

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CANTERBURY WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY
WAIMAKARIRI ZONE COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 215 HIGH STREET,
RANGIORA ON MONDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2023 WHICH COMMENCED AT 4.15PM.**

PRESENT

C Latham (Chairperson), J Cooke (Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga representative), M Jolly, E Harvie (for part of the meeting, departed early), C Aldhamland (via Teams) Councillor T Fulton (WDC Councillor) and Councillor C McKay (ECan Councillor), R Gill-Clifford (Youth Representative).

IN ATTENDANCE

S Allen (WDC Water Environment Advisor), N Theinhardt (ECan Zone Delivery Lead Waimakariri), M Griffin (ECan CWMS Facilitator), A Smith (WDC Governance Coordinator), J Benn, (Department of Conservation), M Bate (Kaiapoi resident), J Ensor (Mandeville Residents Association), B Walton (Waimakariri Irrigation Ltd)
Members of the Kaiapoi East Residents Association: M Taylor, M Hazeldine, G Hazeldine, and M MacWilliam.

KARAKIA

C Aldhamland provided a karakia to open the meeting.

Chair C Latham called an adjournment to allow time for introduction and acknowledgement of the highly commended recipients of the recent Environmental Awards. The meeting reconvened at 4.34pm.

1. BUSINESS

1.1 Apologies

Moved C Aldhamland Seconded Councillor Fulton

THAT apologies for absence be received and sustained from A Reuben and for early departure for member E Harvie.

CARRIED

1.2 Welcome and Introductions

The Chairperson welcomed all present and provided an opportunity for introductions.

1.3 Register of Interests

There were no updates to the Register of interest.

2. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK

James Ensor, Mandeville Residents Association

As he had been unable to attend recent meetings of the Zone Committee, J Ensor took the opportunity to acknowledge the work of the late Michael Blackwell, including organising nitrate testing, of which over 300 tests were undertaken, significantly increasing awareness in the community.

Regarding the recent Daiken spill into Saltwater Creek near Sefton, J Ensor highlighted Christchurch Airport and at Lyttelton harbour around the fuel tanks, where there were different methods in place to provide a buffer should there be an oil spill or contamination issues.

Having these in place, allowed time for any spills to be contained and to restrict any potential environmental damage.

Brent Walton, Waimakariri Irrigation Ltd (WIL)

Brent Walton provided an update from WIL, advising they are currently working on the discharge consent, having loaded all the farm plans onto the GIS platform. Further information required was the data on intensive winter grazing from 2009 to 2013. B Walton also advised that there had been a start made on biodiversity projects which had included engagement with Ngai Tuahuriri. B Walton mentioned ECan's Regional Policy Statement summit on Friday 24 November and C Latham added that this was an opportunity for individuals or organisations to come together in one place to exchange views on the RPS. It followed on from what Ecan had heard at the previous round of consultation and attendees would now have the opportunity to workshop with others. Murray added that zone committees were being encouraged to play a role on the day and generally it was hoped to get as much feedback as possible. It was advised that further consultation would be happening in 2024 as part of the RMA process.

Michael Bate

Chair Latham took the opportunity to congratulate Michael on recently being awarded a Waimakariri District Council Community Service Award, for his work over many years as an environmental campaigner for the Waimakariri district.

M Bate spoke on the Flaxton Road creek and showed some photos of this. He had recently visited this site and did not see any ecological signs on the site. He pointed out that a number of small creeks in the district are devoid of life, whereas a few years ago there was bullies and other fish life present. In the seven and a half years he had been visiting this site, M Bate suggested there had been no improvement. The committee were also shown a video of Cust Main Drain and photos of Lineside Road Creek which showed no evidence of any fish life. In his observations of the Kaiapoi River near the Borough School there was evidence of minimal fish life.

M Bate also shared photos of Kaiapoi River taken at Askeaton by the boat ramp which showed new willow regrowth and other plants on both sides of the river, indicating no impact of salt water intrusion. M Bate commented on the death of a lot of plants on the riverbank in recent years and that this had previously been attributed to saltwater intrusion. He questioned this theory, noting the new regrowth showing on the riverbank in this area and that trees that had been in the water had all recovered. S Allen advised that Ecan had an annual budget of \$10,000 for willow control and replacement on the riverbank/stop bank, though it was thought this work would be focused closer to the Kaiapoi town centre.

Councillor Fulton referred to the annual report 2021/22 Rangiora Stormwater Monitoring Programme, which was a comprehensive report on the three Brooks and may provide from information on contaminants in other waterways. It was agreed that this report would be brought to a future meeting of the Zone Committee, for information.

M Bates was thanked for his presentation. ECan Councillor McKay advised that the ECan Rivers Team would be approached for a response to these matters raised by M Bate.

3. REPORTS

The input of the public was valued by the Waimakariri Zone Committee, and to allow the public to ask questions on the reports presented, the Chairperson put the following recommendation.

Moved C Latham Seconded J Cooke

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee

- (a) **Agrees** that Sections 9.4 of the Standing Orders be suspended for items 3 and 4 to allow members of the public to ask questions prior to the item being moved.

CARRIED

3.1 **Rangiora Stormwater Management Plan – Update – Murray Griffin (CWMS Facilitator, ECan) and Sophie Allen (Water Environment Advisor, WDC)**

S Allen spoke to this report and provided an overview of the Rangiora Stormwater Management Plan which was scheduled to be completed and be have in place by 1 January 2025. Objectives of the plan are to protect Rangiora from flooding downstream, and erosion, water quality improvements and protect wahi tapu, wahi taonga and mahinga kai areas. There was also a timeframe planned where the Zone Committee may be able to contribute.

Stormwater Quality Improvements framework would be developed over the next few months.

Once the first draft of the Plan was completed, in June 2024, there would be an opportunity for the Zone Committee to have some input into it. This is planned to be between June and September.

Following a question from Councillor Fulton, it was confirmed that the plan would be focusing on the stormwater resulting from urban development, swales and utilities, rather than flood water.

Ruby Gill-Clifford, enquired was the model looking at Rangiora as it was now, or what it would be like in 2040? S Allen advised that future scenarios and climate change scenarios were included in the modelling.

Moved M Jolly Seconded C Aldhamland

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receives** this information taking into consideration the Committee's 2021/24 Action Plan and Community Engagement priorities.

CARRIED

3.2 **Waimakariri Zone Delivery Team, ECan – Update – Murray Griffin (CWMS Facilitator, ECan)**

N Theinhardt (Zone Delivery Lead) provided an update on the contamination spill at Saltwater Creek. The most recent update from 12 October advised that shellfish gathering could now resume in Saltwater Creek and the wider Saltwater Creek and Ashley/Rakahuri estuary and warnings signs would be removed. As the investigation into the incident was continuing staff were unable to go into specific details or comment on a likely outcome. The frustration of many in the community to get to this point was acknowledged by N Theinhardt.

It was advised that the Waimakariri Biodiversity Trust intended to host a meeting prior to Christmas to discuss the spring restoration project being undertaken on the Daiken farm. Daiken may wish to comment on the spill at that meeting.. The community would be interested to know whether there would be any consequences from the contamination event. C Latham advised that it was understood that there were no chemicals involved, but the issue was caused by a lack of oxygen in the water which smothered the fish life.

Ecan had an information stand at the recent Rangiora A&P Show and engaged with the public attending on a number of matters. The Top Ten Tips brochures were made available. There were also other teams of Ecan staff present including Biosecurity. It

was also planned to have a presence at the Oxford A&P Show in March 2024.

Kiri Kirkwood (Senior Resource Management Officer, Incident Response – ECan), spoke on her work dealing with mainly non-consented activities. The principal legislation that RMO's work under is the Resource Management Act (RMA) All incidents are categorised under Section 15 of the RMA. This deals with discharges to either land, air or water. There are approximately 5,000 incidences per year in the whole region, and there have been approximately 620 – 630 reports of incidents in the Waimakariri area, though some of these are multiple reports of the same incident. A lot of these incidents that come through are discharge to land, e.g. for rubbish needing to be cleaned up. These are then passed on to others to deal with – either contractors or to local Councils. There was also discharge to air issues (smoke) and discharge to water – which can involve, for example, lack of sediment controls around a worksite. The outcomes of these pollution events, can involve education, referring on to other Ecan department or organisations, or abatement notices. There was cost recovery involved for staff going out to incidents, so that ratepayers are not having to cover all these costs. There was a need to prioritise incidents as they come through.

There had been 26 abatement notices, 18 infringements and nine written warnings for the Waimakariri district, over the past 12 month period.

Moved J Cooke

Seconded R Gill-Clifford

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receives** the information and with consideration to the Committee's 2021-2024 CWMS Action Plan and Community Engagement priorities.

CARRIED

3.3 **Mandeville Resurgence Channel Upgrade – Update – Murray Griffin (CWMS Facilitator, ECan) and Jason Recker (Stormwater and Waterways Manager, WDC)**

An apology was received from J Recker and S Allen provided an update on the Mandeville Resurgence Channel Upgrade. Feedback had been received from the community following the two public community sessions held, with the suggested preferred options. There were 107 surveys received with a mixed response of preferences of these options.

It had been hoped to be able speak on the decision from the Council on these options, but the matter was now to go to a Council workshop for discussion prior to a decision being made. The workshop was scheduled to be held the day following this meeting. J Recker had advised that an update would be provided to the committee at a subsequent meeting once the Council had made a decision.

James Ensor, from the public gallery, posed a question on the Upgrade options and provided an alternative option suggested from members of the Mandeville Residents Association. S Allen advised that this suggested alternative would be discussed at the Council workshop.

Moved Ecan Councillor McKay

Seconded WDC Councillor Fulton

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receives** this information with consideration to the Committees 2021-2024 CWMS Action Plan and Community Engagement priorities.

CARRIED

4. COMMITTEE UPDATES – M GRIFFIN (CWMS FACILITATOR, ECAN)

4.1 Zone Committee Working Groups.

Biodiversity Working Group

M Jolly highlighted the recent inaugural Environmental Awards which were a success and presented in conjunction with the Waimakariri Community Service Awards function. The Youth Award went to Cust School, the Group Award to Oxford Dark Skies and the Individual Award was awarded to Noelene Francis for her ten years voluntary work in the restoration of Silverstream Reserve.

It was planned to set a date for a debrief of the Environmental Awards, to be held prior to Christmas. There would be some notes compiled to aid in the running of future Environmental Awards events.

Lifestyle Block Working Group

This update was taken as read and there no questions. The report advised that there had been over 1500 Top Ten Tips brochures distributed along with the rates notices to select property owners. The Waimakariri Biodiversity Trust is planning to run a seminar in Ohoka in March 2024, which will include a talk on the Top Ten Tips. There was interest in using the brochure more widely across Canterbury. There was now a dedicated lifestyle Blocks web page live which would have additional information added as required.

Monitoring Working Group

Regarding the Northbrook Trails project and any potential application for Action Plan funding, E Harvey had previously advised that the easements were still being worked on, with a further meeting scheduled for later this week and there may be further information to come following this meeting. There were no questions.

4.2 Environment Canterbury Updates.

Councillor McKay provided an update on the Water and Land Committee meeting.

There was a report coming to the Council on Biodiversity and Biosecurity and the Pest Management Plan which may be of interest to members.

Councillor McKay spoke on the Our Future Canterbury – Lets Pick a Path and the second phase of this engagement. There was a link provided to members in the agenda for the findings from phase one of this engagement. The summit in Rangiora was scheduled to be held on November 24th. Members were encouraged to attend, and there is also opportunity to fill in the online surveys.

4.3 Waimakariri District Council Updates.

Councillor Fulton provided the following update:

- A Council Workshop was being held tomorrow to discuss the feedback received during the public engagement for the Mandeville Resurgence Upgrade
- Plan Change 31, Ohoka Village had been declined by the Hearing Commissioners and this was being considered by the Council tomorrow, whether to support this decision or not.
- Extended congratulations to Martha on the inaugural Environmental Awards and to all the recipients.

- A decision was due by December on the Woodstock Quarry resource consent application.
- The Council's annual spray programme for 2023/24, had been circulated.
- Regarding the waste pollution previously mentioned that was on roadsides, and suggested there may be some engagement with roading and utilities staff or other council/Mainpower staff, to pick up this rubbish from the roadsides, rather than be driving past it. There was a certain amount of personal responsibility that members of the community needed to take with this matter.
- Lineside Road Council property – a one year lease has been confirmed, with the wetland being sectioned off. It was pointed out that the Council focus was firmly on the wetland.

4.4 **Related Waimakariri Stories.**

M Griffin highlighted the link included in the agenda to the Country Calendar Episode and also spoke on the progress with the Waimakariri Winter Grazing flyovers.

J Cooke noted that Makarini Rupene had also recently appeared on The Hui on managing whitebait take and exercising customer rights.

4.5 **Action points from the previous Zone Committee meetings.**

It was confirmed by Adrian Meredith that the water quality sampling being undertaken at Tutaepatu Lagoon, was done quarterly.

Action Point on the realignment of the Northbrook Tributary – M Griffin spoke with both Adrian Meredith and Sophie Allen about this, this would be followed up and a further update would be brought back to the committee at the following meeting.

With the increasing demand for continuous monitoring, a staff member had now been appointed to oversee all continuous monitoring water quality sites, including the Kaiapoi River Salinity logger data. It had been determined that some sensors in the Kaiapoi River were broken and these had now been repaired.

Regarding the Wai Connection representatives, there were coordinators who worked across the region and there should be the opportunity to have two to attend a future committee meeting.

Moved Councillor C McKay

Seconded J Cooke

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receives** this information with consideration to the Committees 2021-2024 CWMS Action Plan and Community Engagement priorities.

CARRIED

5. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

5.1 **Minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee Meeting – 2 October 2023**

Moved M Jolly

Seconded J Cooke

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Confirms** the Minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting, held on 2 October 2023, as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

A field trip and debrief would be planned for Monday 4 December. A suggested option was to view some of the sites of interest in Kaiapoi and follow with an end of year dinner for the committee.

KARAKIA

C Aldhamland provided a karakia to close the meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the CWMS Waimakariri Water Zone Committee is scheduled for 29 January 2024 at 4pm. This meeting was subsequently cancelled and the next meeting held on 4 March 2024.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6.10pm.

CONFIRMED



Chairperson
Carolyne Latham

4 March 2024
Date