

MINUTES

**Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone
Committee Meeting**

Monday, 3 August 2020

Minutes of Timaru District Council
Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting
Held in the Council Chamber, Council Building, King George Place, Timaru
on Monday, 3 August 2020 at 1.30pm

Present: Cr Barbara Gilchrist (Acting Chairperson), Mr Phil Driver, Ms Suzanne Eddington, Mr John Henry, Ms Lucy Millar, Clr Anne Munro, Mr Luke Reihana, Mr Glen Smith, Mr Mark Webb, Cr Tom O'Connor

In Attendance: Elizabeth Soal (Chief Executive Irrigation NZ)(for item 7.1)
Clr Paddy O'Reilly (Temuka Community Board)
Lesley Woudberg (Team Leader Zone Facilitator), Caroline Hart (ECan Senior Strategy Manager), Chris Eccleston (ECan Southern Zone Manager), Brad Waldon-Gibbons (Tangata Whenua Facilitator), Bailey Lissington (pending youth representative), Rhys Taylor (Community Engagement Coordinator)

John Henry opened the meeting with a karakia.

1 Apologies

The meeting noted the apologies from Committee member Clr Elizabeth McKenzie and from Lloyd McMillan, liaison representative from the Temuka Community Board.

2 Identification of Items of Urgent Business

Election of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson

The Committee agreed that it would be advisable to have the discussion on the Committee's Terms of Reference, prior to the appointment of a new Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, in order that the new officers could understand the roles and objectives of the Committee going forward, before putting themselves forward for these positions.

Resolution 2020/15

Moved: Barbara Gilchrist

Seconded: Phil Driver

That the Committee proceeds with the agenda as presented, but at the conclusion of the agenda, the Committee adjourns the meeting, discusses the Terms of Reference of the Committee in the workshop, then reconvenes the public meeting to consider the urgent business item - Election of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.

Carried

3 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature

The meeting agreed to discuss the following minor nature matters –

- **Te Ana Wai Catchment Group** invitation to join the Opuha/Upper Opihi Group's next meeting on the evening of 10 August, at Fairlie Rugby clubhouse, with speaker Roger Dalrymple, from the Rangitikei Rivers Community Collective Inc, who will talk about his catchment group experiences and offer some guidance as to how to rebuild and refocus catchment groups.
- **Government initiatives** – the Facilitator provided information on the
 - Jobs for nature
 - Three Waters Reform Programme.

4 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5 Confirmation of Minutes

5.1 Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 6 July 2020

Lucy Millar advised that her apology for the July meeting had not been recorded.

Resolution 2020/16

Moved: Barbara Gilchrist
Seconded: Tom O'Connor

That the Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 6 July 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting, subject to Lucy Millar being added to the apologies for that meeting.

Carried

Clause 2.1 Resignation Letter and Public Comments

A request was made for a copy of the resignation letter from former OTOP Committee member Herstatt Ulrich, on the basis that he had made public comment in respect of his resignation and yet Committee members have not been made aware of the content of the letter. A redacted version of the letter, accompanied by an explanatory memo, was tabled at the meeting. The redaction was required due to an ECan officer being identified in the letter.

Following reading of the letter, comment was made by committee members that certain sentiments expressed in the letter were not shared, however it was agreed that the work of the Zone Committee during the development of the Zone Implementation Programme and the Addendum was a very difficult process and more complex and demanding than people may have realised. ECan officers had provided technical and process support during this challenging process. Some frustrations were shared by the Committee during the process but this was reflective of the complexities and time pressures involved.

Resolution 2020/17

Moved: Barbara Gilchrist
Seconded: Phil Driver

That the copy of the resignation letter and accompanying memo be received and noted.

Carried

Clause 7.4 –Pest Control

Clr O'Connor advised that Andy Cox from the Department of Conservation would be prepared to address the Zone Committee if pest control was ever to be part of its role.

Clause 5 - Externalities

Discussion on externalities will take place in the workshop, with further information to be provided by the Senior Strategy Manager.

6 Public Forum

Clr Paddy O'Reilly, representing the Temuka Community Board, addressed the Committee, noting a recent combined Community Boards discussion on setting goals and aspirations for the Timaru District Council Long Term Plan. One issue which arose in the discussions was the health of local rivers. Participants at the meeting were keen to see improvements in water quality and the Temuka Community Board would be interested in working with OTOP to help achieve improvements and possibly collaborate on a project (eg plantings).

The Committee discussed potential links between catchment groups, community boards and OTOP but it was agreed that the appropriate liaison between OTOP and the community boards should be via the Council representative on OTOP.

A request was made for a list noting which OTOP members are members of which catchment groups. The Facilitator will collate this list and circulate it.

7 Reports

7.1 Presentation from Irrigation New Zealand

Elizabeth Soal, Chief Executive of Irrigation New Zealand gave a presentation on the Building Trust Project (now called Know Your Catchment), which was piloted in the Waitaki catchment, and involves a portal that can be accessed to assist with optimum irrigation management.

The project has been soft-launched and will be further refined, before expanding the pilot to extend to other catchments. The presentation will be circulated.

7.2 Youth Representation for OTOP Committee

The Committee discussed the possibility of changing the Committee meeting day and time to accommodate a youth member on the OTOP Zone Committee. Bailey Lissington, who was introduced at the previous meeting, indicated he could be available on Thursdays and Fridays or Monday mornings.

The Committee agreed to hold future OTOP meetings on the first Thursday of the month at 3pm, with the intention of finishing by 5pm.

7.3 Update from Zone Committee Members

Pareora Catchment Society - The Committee considered a report from Clr Tom O'Connor, in his capacity as Secretary of the Pareora Catchment Society. It is the intention to establish a regular reporting pattern to the Committee. The Society has a keen group of farmers and plans to talk to a wider range of people in the community as it collates project ideas.

Waitarakao Washdyke Working Group – Clr Gilchrist reported that after a lull in activity, it is hoped that this group has now got a new impetus. A question was raised as to whether industry pollution will be addressed, as part of the improvements to the lagoon. ECan is looking at both air and water pollution in this area and conducting discussions and reviews with a wide group of people, including possible offenders.

Orari Catchment Group- Glen Smith briefly reported on this group which is currently looking at wallaby control, and continues to have water quality as a focus.

Resolution 2020/18

Moved: Barbara Gilchrist

Seconded: Phil Driver

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

7.4 Zone Facilitator's Updates

The Committee considered the report by the Zone Facilitator. There are a number of matters arising from central government including major issues such as Three Waters and the possible repealing of the Resource Management Act.

Comment was made that three waters could be the biggest upheaval in local government in 30 years. While the objectives might be commendable, the process could be problematic, with the repercussions on water zone committees unclear at this early stage.

Resolution 2020/19

Moved: Barbara Gilchrist

Seconded: Phil Driver

That the information be received and noted.

Carried

8 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters

Appointment of New Committee Members – once the Terms of Reference are confirmed the refresh process can commence. It is hoped to do this by the end of the year. If this process is delayed for any reason, there are options in the current Terms of Reference to co opt members onto the Committee to fill the vacancies.

Otipua-Saltwater Creek Catchment Group Annual Report – this is being prepared and the Community Engagement Coordinator will present it to a future meeting of the OTOP Committee.

Retirement of Mark Webb – continuing the commendations from the last meeting, retiring member Mark Webb was personally thanked for his time and effort into the OTOP process. He was essentially the bridge between landowners and ECan in regard to the Hekeao/Hinds catchment, walking every drain to record each reach of each drain, which was much appreciated by land owners. He demonstrated ability to solve difficult issues around the table, which proved valuable when the committee was grappling with complex problems. Mark responded saying he had enjoyed the process, made friends, and valued the opportunity to make connections in the community.

The meeting adjourned at 3pm for a workshop on the Committee's Terms of Reference.

The meeting reconvened at 4.25pm.

9 Election of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson

Chairperson

Nominations were called for the position of Chairperson of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee.

Lucy Millar was nominated by Sue Eddington and seconded by Clr Anne Munro.

Phil Driver was nominated by Clr Tom O'Connor and seconded by Glen Smith.

Both nominees briefly addressed the meeting.

Phil Driver supported the proposed action plan for the Committee and said all members should come to the next meeting with 3-4 priorities for the action plan; he encourages everyone to undertake duties relating to the work of OTOP between the formal meetings, interacting with the community. He noted with the regulatory work out of the Committee's control, what the Committee can undertake and where it can have influence is now mostly voluntary, he supports a 'bottom-up' approach.

Lucy Millar said she is about getting things done, only having meetings that are necessary and will aim to streamline things; she would support co-opting catchment group representatives onto the OTOP Committee until the refresh process fills the vacancies.

In acknowledgement of Lucy Millar's nomination and in support of Lucy Millar becoming the Chairperson, Phil Driver then withdrew his nomination.

There now being only one nomination, Lucy Millar was declared elected Chairperson of the Orari-Temuka-Pareora Water Zone Committee, and was congratulated on her appointment.

Deputy Chairperson

Nominations were called for the position of Deputy Chairperson of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee.

Phil Driver was nominated by Clr Tom O'Connor and seconded by Glen Smith.

There being no further nominations, Phil Driver was declared Deputy Chairperson of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee.

Clr Gilchrist was thanked for her interim chairmanship.

Luke Reihana closed the meeting with a karakia.

The Meeting closed at 4.35pm.

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Chairperson