MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE CANTERBURY WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY WAIMAKARIRI ZONE COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA ON MONDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2018 AT 4.0PM.

PRESENT
David Ashby (Chair), Grant Edge (Deputy Chair), Carolyne Latham, Judith Roper-Lindsay, Gary Walton, Michael Blackwell, Claire McKay (Environment Canterbury Councillor), and Sandra Stewart (Councillor, Waimakariri District Council)

IN ATTENDANCE
Sophie Allen (Water Environment Advisor, WDC), Kalley Simpson (3 Waters Manager, WDC), Mike O’Connell (Senior Policy Analyst, WDC), WDC Councillor Paul Williams, James Ensor (Member Oxford-Ohoka Community Board), Jocelyne Allen (ECan), Treena Davidson (TRONT), Graham Lloyd (Pines Beach resident), Greg Oakes (Pines Beach resident), Maureen Oakes (Pines Beach resident), Lyn Brixton (Pines Beach resident), Gina McKenzie (Real Communications Ltd), Matt Bubb (Aqualinc Research Ltd), Ashleigh Campbell (Ngai Tahu Farming), Andrew Arps (ECan), Bruce Stokes (Farmer), Victoria Traynor (Farmer), Des Winter (Farmer), Michael Bate, (Kaiapoi), Scott Pearson (Fish & Game), Murray Griffin (CWMS Facilitator, ECan) and Adrienne Smith (WDC Committee Advisor).

1 APOLOGIES
Moved D Ashby seconded C McKay
That an apology for absence be received and sustained from Arapata Reuben.
CARRIED

REGISTER OF INTERESTS
There were no changes to the Register of Interests.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
1.1 Minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting – 13 August 2018
Moved C McKay second G Walton
THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:
(a) Confirms the minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting, held on 13 August 2018, as a true and accurate record, noting the correction on page 9, under M Bate public presentation, first paragraph “….There are deaths of native birds and ducks as a result of avian botulism.”
CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING
S Stewart noted that it had been agreed at the August meeting to provide committee members with information on the following matters:
• From K McCusker, DairyNZ, information on monitoring undertaken on dairy farms before and after any work to achieve GMP has been done (from page 11 of previous agenda)

• An update to the issues being raised by Robert Johnston (from page 15 of the previous agenda)

Councillor Stewart reported that Michael Bate had presented to the WDC Utilities and Roading Committee meeting on Tuesday 21 August. The committee will report back before the end of the year on potential methods of mitigating any further outbreaks of avian botulism.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK

Michael Bate, Kaiapoi

Mr Bate commented on the ECan assessment of the Kaiapoi River, and suggests that salt water is not the major problem with the Kaiapoi River – it is nitrates, fertilizers, sprays and salt water intrusion.

Mr. Bate does not believe that saltwater can get up as far as the motorway bridge, based on his calculations and information from older residents in Kaiapoi.

Mr. Bate said if ECan lowered the floodgate this would save a significant quantity of water flowing up the Cam River on a six-hour tide. It was suggested this could be a stop gap, until the issue of minimum flow of the Waimakariri River was sorted, which should be 55cumecs. In conclusion Mr. Bate said the amount of fertilizer used on the land will control the nitrates in the long term.

Michael Blackwell commented that the Lineside Creek tributary has been flowing but has been full of sediment for some months now. He has been on a farm tour with one of the property owners recently through the Lineside paddocks. It was observed that there was no stock there, but there is ponding in the paddocks and 500 – 1000 Canadian Geese permanently residing in the paddocks there which is not helping. M Blackwell also commented that the Kairaki Creek is also full of sediment where it flows in just above McIntosh’s.

Greg Oakes, resident of Pines Beach

Greg Oakes is a resident of Pines Beach. There are approximately 30 houses adjacent to the ditch, north of the road that goes into Pines Beach. There is filthy scum that builds up behind the resident's houses, which gets covered in insects and creates a bad odour. This time of year, with the rainfall dropping off this becomes intolerable for the residents and this has become a health risk. It was noted that there are problems with the flood gates, not operating as it should, due to jamming, blockage or interference. There is no water getting in and Mr. Oakes said this needs to be flushed out at least three times a week and cleaned out at least once a year Photos were tabled for the information of the committee members. Mr. Oakes commented that the floodgate issue is the responsibility of either the Council, or ECan. There have been many phone calls to the Council and ECan from several of the residents and they feel they are being stonewalled. Mr Oakes would like to know who is going to take responsibility for this situation.

Mr Kalley Simpson (3 Waters Manager, WDC) was present and clarified that from Kairaki Creek up to the floodgate and the floodgate itself is looked after by ECan and the actual bridge structure and anything north from there is looked after by the Waimakariri District
Council. Council staff met with ECan river engineers in August, advised that they inspect the flood gate monthly and provided an update on the current situation with staff inspections. Also, at this time of year with a lot of whitebaiters in the vicinity they are going to check it more frequently. Any service requests can be put in to ECan and they will address it, or come into WDC and this will be coordinated between the Council and ECan. Other Pines Beach residents who were present at the meeting expressed concern that they have been advising their concerns to the Council and nothing is being done.

Graham Lloyd, Ngāi Tahu, spoke on this matter from the environmental side. Mr. Lloyd has lived at the Beach for 12 years and is unaware that the flood gate has ever been opened during that time. There is scum on top of the water in Saltwater Creek, there is no oxygen in there and nothing which would survive. Luckily that tuna come to the surface to breathe. There is no way that they can go to sea to breed. There is a manmade structure which traps the Taonga in dead water and they can’t get out. There is also the problem with the mosquitos, and with the whitebait being unable to get through. Mr. Lloyd supports the comments of Mr. G Oakes and that something needs to be done about the manmade structure (flood gate).

The Committee Chair thanked the speakers for raising their concerns and it was agreed that K Simpson from WDC would arrange a meeting with the residents to discuss their concerns.

2 COMMUNITY MEETINGS ON NITRATES – BRIEFING – Meredith Macdonald (ECan)

M Macdonald provided an overview of the three community meetings that were held in July to discuss how to manage nitrates. The report included in the agenda provided a summary of the feedback received from the community. At the three meetings,

83 people attended the Kaiapoi meeting on 18 July
51 people attended the Oxford meeting on 19 July
76 people attended the Rangiora meeting on 25 July

This was considered a great turnout from the community, with a significant amount of feedback on the nitrates that the committee wants to discuss.

G Edge asked was there any breakdown on those who attended these meetings, as to what proportion were farmers, or urban dwellers or from other parts of the community. M Macdonald said this information wasn’t sought from those attending, though it was noted that some residents attended all three meetings. From talking to people, it was considered there was quite a wide mix of people attending.

C McKay thanked staff for conducting these meetings and how they were run. Noted that the single topic that the meetings was dealing with, may have made it more difficult for those attending who had not been previously engaged in this matter. It is considered that these meetings were well worthwhile, and D Ashby also reinforced these comments.

For any future reference, J Roper-Lindsay asked was it best to go out to consult on a single topic or go out on various matters. M Macdonald suggested it was beneficial to go out on the nitrate matter and the community is keen to hear what the committee has decided.

2.1 Beef and Lamb NZ Feedback on nitrates

2.2 Horticulture NZ Feedback on nitrates

Moved C Latham seconded G Walton
That the information be received.  

CARRIED

3 WAIMAKARIRI LAND AND WATER SOLUTIONS PROGRAMME UPDATE AND Draft ZIP Addendum for Consultation – briefing – Dave Ashby (Chair) and Murray Griffin (Zone Facilitator)

Chairperson Dave Ashby spoke to a PowerPoint presentation presenting the Draft Zone Implementation Programme Addendum recommendations. The current position on the timeline for the ZIPA was discussed, noting that the Draft document is being presented to the Waimakariri District Council briefing the following day (11 September) and will be available to the public on Monday September 17. There are several drop-in sessions scheduled for later in September and early October that the public are invited to attend to discuss the ZIPA. These will be held at different locations through the district and also one in Belfast. The finalised recommendations will then go to Councils in November. Des Winter suggested that public meetings are better than having drop-in sessions, as it gives the opportunity for everyone attending to listen to other’s comments. Murray Griffin said this can be discussed further.

The presentation showed the targets of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy and the community outcomes. It was noted that the Committee is serious about fixing problems in the community with fresh water. There is 60 – 70,000 hectares of land in the area that is actively farmed. There has been 150 years of development and the environment has been extensively modified. There is a requirement by national legislation to make changes, and it is important that both statutory and non-statutory matters need to be started now so people can enjoy the waterways and the life supported by them sooner. Practical actions need to happen in shorter timeframes, acknowledging it will take a generation or more to achieve some outcomes. Good Management Practice (Plan Change 5) is the starting point for managing nutrients. For some farmers it will be challenging to reach the GMP levels, and Dave noted that these farmers need to be supported. The solution needs to be challenging but achievable.

The Draft ZIPA focuses on:

Managing environmental flows

- Capping groundwater and surface water allocation
- Phasing out over allocation, where this occurs
- Some minimum flows to increase over time

Safe Supply of drinking water

- Stricter controls on nitrate losses from land to protect drinking water (beyond Good Management Practice).
- Establishing priority management areas to manage sediment, phosphorus and E.coli and nitrates
- Increasing awareness of protecting private drinking water wells.

Improve the places where we enjoy our waterways

- Protection for braided river characteristics
- Stock excluded from all open drains and springheads on plains
• Supporting Good Management Practices and requiring in instances to go further (Farm Environment Plans, Management Plans, Winter grazing thresholds)

Looking after our native plants and waterway life

• Protection of mudfish, tīnanga, koura, kākahi and kanakana
• Improve diversity and abundance of mahinga kai
• Fish barriers removed
• Improve the protection of indigenous biodiversity by incorporating actions and awareness throughout statutory and non-statutory plans.

D Ashby noted that the ZIPA has a heavy focus on the environment and the sub-catchment plans. The Committee will be working with land owner groups to achieve good outcomes.

Community driven projects

• Catchment management plans (it is planned to develop two each year)
• Public and landowner education programmes
• Targeted rehabilitation projects

Monitoring, research and review

• Extensive monitoring programmes for key contaminants, waterbodies, species and habitats
• Encouraging innovation and adaption
• Continued development of science and knowledge

D Ashby commented that there needs to be clear goals of where we want to get to and that things may get worse before they get better.

The aim of the Zone Implementation Programme Addendum is to develop a package of freshwater management solutions which best deliver community outcomes (environmental, cultural, economic and social).

Victoria Traynor, from the public gallery, commented that there needs to be support for farmers. Dave mentioned the Rural Support Trust.

Des Winter suggested that there needs to be a ban on the spreading of urea in the months of June, July and August. Dave commented that it is important how farming practices are undertaken, and GMP recommends no use of urea for the months of May, June and July, and that Good Management Plans are not just about numbers.

Scott Pearson commented that to achieve a lot of these outcomes, will require step change and possibly look at new types of farming. It was suggested that the Zone Committee and ECan need to be thinking ahead to encourage trial farms to look at alternative cropping.

D Ashby commented the GMP options are important. ECan and WDC need to work with landowners to see things happening now, before the statutory requirements come in.

There are various avenues for the public to provide feedback including:

• Community workshops – each session will start with a presentation
M MacDonald also provided an overview on how the sessions will be run.
• Make an appointment for a ten-minute session on 1 October with the Zone Committee
• Talk to a zone committee member at the Ohoka Market (21 September or 5 October)
• Visit: www.ecan.govt.nz/waimakariri-water and provide your thoughts
• Email your feedback to: waimakaririzone@ecan.govt.nz

Moved M Blackwell seconded C Henderson

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee

(a) Receives this update on the schedule for drafting and consultation on the Land and Water Solutions Programme recommendations, and associated community engagement priorities.

(b) Approves the release of the Draft Waimakariri Zone Implementation Programme Addendum (2018) for consultation.

CARRIED

4 WAIMAKARIRI ZONE TEAM UPDATE – Andrew Arps (North Canterbury Zone Manager, ECan)

Andrew Arps spoke to a PowerPoint presentation on the work of the Zone Team. Three major projects across North Canterbury have secured $900,000 funding over the next two years. Within the Waimakariri Zone is the Clean and Green Silverstream Project (previously known as Waimakariri North Branch Loop). This project is for the development of a 27km fresh water-biodiversity focused recreational loop that brings the Regional Park to the doorstep of Kaiapoi. It will include the establishment of wetlands, protection of major springheads, restoration of ecological habitat, enhancing critical biodiversity and complement other initiatives in the catchment.

“Caring for the Cam” is a project of rehabilitation work on the Cam River focusing on springheads. The brochure Top Ten tips for Spotting and Stopping sediment entering waterways – Caring for the Cam River was included in the agenda documents. There were two further information brochures highlighted which will be taken out to lifestyle block owners to encourage them to be aware of the impact they have on water quality and to develop their own Farm Environment Plans. Brochures are also being developed for mahinga kai.

Carolyne commented on the two sub-catchment Management Plans that are to be developed each year (as in the ZIPA recommendation) and is there a connection with the work of the Zone Team and these Plans. She asked should the committee be deciding now what sub-catchment plans it is going to focus on?

Sandra expressed concern that there didn’t appear to be any budget allocated for the development of the sub-catchment management plans and the work required on the ground. It was requested that there be information provided in writing to the committee from ECan on when any funding will be available for this work.

Moved C McKay seconded G Edge

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee

(a) Receives this information.
COMMITTEE UPDATES – Zone Committee Members, Murray Griffin, (CWMS Facilitator, ECan)

5.1 **CWMS Regional Committee working group meeting 14 August 2018** – Carolyne Latham, (Waimakariri Zone Regional Committee Representative)

Carolyne was thanked for a full and comprehensive report.

The Regional Committee has been developing advice on the CWMS Fit for Future project. Draft targets will come back to the ZC later in the year, for comment.

5.2 A. Arps advised that the Inzone software programme has gone “live” last week and this will provide bi-monthly reporting on projects. The dead eels in Kaputone is still be investigated

5.3 **Compliance Monitoring 2017-18 Annual Report Regional August 2018- brochure**

**Incident Report 2017-18 Annual Report Regional - brochure**

Both taken as read.

5.4 **Good Management Practice and Farm Environment Plan Audits - brochure**

M Griffin advised that the brochures included in Items 5.3 have been included as updates for the information committee. These have been provided to all the Zone committees. Following a question from C Latham, A Arps noted that there is a drive to increase the profile of the ECan monitoring staff in the field.

Staff changes in the Zone Team were advised, with Marco Cataloni, appointed as a Zone Lead, based in Amberley. Kevin Hayes is the Zone Lead in Kaikōura, and Andrew continues to manage Waimakariri Zone and North Canterbury overall.

5.5 **Media and Communications –September Update** – Gina McKenzie (Director – Real Communications)

A Arps added that there were 74 media articles in the Waimakariri during the last year which was positive.

Moved C Henderson seconded M Blackwell

**THAT** the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

(a) **Receive** these updates for its information and with regard to the committee’s 5 Year Outcomes, drafting of the Land and Water Solutions Programme recommendations, and 2018 community engagement priorities.
CARRIED
GENERAL BUSINESS – Dave Ashby (Committee Chairperson)

There was no general business.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the CWMS Waimakariri Water Zone Committee will be held on Monday 8 October 2018.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.54 pm.

CONFIRMED

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Chairman

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Date