

MINUTES

**Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone
Committee Meeting
Monday, 10 June 2019**

**Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting
held in Meeting Room 1, Council Building, King George Place, Timaru
on Monday, 10 June 2019 at 1pm**

Present: Herstatt Ulrich (Acting Chairperson), Lucy Millar, Luke Reihana, Mark Webb, Cr Lan Pham, Cr Anne Munro, Cr Richard Lyon, Glen Smith, Phil Driver, John Henry

In Attendance: Facilitator (Lesley Woudberg), John Benn (Department of Conservation)

1 Karakia

John Henry opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 Apologies

Committee Resolution 2019/1

Moved: Mr Mark Webb

Seconded: Mr John Henry

That the apologies from Hamish McFarlane, Clr David Anderson, and Sue Eddington be accepted.

Carried

2 Identification of Items of Urgent Business

Phil Driver tabled an email on the possibility of expanding the Terms of Reference for the OTOP Committee and the Regional Committee. The issue will be considered later in the meeting

3 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature

Phil Driver raised the issue of how the water zone committee's success will be judged and how success will be measured. He has emailed Environment Canterbury's Chief Executive and is awaiting a reply.

4 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5 Community Forum

John Benn of the Department of Conservation, alerted the Committee to an incident in Christchurch, where weed clearance had resulted in eels being removed from the stream and unfortunately left to die. While there are rules in place around drainage clearance, there is not the same regulation around weed clearance. DOC wants to raise awareness around the correct process for weed clearance which would ideally involve advisors to be on hand to protect fish life during clearing. Cllr Lan Pham advised that ECan is aware of the issue and steps are being taken to prevent an incident such as the Christchurch one, occurring again. There was discussion about whether Plan Change 7 will or will not have rules to cover such situations.

It was agreed that the weed clearance issue be discussed later in the meeting as an item for education through the media.

5 Chairperson's Report

There was no Chairperson's report, due to the Chairperson being absent.

6 Reports

6.1 Confirmation of Minutes

Committee Resolution 2019/2

Moved: Mr Phil Driver

Seconded: Mr Mark Webb

That the minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee meeting held on 6 May 2019 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Carried

6.2 Correspondence from Waimate District Council - Annual Report

The Committee considered a letter from the Waimate District Council on the OTOP Annual Report presentation.

Committee Resolution 2019/3

Moved: Mr Herstatt Ulrich

Seconded: Cllr Lan Pham

That the letter be received and noted.

Carried

6.3 Facilitator's Report

The Committee considered the Facilitator's report. The Facilitator highlighted upcoming events of note including the catchment group workshop, the establishment of biodiversity groups, aquavan visit and the Committee's priorities for the next 12 months.

Biodiversity Groups - Biodiversity groups are intended to replace the numerous Pest Management Groups, with four biodiversity groups planned – South Canterbury, Mid Canterbury, North

Canterbury and Christchurch/Banks Peninsula – to address changing needs, respond to threats, and with some funding flexibility to tackle pest issues. It is hoped that biodiversity champions will come forward to be on these groups.

Priorities – two incorporated societies have so far been formed – for the Temuka catchment and for the Pareora catchment. It was suggested that work could begin on identifying, protecting and enhancing springs – linking in with willing landowners to protect and enhance springs. The Zone Committee could have a role to play in working with willing landowners, to provide a bridge between Rūnanga and agencies to undertake 2-3 pilot projects. This could start with a stream-walk to identify any stock access, bank collapse, drains contributing sediment, and/or riparian planting needed. Utilising existing catchment groups could be an effective way of undertaking the project and also providing appropriate work for the catchment groups who are motivated to make a difference in their catchments.

Related to the spring enhancement issue, is the situation of no stopbank on the south side of the Temuka River which results in access to the marae and neighbouring lands being cut off in times of flood. If a south side stopbank is erected, the north bank would have to be moved north. Clr Lan Pham agreed to find out where ECan currently stands on the stopbank issue.

Discussion on the priorities for the Committee lead into discussion on the need to have a strategy session at the next meeting setting aside time to work through and agree on what OTOP will focus on.

Recommendation

That the Facilitator's Report be noted and a strategy session be scheduled for the next meeting.

6.4 Regional Committee Report

Phil Driver, OTOP's representative on the Regional Committee, gave a verbal report on the main meeting and strategy meeting he had attended. He feels still somewhat unclear as to what the Regional Committee is achieving. He shared his concerns and sought direction as to what OTOP would like him to feed back to the Regional Committee. The Committee agreed that the Regional Committee could be advised as to where OTOP is at in terms of the plan change process and the signing off of the ZIPA.

It was pointed out that the Committee is not completely dependent on the plan change as there are issues that can be worked on outside of the statutory matters, in order to assist on the ground actions.

The issue can be further discussed at the workshop following the meeting.

Recommendation

The report was noted.

6.5 Matters for the Media

The Committee reflected on matters discussed at the meeting and agreed that the weed clearance issue could be a suitable topic to share through the media to create more awareness on how to avoid any harmful effects of weed clearance along the lines of advising that it is important to seek advice before embarking on weed clearance and drainage cleaning.

7 Immediate Steps Programme - Reporting Back

Feedback on progress with the various projects approved by the Committee under the Immediate Steps Programme was discussed. The Committee requested a report on progress with each approved project (brief summary and photo).

A request was also made for applications to be presented to the Committee at an earlier stage than in the past.

8 Consideration of Urgent Business –Possible Expansion of Terms of Reference

The Committee considered the tabled papers from Phil Driver regarding the possibility of broadening the Terms of Reference for the Committee and the scope of its activity to encompass climate change.

The Facilitator provided context for handling such issues within the Zone Committee structure, reminding the Committee that it is a joint committee of four Councils, formed 10 years ago with Terms of Reference, to take on the task of implementing the CWMS (vision, principles and targets) in the OTOP Zone. This is the task members agreed they wished to take on when they applied and were appointed to the Zone Committee.

It was agreed that the issue be part of the strategy discussion at next month’s meeting. Should it be agreed to expand the Committee’s role, a proposal would then have to be submitted to the four councils and then if approved, it would have to be submitted to the mayoral forum.

9 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters

There were no minor nature matters for discussion.

The Meeting closed at 2.23pm.

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Chairperson