

Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the **Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee** held on Tuesday 23 February 2021, commencing at 1:00 pm in the Council Chamber, 137 Havelock Street, Ashburton.

Present

Mayor Neil Brown, Councillor Ian MacKenzie, Councillor Stuart Wilson, Bill Thomas (Chair), Chris Allen, Angela Cushnie and Les Wanhalla

In attendance

Environment Canterbury: Dave Moore (Facilitator) and Carol McAtamney (minutes)

2 members of the public in attendance

1 Welcome

Michael McMillan (Te Runanga o Arowhenua) opened the meeting with a Karakia.

2 Apologies

That an apology for absence be received on behalf of Cargill Henderson, Genevieve de Spa and Arapata Reuben.

Wilson/Brown

Carried

3 Extraordinary Business

Nil.

4 Register of Interests

Angela Cushnie – remove Canterbury Water Management Regional Committee

5 Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee meeting held on 26 January 2021, be taken as read and confirmed.

McKenzie/Wilson

Carried

That Les Wanhalla and Gen de Spa wish to record their retrospective opposition to the motion

‘That the Zone Committee Chair is appointed the official Zone Committee representative on Mid Canterbury Essential Freshwater Package Working Group’

which was carried at the meeting held on 26 January 2021

Wanhalla/Wilson

Carried

Michael McMillan advised that Arowhenua does not support the Mid Canterbury Essential Freshwater Package Working Group and have formally written to advise the working group of their non-support. A letter has also been sent to the Minister outlining Arowhenua’s position.

5.1 Matters Arising

Nil.

6 Correspondence

Inward:

Nil.

Outward:

Nil.

7 Public Contributions

Nil.

8 Drinking Water Update

Andrew Guthrie (ADC Assets Manager)

How we got here:

- Havelock North outbreak was the start (August 2016)
- Government enquiry (September 2016)
- Two phase report – Stage 1 released May 2017, Stage 2 released December 2017
- 3 Waters review commenced in mid 2017
- 3 Waters reform programme
- Taumata Arowai – Water Services Regulator Act (July 2020, effective July 2021)
- Regulatory reform (submissions close 2 March)
- Service Delivery – Council received funding of \$7.98m

Where to from here?

- Feb/Mar – sector engagement on entity options (governance, ownership, funding, financing)
- Apr/May – drafting of legislation for Water Services Entity Bill
- May/Aug – proposal document/information and education campaign
- Sep/Dec – Councils to decide on further participation
- Jan/Dec 2020 – formation of new entities (board appointments, processes, due diligence, workforce)
- Jan/Dec 2023 – operation of new entities

9 Ashburton Consent Review Update

Henry Winchester/Andrew Parish gave an update on the consent review process.

Good progress being made:

- 50 consent reviews decided with 48 being granted and two declined
- 36 on hold
- 1 surrendered
- 1 publically notified

Chris Allen departed the meeting at 1.30pm

10 Ashburton District Biodiversity Advisory Group

Angela Cushine reported on the meeting held 2 February 2021

- Department of Conservation (Brad Edwards) are working closely with Arowhenua to form a relationship to create a river management plan for the Rangitata river.
- Individual groups were urged to make submissions through the LTP consultation process as to the need for a Biodiversity Officer

- Richie Owen gave an update on the trapping programme at Mt Hutt
- Kanuka Trust have employed an educator

11 Aqualink 'Load to Come' Project

Dr Helen Rutter joint the meeting to update the Committee on the 'Load to Come' research bid and request consideration of a letter of support for the bid.

Agreed:

That the Zone Committee agree to provide a letter of support for the 'Load to Come' research bid subject to confirmation from the Ecan Scientific team that they support the methodology of the proposal.

McKenzie/Wanhalla

Carried

12 Facilitators Update

Field Trip

The 23 March Zone Committee meeting is to be cancelled and replaced with a field trip to Ō Tū Wharekai on 3 March.

2020 Progress Report

A copy of the 2020 progress report will be circulated to members for comment. The Chair will present the report to ECan on 15 April and a date to present to the Ashburton District Council is to be confirmed.

13 Other Business

Alternative Meeting Venues

The question was asked as to whether it would be possible to host Zone Committee meetings in various community halls which may make it easier for members of the public to attend.

Zone Consent Applications

Ashburton Zone Consents Application Update – February 2021 (tabled)

Next meeting

The next meeting of the Ashburton Water Zone Committee will be held in the Ashburton District Council Chamber at 1:00pm on Tuesday 27 April 2021.

The meeting closed at 3.10pm with a Karakia by Michael McMillan

Dated this 27th day of April 2021 _____ (Chair)