

**MINUTES OF THE 120th MEETING OF THE SELWYN WAIHORA ZONE
COMMITTEE HELD IN THE TAI TAPU COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY 10
JULY 2023 COMMENCING AT 4PM**

Meeting Agenda

Item	Time	Description
		<i>Public meeting begins</i>
1	4.00 pm (15 min)	Meeting commences with Karakia and formal order of business: <i>Chair</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome • Apologies • Identification of Urgent General Business • Register of Interests review • Confirmation of minutes 8 May 2023 • Public contribution • Correspondence
2	4.15 pm (30 min)	Selwyn District Council (SDC) - Biodiversity Projects update – for information <i>Denise Ford, Senior Biodiversity Specialist, will present an update on biodiversity projects being implemented in the Selwyn Waihora zone including Tārerekautuku/Yarrs Lagoon.</i>
3	4:45 pm (40 min)	Environment Canterbury Groundwater Science Monitoring update – for information <i>Mitch Green, Groundwater Scientist, will present on the current state of groundwater (quality and quantity) including the annual survey results, and provide overview of the current issues, challenges and success related to managing groundwater in the zone.</i>
4	5:25 pm (20 min)	Zone Committee Action Plan Initiatives – for decision <i>Confirm the Zone Committee’s position for a project and consider a proposal to support.</i>
5	5:45 pm (10 min)	Committee updates – for information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Integrated Plan – opportunities to contribute • Committee’s Communications update • CCC, SDC and ECan Annual Plan adoptions • Upper Waikirikiri/Selwyn River catchment update • Community Waterways Partnership update

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment Canterbury Water and Land Committee 28 June 2023 • Environment Canterbury Intensive Winter Grazing Flights • Freshwater Farm Plans • Ōtūwharekai/Ashburton Lakes Lessons Learnt report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Near River Recharge and Targeted Stream Augmentation projects • Whakakōhanga Kōrero update • Actions from previous meetings.
6	5:55 pm (5 min)	<p>General Business</p> <p><i>Any items confirmed by the Committee for follow up or information.</i></p>	
	6:00 pm	Meeting closed with <i>karakia</i>	

PRESENT

Les Wanhalla (Te Rūnanga o Taumutu / Chair); Matt Dodson (Deputy Chair / Community Member); Councillor Vicky Southworth (Environment Canterbury Regional Council); Khan McKay (Community Member); James Booker (Community Member); Councillor Sophie McInnes (Selwyn District Council); Helen Troy (Community Member); Marie Pollisco (Christchurch City Council); Taylah Nelson-Tūhuru (Community Member).

ONLINE

Allanah Kidd (Community Member).

IN ATTENDANCE

Jaimee Grant (Facilitator, Environment Canterbury); John Benn (DOC); Sue Cumberworth (Quorum Sense Group); Murray Washington (SDC) & T Davel (Committee Advisor, SDC); Mitch Green (Groundwater Scientist, Environment Canterbury); and online - Antony Shadbolt (CCC).

L Wanhalla welcomed everyone, and J Grant then opened the meeting with a *karakia*.

APOLOGIES

Karaitiana Taiuru.

Moved – James Booker **Seconded** – Councillor Sophie McInnes

‘That the Selwyn Waihora Zone Committee receives the apology for information.’

CARRIED

L Wanhalla noted he was sad to see Mr Murray Washington from Selwyn District Council go when he retires at the end of July. He had worked with him not only in the zone committee space but also in relation to Taumutu. Mr Washington said he had been around this table since 2013 and had also been involved in the Joint Officers Group for Te Waihora. He said zone committees morphed slightly over time and also the meetings had changed somewhat. He wished the zone committee the best for the future and health of the catchment.

IDENTIFICATION OF URGENT GENERAL BUSINESS

No urgent business was noted.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No changes to the register were noted. M Pollisco will be added to the register.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the 119th Meeting of the Selwyn Waihora Zone Committee (Water Management) held on Monday 8 May 2023

Moved – Khan McKay / **Seconded** – Les Wanhalla

‘That the minutes of the 118th meeting of the Selwyn Waihora Zone Committee (Water Management) held on Monday 8 May 2023 be confirmed as circulated.’

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nil.

PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION

J Benn from Department of Conservation noted that Robin Smith has also retired. He was the main contact person for the Living Waters project, amongst others. Mr Benn said that Mr Smith’s knowledge on biodiversity will be missed.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

REPORTS

1. Biodiversity Project update

D Ford, Senior Biodiversity Specialist from Selwyn District Council (SDC), presented to the Committee providing several updates on projects in the zone. It was noted the Selwyn District Biodiversity Strategy (SDBS) stakeholder engagement was taking place over July and August. In respect of the Tārerekautuku Yarrs Lagoon, it was noted the grey willows and other weed species are taking a long time to get under control. The funding for this project end in 2026. Refer to her presentation for more details.

L Wanhalla encouraged SDC staff and others to use the Kōwaro, the Māori name for Canterbury mudfish in lieu of its English counterpart.

In response to J Booker's query, D Ford noted that the Tārerekautuku lagoon relied on one or two races being left open so alternatives are being considered.

K McKay asked whether or not allowing recreational access would do more harm than not to which D Ford said it potentially could so access to the area needs to be considered carefully, possibly with access around the outside and excluding the core areas of the lagoon.

H Troy asked if the SDBS considered the Spatial Planning Bill as part of its development. D Ford was not sure.

M Pollisco asked what the timeframe was for SDBS and D Ford noted the engagement would take place until the end of the year and the public would be consulted.

Moved – Matt Dodson / **Seconded** – Sophie McInnes

That the Zone Committee:

- **Receives** the update on Selwyn District Council's biodiversity projects for its information and in consideration of its Action Plan 2021-24.'

CARRIED

2. Environment Canterbury Groundwater Science Monitoring update

M Green, Groundwater Scientist at Environment Canterbury presented to the committee (refer his presentation for more details).

The presentation covered the basics of geology for example, different sediments and the age. He noted how geology has changed on the coastal areas and even touched on artesian water. He spoke about challenges and issues in the Selwyn Waihora zone and then noted some actions to improve groundwater quality, water contaminants and others.

M Pollisco noted that increasing groundwater level is an issue for Christchurch City Council (CCC). M Green noted that Halswell had a higher groundwater table.

Cr McInness queried whether the over allocation of groundwater was likely to result in a review of allocationS. It was noted that consents needed to be considered and J Booker noted there were a number due to expire in 2035.

M Dodson noted that measured use versus consented use needed to be considered. L Wanhalla commented there are some that are not using their full allocation and they should consider what they are asking for in the future.

The committee thanked M Green for the presentation and invited him back to a future meeting.

Moved – Les Wanhalla / **Seconded** – Tayla Nelson-Tūhuru

‘That the Zone Committee:

- **Receives** the update from Environment Canterbury on the Groundwater Science monitoring in the zone in consideration of its Action Plan 2021-24.’

CARRIED

3. Zone Committee Action Plan Initiatives

The Committee confirmed their recommendation to provide funding of \$6,274 to the Te Ara Kākāriki Ōkakaraiti Planting.

J Grant noted the discussion at the online briefing regarding which project to consider. She introduced S Cumberworth of Quorum Sense to brief the committee on what a curiosity day could look like. The purpose of the day would be to connect the community and farmers with an interest in regenerative farming principles and an educational opportunity for all. It was confirmed that \$3,024.50 was being requested to cover the costs of the day.

The Committee supported the proposal.

Moved – Les Wanhalla / **Seconded** – Tayla Nelson-Tūhuru

‘That the Zone Committee:

- **Confirms** its decision to support for a recommendation of \$6,274 of the Selwyn Waihora Zone Committee Action Plan budget go toward the Te Ara Kākāriki Ōkakaraiti Planting Project for the FY2022/23.
- **Receives** information on a Curiosity Day co-hosted event to be considered for support using the Zone Committee Action Plan Budget FY2023/24.
- **Supports** the Curiosity Day proposal be recommended for funding using the Selwyn Waihora Zone Committee Action Plan Budget for FY2023/34.’

CARRIED

4. Committee updates

J Grant noted to the Committee the upcoming Northern and Southern webinars organised to receive feedback on the Regional Policy Statement.

M Pollisco noted that CCC recently adopted its annual plan with an increase in the water rate. Penalties also increased from 7–10%.

C McInnes said that Selwyn District Plan also recently adopted its Annual Plan. She noted it wasn't a particularly exciting plan and that the long-term plan consultation will soon start. That should be interesting with climate change. Council accepted an average rates rise of 5.9% which was still below inflation.

Cr Southworth also noted that Environment Canterbury's annual plan was more or less similar to what was proposed in the long-term plan. She noted that they would be increasing the communications in the next long-term plan as to what the rise means for people, as people may not fully appreciate and understand what it means for them.

Cr McInnes noted the retirement of Chief Executive David Ward and the incoming Chief Executive, Sharon Mason. She said she would be inviting her along to a future meeting.

Moved – Marie Pollisco / **Seconded** – Sophie McInnes

'That the Zone Committee:

***Receives** these updates for its information and in consideration of its Action Plan 2021-24.'*

CARRIED

5. General Business

L Wanhalla noted the upcoming rūnanga hui on gravel management, and on coastal erosion.

J Grant noted there would be a short online workshop on either of the 17th or 24th of July. She would be sending out the details as soon as possible.

J Grant led the karakia to close the meeting.

The meeting closed at 6.30pm.


CHAIRPERSON

14-08-23
DATE