

Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the **Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee** held on Tuesday 27 August 2024, commencing at 1.06pm in the Council Chamber, Te Whare Whakaterere, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton.

Present

Councillor Richard Wilson, Councillor Ian Mackenzie, Chris Allen, Angela Cushnie, Jess Hobbs, Sidinei Teixeira (via MS Teams) and Bill Thomas (Chair).

Non attendance

Arapata Reuben.

In attendance

Environment Canterbury: Jaimee Grant (Facilitator) and Ashburton District Council: Carol McAtamney (minutes)

Department of Conservation: John Benn

3 members of the public in attendance.

1 Welcome

Jaimee Grant opened the meeting with a Karakia.

2 Apologies

That apologies for absence be received on behalf of Mayor Neil Brown, Clare Buchanan and Adi Avnit.

Thomas/Wilson

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 23 July 2024, be taken as read and confirmed.

Thomas/Wilson

Carried

5.1 Matters Arising

Nil.

6 Correspondence

Inward:

Nil.

Outward:

Letters to Environment Canterbury, Ashburton District Council and Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua

7 Public Contributions

Nil.

8 Lake Camp

Ashburton District Council resolved at a meeting on 20 August that an Officer's report be requested to understand the costs and implications of applying for a resource consent to divert Balmaccaan Stream into Lake Camp. The report is expected to be completed within a month.

Hydrology of Lake Camp

John Waugh is a retired Hydrologist and former member of the Ashburton Water Zone Committee. John was invited to present on the hydrology of Lake Camp.

- There appears to be no ecological reason to divert water into Lake Camp
- Best option is to leave the Lake to operate as a natural system
- Lake Camp has shown considerable level fluctuation seven when water was being diverted during the 1980's
- Divert water skiing, jet boating and jet skiing onto Lake Clearwater when Lake Camp falls below pre-determined levels
- The lowest level for Lake Camp is 5.184m recorded on 18 August 2024, a reading on 24 August 2024 has risen 49mm to now 5.233m.
- A copy of the paper is to be forwarded to the Ashburton District Council officers that are preparing the report on the costs and implications of applying for a resource consent.

Resolved:

That the Ashburton Water Zone Committee received the presentation on Lake Camp.

Thomas/Allen

Carried

9 HHWET Progress Update

Brett Painter, Fleur Tompsett 1.42pm – 3.09pm

Learnings since 2016 and 2023/24 progress towards HHWET objectives are were presented.

Next steps:

- New MAR/NRR consents, lodged December 2022. Hearing in October 2024
- eClean bioreactor trial beside Northern Drain – consented, with pre-operations underway
- constructed wetlands on true right and left of lower Hinds, supplied from O'Shaughnessy's and Montgomery's drains. Consent application in preparation.
- First pasture-base irrigation nutrient recycling trial from Spring 2024
- Monitoring and analysis: MHV/BCI/HHWER, catchment groups and Mid Canterbury Catchment Collective
- On-going enhanced TSA on the Windermere Drain with ECGIS
- New supplementary TSA consent applications underway for Hekeao/Hinds, Taylors, O'Shaughnessy's and Parakanoi Drains
- Continuation of Hekeao Hinds Science Group initiatives (including radiometric Surveys, VMS project and catch crop trials) and post-graduate research.

Resolved:

That the Ashburton Water Zone Committee received the presentation on the Hekeao Hinds Water Enhancement Trust progress.

Thomas/Cushnie

Carried

10 Zone Committee Updates

Recommendation:

That the Zone Committee:

- 1) Receives the updates
- 2) Confirms the Committee will continue to use its 2021-2024 CWMS Action Plan, with any required amendments, until the requirements for a 2024-2027 CWMS Actin Plan are clarified.

Thomas/Allen

Carried

11 Other Business

Rakaia Catchment Environment Enhancement Society

Ange Cushnie provided an update:

- This funding round was oversubscribed, a couple of larger applications from several agencies
- Suggested it would be helpful to see mapping of the projects undertaken to date, and therefore the cumulative effect of the funding
- Suggested letters of support from landowners and/or Landcare/Catchment Groups where relevant would ensure there is good coordination across projects
- Questioned how widely this fund is promoted, outside of the usual applicants
- Questioned where this fund fits within the overarching vision and strategy of this expansive catchment, mindful a coordinated approach delivers more enduring outcomes
- Questioned whether the final grant's allocated, or declined, could be shared with AWZC as Correspondence In for the next meeting
- Suggested it would be helpful to hear from Whitcombe Landcare Group who have been operating for almost 30 years now

Next meeting

The next meeting of the Ashburton Water Zone Committee will be held in the Ashburton District Council Chamber Hine Paaka at 1:00pm on Tuesday 24 September 2024.

The meeting closed at 3.22pm with a Karakia by Jaimee Grant.

Dated this 24th day of September 2024 _____ (Chair)