
Christchurch West Melton Water Management Zone Committee OPEN MINUTES

Date: Thursday 25 November 2021
Time: 6.04pm
Venue: Woolston Community Library/Hall
689 Ferry Road, Woolston

Present

Chairperson	Kevin Brown - Community Representative
Deputy Chairperson	Annabelle Hasselman - Community Representative
Members	Mike Patchett - Community Representative
	Helen Rutter - Community Representative
	Shona Sluys - Community Representative
	Brynlea Stocks - Community Representative
	Abbie Wilson - Community Representative
	Emma Norrish - Christchurch City Council Elected Representative
	Councillor Phil Clearwater - Councillor Environment Canterbury
	Les Wanhalla - Te Taumutu Rūnanga
	Oscar Bloom - ECan Youth Rōpū

Zone Facilitator
Shelley Washington
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Environment Canterbury

Principal Advisor
Diane Shelander
Senior Policy Analyst
Tel: 941 8304
Christchurch City Council

Committee Advisor
Liz Ryley
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Shelley Washington opened the meeting with a Karakia/Timatanga.

Prior to the meeting Annabelle Hasselman had agreed to chair today's meeting. Annabelle welcomed everyone to the meeting, along with Belinda Margetts and Salina Poudyal Dhakal, CCC Quality and Compliance, Three Waters & Waste Unit.

The agenda was dealt with in the following order.

1. Apologies

An apology was recorded on behalf of Councillor Sophie McInnes.

2. Declarations of Interest

Mike Patchett declared an interest as Chair of the Water & Wildlife Trust due to grant funding sought from the Zone Committee for willow clearing in the Clearwater reach of the Ōtūkaikino River.

Kevin Brown tabled a letter he had received from the Chair of Environment Canterbury, Jenny Hughey, about Environment Canterbury's adoption of decisions from independent Hearing Commissioners on Plan Change 7 to the Land & Water Regional Plan, and Plan Change 2 to the Waimakariri River Regional Plan.

Committee Resolved CWZC/2021/00020

That the Christchurch West Melton Water Management Zone Committee:

1. Receive the correspondence tabled about Environment Canterbury's adoption of decisions on Plan Change 7 to the Land & Water Regional Plan, and Plan Change 2 to the Waimakariri River Regional Plan.

Abbie Wilson/Brynlea Stocks

Carried

Attachments

- A Christchurch West Melton Water Management Zone Committee - 18 November 2021 - Letter from Chair ECan to Chair Zone Committee 

5. Deputations by Appointment

There were no deputations by appointment.

6. Identification of Urgent Items

Mike Patchett raised a matter from a Press article about threats to the ecological function of braided rivers from the conversion of riparian zones to farm land.

Committee Resolved CWZC/2021/00021

That the Christchurch West Melton Water Management Zone Committee:

1. Agree to deal with the item of urgent business prior to the conclusion of the Zone Committee meeting.

Helen Rutter/Phil Clearwater

Carried

7. Identification of General Public Contributions

Nil.

8. Water Quality Update

An update and summary information on the Christchurch City Surface Water Quality Annual Report 2020 was provided in a report by Belinda Margetts supported by Salina Poudyal Dhakal. This included results from the Council's monthly surface water monitoring in accordance with the Comprehensive Stormwater Network Discharge Consent (CSNDC). Belinda advised additional Banks Peninsula sites had been added to the monitoring this year. If sites are not meeting targets, further investigations may be carried out and mitigation considered.

Links to the City Council's website were provided in the report, for the full water quality report, report summary brochure and waterway report cards.

Discussion followed the presentation with the following points noted:-

- Note that more information and/or a decision would be good to support moving to an approach that involves an Action Plan for the CCC Community Outcome for Healthy Water Bodies.
- Some constraints to the process is available time, technology and cost. Sites for investigation have to be prioritised.
- Faecal contamination from waterfowl is an awareness issue – CCC may need support from community groups for public education.
- Suggestion that it would be useful to share stories based on data gathered about projects being undertaken that have improved waterway health, e.g. what has been carried out and what improvements shown.
- Note the Huritini-Halswell River comes under the responsibility of the Selwyn-Waihora Zone Committee.

Committee Resolved CWZC/2021/00022

That the Christchurch West Melton Water Management Zone Committee:

1. Receive the information in the Christchurch City Surface Water Quality Annual Report 2020.
2. Agree to advocate to the Christchurch City Council that the recommendations provided within the report, be developed and implemented.
3. Request to be engaged in the development of the Action Plan for the Christchurch City Council Community Outcome for Healthy Water Bodies.

Mike Patchett/Kevin Brown

Carried

9. Canterbury Water Management Strategy - Action Plan Budget 2021-22 Allocation Recommendations

The purpose of this report was for the Committee to make recommendations to Environment Canterbury on the allocation of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Action Plan Budget for the 2021-22 financial year.

Mike Patchett reported on a meeting he had attended of the Community Waterways Partnership regarding the development of an online communication hub/resource sharing facility. He suggested diverting an additional allocation of funding from the community engagement expenses, of \$4,000, to that communication hub project. He also suggested allocating the remaining \$15,000 in February 2022, rather than 28 April 2022 as suggested in the report.

Following discussion about the reallocation, the Committee agreed to revisit the matter of possible reallocation of some of the budget from community engagement expenses to a larger contribution to the virtual hub at their February 2022 meeting.

Committee Resolved CWZC/2021/00023

That the Christchurch West Melton Water Management Zone Committee recommends to Environment Canterbury the following budget allocations:

1. Community engagement expenses (contribution towards management/delivery of Stormwater Superhero Mobile Resource; Stormwater Superhero Awards expenses; bus tours, education resources, videos, advertisements, banners): \$16,000 (2021-22 financial year).
2. Te Tiriti course for members of key waterway focused community groups to attend (20 persons): \$2,000 (2021-22 financial year).
3. Contribution towards costs of co-ordination/administration/preparing funding applications for community groups – to Avon Heathcote Estuary Ihutai Trust: \$8,000 (2021-22 financial year).
4. Order eco-sourced plants (+ plant guards, mulch/weed mat) from a native plant nursery for use in some schools for planting streams within school grounds: \$6,000 (2021-22 financial year).
5. Contribution towards creating a virtual hub, which is one of the 4 interconnecting projects agreed by the partners of the Community Waterways Partnership: \$3,000 (2021-22 financial year).

And;

6. That the Christchurch West Melton Zone Committee will aim to make a recommendation on the allocation of the remaining \$15,000 at their February 2022 meeting to on-the-ground project(s) aimed at improving waterway management or biodiversity.

Oscar Bloom/Emma Norrish

Carried

3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes Committee Resolved CWZC/2021/00024

That the minutes of the Christchurch West Melton Water Management Zone Committee meeting held on Thursday, 28 October 2021 be confirmed.

Annabelle Hasselman/Abbie Wilson

Carried

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

The Committee acknowledged the informative presentations at the previous meeting from ECan's Irai Weepu, Tangata Whenua Facilitator for Kaitiakitanga Targets, and Channell Thoms, Mātauranga Putaiao Senior Advisor, and Mahaanui Kurataiao Stephanie Dijkstra.

6. Identification of Urgent Items

Braided Rivers

The matter raised earlier by Mike Patchett relating to threats to the ecological function of braided rivers from the conversion of riparian zones to farm land, was discussed at this time. A report from ECan showed the loss since 1990 of approximately 13,000 hectares of riparian margin to farmland, 37% of that is public land. This is of concern and Mike suggested the Zone Committee should have an interest and track the matter. Perhaps a collective prohibition from ECan, DOC and LINZ on the conversion of that land, and tightening of regulations.

DOC's John Benn noted this has been an issue for some time and referred to the Braided Rivers Action Group. The group includes ECan, Fish & Game, LINZ, DOC, Ngāi Tahu, Forest and Bird, and Federated Farmers. It is tasked with protecting the margins of Canterbury's braided rivers and is working on a case study relating to ownership of land on the South Rangitata River. Land tenure has issues because of the braided river systems.

The Zone Committee concluded by agreeing to keep a watching brief on this topic.

Resignation

The Zone Committee members acknowledged Abbie Wilson's resignation from the Committee effective from the end of December 2021, and that this was her final meeting. They thanked Abbie for her contribution and work with the Committee.

Shelley Washington closed the meeting with a Karakia/Whakamutunga.

Meeting concluded at 7.18pm.

CONFIRMED THIS 24TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2022

**KEVIN BROWN
CHAIRPERSON**