

Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the **Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee** held on Tuesday 26 September 2023, commencing at 1.00pm in the Council Chamber, 137 Havelock Street, Ashburton.

Present

Mayor Neil Brown, Councillor Richard Wilson, Chris Allen, Adi Avnit, Clare Buchanan, Angela Cushnie, Genevieve de Spa, Bill Thomas (Chair) and Les Wahalla

Online

Sidinei Teixeira

In attendance

Environment Canterbury: Dave Moore (Facilitator) and Carol McAtamney (minutes)
John Benn - DOC

2 members of the public in attendance

1 Welcome

Genevieve de Spa opened the meeting with a Karakia.

2 Apologies

That apologies for absence be received on behalf of Araparta Reuben and Councillor Ian Mackenzie.

Thomas/Wanhalla

Carried

3 Extraordinary Business

Nil.

4 Register of Interests

Nil.

5 Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee meeting held on 29 August 2023, be taken as read and confirmed.

Avnit/Wilson

Carried

5.1 Matters Arising

Nil.

6 Correspondence

Inward:

Nil.

Outward:

- Support letter to Ecan re Hekeao Hinds Water Trust
- Support letter to Ecan and ADC re Carters Creek maintenance
- Support letter to Ecan re Mid Canterbury Vision

It was reported that Councillor Ian Mackenzie had spoken to Ecan engineers in regard to a Carters Creek clean up/maintenance programme. It is estimated that the project would cost around \$3 million. Ecan are looking into possible funding options.

A letter is to be sent to the Carters Creek Catchment group to provide an update on progress.

7 Public Contributions

Nil.

8 Hampstead School visit to Riverbridge Conservation Park

Jakob Blampied (11 years old – Hampstead School) 1.10pm to 1.21pm

Hampstead School students have been learning about wetland habitat during the term and undertook a visit to Riverbridge Conservation Park. Jakob joined the meeting to give a report on his visit.

Sophie Blair, facilitator of the Lagmhor Westerfield Catchment group joined the meeting and gave an overview of the Riverbridge Conservation Park and the Riverbridge Native Species Trust.

- covers approximately 8ha
- located on the south bank of the south branch of the Ashburton River
- began as a millennium project and is still going strong 23 years later
- QEII covenanted
- Spring fed man-made ponds
- Holds permits for breeding native birds
- Biggest challenges are funding and time for the day to day maintenance and operational costs. These expenses are not often eligible to be funded from Charitable organisations.

Members expressed an interest in undertaking a site visit in the future.

9 Appointment of Chair and Deputy

Facilitator Dave Moore took the chair for the elections process.

After many years of service as the current chair, Bill Thomas, has decided to step down from the role. However, if there are no nominations at this time Bill has agreed to continue in the role until the refresh process scheduled for June/July 2024 has been completed.

Nominations for the Chair of the Ashburton Zone Committee

That given there were no nominations received at this point in time Bill Thomas continue in the role as Chair of the Ashburton Zone Committee until the refresh process scheduled for June/July 2024 has been completed.

Wanhalla/Avnit

Confirmed

Nominations for the Deputy Chair of the Ashburton Zone Committee

That given there were no nominations received at this point in time Chris Allen continue in the role as Deputy Chair of the Ashburton Zone Committee until the refresh process scheduled for June/July 2024 has been completed.

Cushnie/Wilson

Confirmed

10 Staveley Camp Forest Weed Wrangling Weekend

A weed wrangling weekend has been scheduled to be held on 27/29 October 2023 at the Staveley Camp Forest.

It was suggested to host the October Zone Committee meeting on the morning of Friday 27 October at Staveley to enable members to participate in the weed wrangling in the afternoon.

Zone Committee to help promote the weekend through the Ecan and ADC channels.

11 Zone Committee Updates

• Facilitator Resignation

Dave Moore announced that he will be moving on as facilitator of the Ashburton Zone Committee to become facilitator for the OTOP Zone Committee. Jaimee Grant who is the current Selwyn Waihora facilitator has been appointed as his replacement.

• Ōtūwhareka/Ashburton Lakes Catchment Consent Update

Judith Earl-Goulet – Ecan General Manager, Regulatory Services joined the meeting via MS Teams to provide an update around the consents of the landowners in the Ōtūwhareka/Ashburton lakes catchment.

- Ecan have been in contact with the four land-owners re the status of their consents
- Two of the consents for renewals are in the process however they are currently caught up in the backlog
- Two have been called in under section 129 of the RMA
- Working towards a November completion date

A request was made for the Zone Committee to be kept updated on the progress of the consents.

• Te Taumutu Rūnanga Representative Resignation

Te Taumutu Rūnanga representative, Les Wanhalla, indicated his intention to resign from the Committee at the end of the year. A replacement is currently being recruited.

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 24 October 2023 or Friday 27 October at Staveley Camp.

The meeting closed at 2.18pm with a Karakia by Genevieve de Spa.

Dated this 24th day of October 2023 _____ (Chair)