### **4 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

No change to the conflict of interests register.

### **5 Public Forum**

#### **Jan Finlayson**

Drew attention to the Regional Economies Target, this is a mandated target and it appears very little attention has been given to externalities which may not be apparent for years to come and more focus should be given to negative economic outcomes.

Cr McKenzie provided a response – it is her understanding that the financial staff of Environment Canterbury are adopting this type of strategy on a higher level across all portfolios and working out the benefits and externalities. It is a long large project, but has been started.

John Henry reported that the assessments of impacts have concentrated far too much on farming and economic outcomes, and is concerned the Environmental impacts are not considered and not included in the ZIPA. The order should be culture, environmental and economic.

## **Agenda Item for Next Meeting**

### **Resolution 2020/7**

Moved: Clr Elizabeth McKenzie

Seconded: Phil Driver

That an Agenda Item be added to the next meeting agenda to discuss ways of quantifying environmental externalities of all projects going forward, consistent with the first order priorities of CWMS.

**Carried**

### **Jim Anderson – Chair of Pareora Catchment Group**

Thanked Hamish McFarlane for his input over the past 6 years, and is grateful for the way in which he conducted OTOZ Zone Committee as the Chair.

### **John de Witt**

Shared his concern about Indigenous fish species and two species that are not specifically identified in Plan Change 7.

The Committee confirmed that Plan Change 7 is in a formal statutory process and the committee has no control or influence over this process. Any changes to Plan Change 7 would now be in response to issues raised by submitters contributing to the plan hearings. There is no list of specific species, so no species is excluded.

### **Tom Henderson**

Would like to see the OEFrag group continue with a decision making role on the releases from Opuha Dam and minimum flows and is disappointed to hear that Plan Change 7 has not included a role for OEFrag. Tom expressed concern that OEFrag could be replaced by people outside of the area to make decisions.

## **6 Confirmation of Minutes**

### **6.1 Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 2 March 2020**

#### **Matters arising from Minutes:**

Water around Pareora Huts is not swimmable - is there any action taken on this? A report was requested for the next meeting.

- Information will be provided at the next meeting.

It was noted that some members attended a presentation to Lower Waitaki ZC by Irrigation New Zealand about a live portal on water quality that is being trialled on the Lower Waitaki. Irrigation

New Zealand has been invited to present on this portal and the opportunity to use it for further catchments at the next OTOP meeting.

### **Resolution 2020/8**

Moved: Clr Anne Munro

Seconded: Barbara Gilchrist

That the Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 2 March 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

**Carried**

## **7 Reports**

### **7.1 Youth Participation on Water Zone Committee's Proposal Early 2020**

The Committee considered the report from Oscar Bloom and Erana Riddell on behalf of the Environment Canterbury Youth Rōpū.

The aim is to facilitate youth members on to the water zone committees to get the youth voice and to propagate their learning and knowledge.

The Zone Committee Terms of Reference are being updated to allow a youth member be appointed to committees, however it is understood in the interim a youth member could sit temporarily on the committee and an appointment take place later in the year following the updates to the Terms of Reference.

Bailey Lissington is a member of the Environment Canterbury Youth Rōpū. Bailey introduced himself and was invited to join the committee in a temporary capacity. Bailey is from Timaru and is currently studying Engineering at Canterbury University with a passion for water.

Bailey is designing a system to decrease soil leeching by using wireless sensors at topographic points on farm to provide information on soil and environmental parameters into variable rate irrigation systems.

### **Recommendation**

That the report be received and noted.

### **7.2 Biodiversity Immediate Steps Funding**

The Committee considered the report from Biodiversity Officer Janine Roux.

Janine gave a brief overview of projects that were approved last year and a progress report for each of the approved projects.

The Committee requested further information on a project at Pig hunting Creek and discussed how a possible trip to Pig Hunting Creek could be beneficial.

Three new proposals were presented for consideration of Funding:-

### **Orari River biodiversity protection**

The Orari River Protection Group has been managing this area however need more help with weed control.

Long term funding through different biodiversity funds are available for projects, however these are generally one off applications. 5 years is the longest a project is considered for funding.

### **Waitarakao Lagoon Restoration**

This application is part of the ongoing project of work for Waitarakao Washdyke Lagoon.

It was noted that there is a current shortage of ecologically sourced plants in South Canterbury. A community planting day will be planned for Waitarakao for education and to encourage community support for the ongoing project.

Immediate input from Arowhenua is critical for this project to ensure an appropriate plan for any work is set in place. It is important that all stakeholders and the working group is involved and working together and any approval of funding for Waitarakao is subject to this occurring first.

### **Grange Hill Fencing Stage 1**

Will see fencing work completed so stock have no access to waterways. Large investment from owners.

### **Resolution 2020/9**

Moved: Mark Webb

Seconded: Barbara Gilchrist

That the report be received and noted and the following projects be approved:

1. Orari River Biodiversity Project
2. Waitarakao Lagoon Restoration – Subject to engagement with all parties involved.
3. Grange Hill

**|Carried**

### **7.3 Project Proposals from Catchment Groups**

The Committee consider the report from Lyn Carmichael.

The committee was made aware in mid June of available funding through the provincial growth fund, but there were tight timeframes for applications and stipulations for this funding such as providing for local employment.

A letter was sent from the committee chair to catchment groups calling for project summaries and projects were collated however many didn't meet the requirements or had insufficient supporting information to allow an application within the timeframe. Opuha Water have now been approached and asked if they would be happy to lead a funding application to consolidate projects into one application. Further funding is becoming available through MBIE and MfE with criteria applicable to most of these project proposals..

The Waitarakao Lagoon Restoration is being considered for the provincial growth fund and will be scoped to send at the end of the month for a longer and larger project.

The Orari River Protection Society are asking to employ a predator control position.

**Recommendation**

That the report be received and noted.

**7.4 Update from Zone Committee Members**

Zone Committee Members provided updates on activities and meetings attended that relate to the Committee's outcomes for the zone.

Phil Driver reported on the Pareora Catchment Group meeting. They are creating a working group to look at funding for the next 5 years. They plan to integrate wallaby control into this plan.

Cr Mckenzie reported on the Biodiversity Advisory Group, the possibility of a joint meeting was raised, but it was noted they don't meet very often. Meetings have been via Video Link, but will be held in person for the next meeting.

Cr Tom O'Connor advised he will be attending Pareora Catchment AGM tonight, the guest speaker is Andy Cox from DOC. He will be talking to the realities of how difficult it is to do this work before plant and ongoing maintenance. This advice will be reported back at the next meeting.

**Recommendation**

That the verbal updates from Zone Committee Members are received.

**7.5 Zone Facilitators Update**

To consider reports from Lyn Carmichael.

The OTOF Committee Annual Report has now been presented at each Council. There are no further updates on Plan Change 7, and a hearing is now expected to begin in September, however the Chair is based in Australia so that causes some issues with restricted travel.

An update was provided from the groundwater team who are investigating high nitrogen concentration in groundwater Pleasant Point. The high groundwater concentrations have been picked up by Timaru District Council who have asked for an investigation.

The Committee asked that Environment Canterbury show how they are prioritising investigations, and a update on this would be welcomed at the next meeting.

**Recommendation**

That the report be received and noted.

**8 Consideration of Urgent Business Items**

There were no further Urgent Business items to be discussed.

**9 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters**

Mark Webb provided the Committee with his resignation. He plans to retire at the end of the August meeting.

The Chairperson expressed his gratitude for the 12 years Mark has contributed to this Committee. Mark has been the voice of the people with a common sense approach. He can see the practical solutions for the community and is always reliable for a solution to a problem.

The Committee expressed their regret at receiving this resignation.

**The Meeting closed at 3.20pm.**

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**Chairperson**

## 7 Reports

### 7.1 Presentation from Irrigation New Zealand

**Author:** Elizabeth Soal, Irrigation New Zealand

**Authoriser:**

#### **Recommendation**

That the Zone Committee receives the update and provides feedback.

#### **Purpose of Report**

- 1 To update the Committee on the Building Trust Project for Lower Waitaki Catchment.

#### **Discussion**

- 2 The presentation will be delivered by Elizabeth Soal, Chief Executive Irrigation NZ, Ella Stokes, Communications Manager Irrigation NZ and Craig Evans, Chief Executive, Morven Glenavy Ikawai Irrigation Company Ltd. The presentation will include -
  - A brief introduction about Irrigation NZ and MGI
  - Background on the Irrigation NZ “Building Trust” project – what it is, how it is funded, what it seeks to achieve
  - Work done to date: Waitaki catchment as a pilot, bringing together irrigation schemes, Environment Canterbury , and Otago Regional Council to tell a catchment story
  - A walk-through of the test website displaying catchment water quality data
  - Discussion of committee feedback on the portal and potential to expand project to other catchments.

#### **Attachments**

Nil

## 7.2 Youth Representation for OTOP Committee

**Author:** Lesley Woudberg, Team Leader Zone Facilitator

**Authoriser:**

### Recommendation

That the Zone Committee consider the opportunity to change the committee meeting day to better accommodate a youth member.

### Purpose of Report

- 1 To update the Committee on the potential for a youth member on the OTOP Zone Committee.

### Discussion

- 2 The ECan Youth Rōpū is on a mission to further the voice of young people in and around ECan in regard to decisions that affect them. A main objective is to create a two-way relationship between young people and decision-makers. The water zone committee model introduced by the CWMS is a clear path to improving youth voice in the decisions that will affect them in their futures. A seat at the table of Zone Committees is considered the simplest way to achieve this goal.
- 3 Youth members on committees would also be able to provide recommendations on ways the Zone Committee could engage, work with and serve the youth community.

### Proposal

- 4 At the zone committee meeting of 6 July 2020, Youth Rōpū member Bailey Lissington introduced himself to the OTOP committee and asked the committee to consider inviting him to attend committee meetings as a youth member for the remainder of 2020.
- 5 Bailey indicated that while he was keen to attend and engage with the committee, the current meeting timetable would likely conflict with his university commitments. Bailey has now communicated that he is unavailable on Mondays, but he would be available to attend committee meetings in person if they could be held on either a Thursday or a Friday.

### Options

Option 1:

Retain the meeting time of 1.30 – 4.30pm but change the day from the first Monday to the first Thursday or Friday of the month.

Option 2:

Review and change both meeting day and time to better accommodate current membership, including a youth member.



**Attachments**

**Nil**

### 7.3 Update from Zone Committee Members - Pareora Catchment Society

**Author:** Clr Tom O'Connor, Pareora Catchment Society Secretary

**Authoriser:**

#### **Recommendation**

That the report be received and noted.

#### **Purpose of Report**

- 1 To update the activities of Zone Committee members in support of delivery of the OTOP ZIP and ZIPA.
- 2 The Pareora Catchment Society (Inc) has supplied the following report prepared by Clr Tom O'Connor, Secretary of the Society.

#### **Pareora Tributaries and Corridors Project**

- 3 The Pareora Catchment Society (Inc) has established the Pareora Tributaries and Corridors Project which is a collaboration between a number of farmers and landowners in the catchment of the Pareora River.
- 4 A funding application from several sources is now being prepared by society member Dr Phil Driver.
- 5 The project will include several enhancement and restoration work programmes designed to;
  - Slow rain-water run-off in tributaries to the Pareora river so as to reduce flashiness and increase minimum flows
  - Reduce nutrient and sediment losses into the Pareora and its tributaries
  - Improve water quality and its associated improved human and animal health
  - Improve opportunities for collecting Mahinga Kai
  - Enhance recreational opportunities
  - Increase employment
  - Rebuild wildlife corridors to bring tuis back to Timaru
  - Protect and restore wetlands
  - Enhance biodiversity and aesthetics of the Pareora catchment
  - Demonstrate widespread community commitment to ecosystem restoration and enjoyment
  - Document and disseminate case histories of the success of each element of the programme, based on environmental monitoring.

6 The society will report progress as it occurs.

**Attachments**

**Nil**

## 7.4 Zone Facilitator's Updates

**Author:** Lesley Woudberg, Team Leader Zone Facilitator

**Authoriser:**

### Recommendation

That the information be received and noted.

### Purpose of Report

- 1 To provide the Committee with updates and links for further information.

### Central Government

- Central Government / Local Government Three Waters Reform  
<https://www.dia.govt.nz/Three-waters-review>
- Taumata Arowai – the Water Services Regulator  
<http://www.legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2019/0202/latest/LMS294345.html>

### Regional Council

- Winter Grazing Guidelines  
<https://ecan.govt.nz/get-involved/news-and-events/2020/new-winter-grazing-guidelines-supporting-best-practice/>

### OTOP Information Requests from 6 July meeting

#### Plan Change 7

Proposed Plan Change 7 Proposed Plan Change 7 (of the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan) has been developed to respond to emerging resource management issues, to give effect to relevant national direction, to implement recommendations from the Hinds Drains' Working Party, and to implement recommendations in the Waimakariri and Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora (OTOP) Zone Implementation Programme Addenda (ZIPA). The Independent Hearing Panel has indicated it is hopeful a hearing will begin in late September / Early October but have not yet announced a timetable for the hearing. Evidence in Chief was exchanged on 17 July. Expert caucusing will occur through the month of August. Rebuttal Evidence is to be lodged by 18 September. For more information, go to: <https://ecan.govt.nz/your-region/plans-s>

### Water Quality Pareora River

**Environment Canterbury uses the MfE & MoH (2003) recreational water quality guidelines** for grading swimming water quality at Canterbury's popular bathing sites. This uses a combination of

five years of microbial water quality data and a risk assessment of catchment contaminant sources to generate a suitability for recreation grade (SFRG) at each site. Using this grading method, the **Pareora River at Evans Crossing is graded as 'fair' or suitable for swimming**. This excludes after rainfall and during high river flows when *E. coli* concentrations are high due to the increased runoff of faecal contaminants in the catchment. Evans Crossing has been graded as either 'Fair' or 'Good' for the past 10 years.

Despite using the same microbial water quality data collected by Environment Canterbury, **LAWA uses a different grading method to the MfE & MoH (2003) recreational water quality guidelines**. The key differences are as follows:

- LAWA uses a 3-point "traffic light" grading system rather than 5-point grading system ('very poor' to 'very good')
- It does not incorporate a risk assessment of catchment contaminant sources
- LAWA uses only three years of data (compared to five)
- **It does not remove high-flow (e.g. flood) data from its analyses**

The final point is the important difference. Swimming water quality should be graded under the conditions that swimmers are likely to use bathing sites. Therefore, including **high *E. coli* results that occur during high river flows (as LAWA does) is not an accurate representation of swimming water quality**. Environment Canterbury removes high flow results from its grading process.

LAWA is a nationally-run website that communicates multiple regional councils data. The Environment Canterbury Science Team has questioned some of their approaches to communicating recreational water quality and hope for more alignment in the future. Environment Canterbury stands by their method for calculating recreational water quality until the guidelines are reviewed in the future.

An investigation of catchment faecal contaminant sources was undertaken last summer in response to a drop in grade at the Pareora River Huts bathing site. This involved the additional sampling of microbial water quality at multiple tributaries and points upstream to pinpoint key source catchments of faecal bacteria. However, the Pareora River and its tributaries had good water quality every week over the 2019/20 summer, so no key areas of contamination could be detected. Some faecal source tracking (FST) samples were also collected to determine the animal sources of faecal contamination in the river, but no *E. coli* counts were high enough for FST analyses to be viable.

### **Rules for Protection of Rock Art**

Proposed Plan Change 7 (Part B) is the only part of the Land and Water Regional Plan that specifically provides for the protection of tuhituhi neherā rock art; however the region wide provisions require the consideration of effects on; and protection of; wāhi tapu, wāhi taonga and nohoanga to ensure effects of activities on sensitive sites are managed.

### **Attachments**

**Nil**

**8 Consideration of Urgent Business Items**

**9 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters**