WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE UTILITIES AND ROADING COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA ON TUESDAY 19 APRIL 2016 AT 4.00PM

PRESENT

Councillor P Farrant (Chairperson), Councillors W Doody, R Brine and J Meyer

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillors P Allen, K Barnett and J Gerard
Messrs G Cleary (Manager Utilities and Roading), K Stevenson (Roading Manager), K Simpson (Three Waters Manager), G Stevenson (Utilities Projects Team Leader), O Davies (Drainage Asset Manager), R Barber (Wastewater Asset Manager), C Roxburgh (Senior Engineer, Project Delivery Unit), Mrs J Fraser (Utilities Planner) and Mrs A Smith (Committee Advisor).

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and sustained from Mayor D Ayers and Deputy Mayor K Felstead (attending Zone 5 and 6 meeting) and for departure of Councillor Brine at 5pm.

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest recorded.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of a meeting of the Utilities and Roading Committee held on Tuesday 23 February 2016

Moved Councillor Meyer seconded Councillor Doody

THAT the Utilities and Roading Committee

(a) Confirms as a true and correct record the minutes of a meeting of the Utilities and Roading Committee held on Tuesday 23 February 2016.

CARRIED

4. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

5. DELEGATION

There were no delegations.
6. **REPORTS**

6.1 **Natural Environment Recovery Programme Update October 2015 to March 2016, and Kaiapoi River Rehabilitation Project Update – Gerard Cleary (Manager Utilities and Roading) and Janet Fraser (Utilities Planner)**

Mr Cleary presented this report, advising that this is the final update that the Committee will receive. The Natural Environment Recovery Programme (NERP) has been discontinued as a recovery programme as at April 2016. There is one outstanding action in the Waimakariri district to implement the NERP, which is the Kaiapoi River Rehabilitation Project. Other accomplishments of the programme were highlighted in the attachment to the report. The contribution of Chrissie Williams in leading the NERP programme was acknowledged by Mr Cleary.

Moved Councillor Farrant seconded Councillor Meyer

**THAT**

(a) **Receives** report No. 160405029747.

(b) **Receives** the final NERP progress report, for the period October 2015 to March 2016 (attachment i).

(c) **Acknowledges** and thanks Chrissie Williams for her role in leading the Natural Environment Recovery Programme (NERP).

(d) **Notes** the programme of work of the Kaiapoi River Rehabilitation Working Party is intended to continue in future years.

(e) **Notes** the investigations and reports currently in preparation as outlined in Section 1.6 of this report.

(f) **Notes** that staff intend to develop a communications plan for the Kaiapoi River Rehabilitation Project and consult on options identified through the investigations now being undertaken, in the period July to October 2016, if practicable.

(g) **Circulates** this report to the Kaiapoi Community Board.

**CARRIED**

Councillor Farrant noted that there is a lot of work that has gone into this Programme, which will in time benefit the community.

Councillor Gerard also endorsed the comments of Mr Cleary on the contribution of Chrissie Williams in this programme,

6.2 **Back-up Water Supply Source – Oxford Rural No. 2 and Oxford Urban – Gary Stevenson (Utilities Projects Team Leader)**

Mr Stevenson presented this report, providing an update to the committee on the drilling and testing of the back-up water supply well at the Domain Road Headworks.

Following a question from Councillor Allen, Mr Stevenson provided information on the basis of calculation used to determine the life of a well, based on population growth projections.
Moved Councillor Doody seconded Councillor Farrant

THAT the Utilities & Roading Committee

(a) Receives report No. 160407030731.

(b) Notes that the back-up supply well at Domain Road has been successful with a yield of 60 l/s.

(c) Notes that staff are designing for the connection of the new well to the Domain Road Headwork’s and connection of the Oxford Rural No.2 to Oxford Urban Water Supply schemes.

(d) Circulates this report to the Oxford Eyre Ward Advisory Board for their information.

CARRIED

7. MATTER REFERRED FROM KAIAPOI COMMUNITY BOARD

7.1 Update on Kaiapoi River, Kaiapoi Wastewater Treatment Plant and Ocean Outfall – G Cleary (Manager Utilities and Roading, O Davies (Drainage Asset Manager) and R Barber (Wastewater Asset Manager) (refer attached copy of this report which went to the Kaiapoi Community Board meeting of 21 March 2016)

Mr Cleary advised that this report was written for the Kaiapoi Community Board at their request, and it will also be going to the Zone Committee next meeting.

The Kaiapoi River Rehabilitation Working Party are busy working on a number of matters in regard to the river – recreational use (rowing, fishing), navigational use, flood capacity requirements from the river. The aspirations of the community are to have the river cleaned up. It is influenced by tide, flow and there is quite a lot of sediment. There is also flow from the Cam River, and Silverstream. Ecan staff (Adrian Meredith) has been looking at the source of plant die off. At times of low flow and at times of significantly high tide, salt water has been measured as far up as the Northern Motorway bridge. There is concern in the community that the die off is caused by council spraying. The estimated cost of not spraying is in the vicinity of $80,000. The alternative to removing weed does not do a thorough job. Staff have believed that spraying would not have a detrimental effect on the plant life in the river. Some test results have been received in the last couple of days, looking for any traces of glyphosate, which was tested for in three locations. These results did not show any detectable evidence of glyphosate or the products that it breaks down to in the water, but traces were detected in the sediment. This was detected at a rate of 1.1 – 1.6 parts per 10 million. Glyphosate is used around the world in agriculture. Advice received in relation to the testing, Mr Cleary advised that the Council uses it, by spraying directly onto the foliage, but any molecules that are sprayed directly onto the land do not have any impact on the plant. Glyphosate breaks down, though this depends on the environment that it is in. Mr Cleary said Council staff are fairly confident that the glyphosate found in the sediment is not from Council spraying, but from residential gardens. Further analysis will be sought, and this will be taken back to the Kaiapoi Community Board.

The Kaiapoi wastewater treatment plant is operating as it was designed and Council staff do not have any concerns with how it is currently
working. It is meeting its resource consent conditions. Discharge from the Ocean Outfall is meeting the consent requirements, there is sludge in the ponds but not from the outfall. Advice has been received from Adrian Meredith at Ecan – sampling has been done but the results have not been received yet.

Wetland planting – Mr Cleary provided an update on the wetland plantings at the Kaiapoi and Woodend treatment plants.

Avian botulism – the graph in the report shows a significant reduction in the numbers of bird deaths in 2016 and staff are pleased with this low number of birds dying off this summer. There has been a different approach to managing the outbreak this year, with carcasses being collected daily, rather than every three days which had been the practice in previous years. Along with this better management, weather conditions and the natural botulinum cycle, it is thought to have contributed to lower numbers of bird deaths. The Kaiapoi WWTP provides a habitat to birds and there are benefits in encouraging birdlife. Advice has been received that attempting to reduce the number of birds could lead to a spread of avian botulism to other areas.

Questions

Regarding the Ocean Outfall, Councillor Meyer said there is a lot of information that the community doesn’t know yet, and asked how long before the further information would be available?. Ric advised that testing has been started on the sea foam that was found on the beach at various points. If it is marine diatoms were detected, there would be no further testing, as this is a naturally occurring element. Councillor Meyer suggested that the testing should be done for any human elements, as members of the community have expressed concerns with this matter.

Councillor Meyer expressed concern at the loss of bird life, and is the reduction in loss due to the work of the staff at the Waste Water Ponds? Mr Cleary said this matter is taken very seriously, though does not believe this is only because of the work of staff, but is a combination of the weather conditions, that avian botulism is cyclical and that staff were collecting any bird carcasses on a daily cycle, rather than leaving them lying for longer periods.

Councillor Meyer questioned that he had previously been told by staff that there would not be any traces of glyphosate found in the river. Mr Cleary said he had said this, and has been proven wrong by the results of the test.

Mr Palmer said it is good to discuss these issues, and the Zone Committee is working on educating, encouraging and advising landowners to operate to prevent pollutants entering the waterways. As a Council, there has been a lot of money invested to get rid of discharges from the streams to get the waterways in a better state. It is right to focus on issues in this catchment and in a community sense we need to understand the catchment. The Council, in conjunction with Ecan, needs to understand the issues and how they can be better dealt with, which may require some scientific studies to assist.

Monitoring on waste water discharges have been undertaken for quite a number of years, before the Ocean Outfall. Mr Cleary advised that the amount of monitoring that the Council undertakes is increasing – one of the benefits of the testing for glyphosate is that it gives the Council a good base line and also does not think there has ever been such a serious look at the salt water intrusion. Councillor Allen asked if this salt water
intrusion was in any way as a result of human interference in the river. Mr Cleary said it is quite an unnatural situation to have in a broad river and this is a unique environment. It is challenging to get plants to grow in that environment, with the salt water wedge.

Moved Councillor Farrant seconded Councillor Brine

THAT the Utilities & Roading Committee

(a) **Receives** report No.160302017635.

(b) **Notes** that the Kaiapoi River Rehabilitation Working Party is working toward providing long term improvements to the Kaiapoi River environment and water quality.

(c) **Notes** that there is no evidence that weed spraying in the upstream catchments is having any impact on the Kaiapoi River.

(d) **Notes** that the cost of using solely mechanical means rather than spraying where appropriate, to control weeds in Council Drains upstream of the Kaiapoi River is estimated to be $80,000 per year. Staff will take this matter to the Utilities and Roading committee for consideration.

(e) **Notes** that the Eastern District Sewerage scheme including the Kaiapoi Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Ocean Outfall meets all of its consent conditions other than some minor non compliances.

(f) **Notes** that the incidence of Avian Botulism within the Waimakariri District is part of a national and international issue. Staff undertake best practice steps to help manage this issue.

(g) **Notes** that testing of the sea foam and Kaiapoi River water quality and river bed sediment will be carried out if possible and the results will be reported to the Kaiapoi Community Board when they are available. The Kaiapoi River water and sediment test results will be available for the 18 April KCB meeting.

(h) **Circulates** this report to the Utilities and Roading Committee for its information.

(i) **Circulates** this report to the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee for its information.

(j) **Circulates** this report to the Drainage Advisory Groups for their information.

(k) **Circulates** this report to the Rangiora, Woodened Ashley and Community Boards and the Oxford Eyre Ward Advisory Board for their information.

**CARRIED**

Councillor Farrant said there is more information that could be provided to the committee and technical advice that could assist in decisions. Councillor Farrant said the Council is dealing with issues that are effecting the community but all the answers are not available at this time. This is only the first step in quite a long walk.
Councillor Gerard noted he has every confidence in the Council staff in dealing with these issues, and doing everything they can to discover and mitigate the situation.

8. REPORT FOR INFORMATION ONLY

8.1 Contract 10/26 Water Leak Detection: Extension of Contract – Suresh Mudliar (Water Asset Manager)
(refer to copy of report no. 160321024805 to the Management Team meeting of 4 April 2016, circulated separately)

8.2 Contract Acceptance Report – 16/11 Alfred Street Upgrade – Kieran Straw (Project Manager) and Ken Stevenson (Roading Manager)
(refer to copy of report no. 160406030056 to the Management Team meeting of 11 April 2016, circulated separately)

Moved Councillor Brine seconded Councillor Doody

THAT the information in Item 8.1 – 8.2 be received

CARRIED

9. PORTFOLIO UPDATES

9.1 Roading and Residential Streetscape – Cr John Meyer
Nothing to report.

9.2 Stockwater and Drainage – Deputy Mayor Kevin Felstead
Not present

9.3 Utilities (Water Supplies and Sewer) – Cr Peter Farrant
Nothing to report.

9.4 Solid Waste – Cr Robbie Brine

Councillor Brine reported that the Solid and Hazardous Waste Working Party met prior this meeting. There was an update on education programmes LOVE FOOD/HATE WASTE, and update on health and safety. A request has been received that Council consider extending the kerbside collection area to include Clarkville.

There is a joint Landfill Committee meeting scheduled for 4 May.
10. MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED

Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

Moved Councillor Farrant seconded Councillor Brine

THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution, are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item No</th>
<th>Minutes/Report of:</th>
<th>General subject of each matter to be considered</th>
<th>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</th>
<th>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.1</td>
<td>Minutes of the Public Excluded portion of the Utilities and Roading Committee meeting of 23 February 2016</td>
<td>Confirmation of Minutes</td>
<td>Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7</td>
<td>Section 48(1)(a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>Report of Kalley Simpson (3 Waters Manager) and Colin Roxburgh (Engineer)</td>
<td>Oxford Rural Number 1 Water Supply</td>
<td>Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7</td>
<td>Section 48(1)(a)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PUBLIC EXCLUDED REPORT FOR INFORMATION ONLY (Circulated separately)**

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<td>10.3</td>
<td>Report of Ric Barber, (Wastewater Asset Manager) to the Management Team meeting of 19 February 2016</td>
<td>Contract 15/82 Rangiora WWTP Aeration Basin Design – Professional Services Contract Award</td>
<td>Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7</td>
<td>Section 48(1)(a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.4</td>
<td>Report of Ric Barber (Wastewater Asset Manager) to the Management Team meeting of 7 March 2016</td>
<td>Wastewater Pump Station Switchboard Renewals</td>
<td>Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7</td>
<td>Section 48(1)(a)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Item No</th>
<th>Reason for protection of interests</th>
<th>Ref NZS 9202:2003 Appendix A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.1 – 10.4</td>
<td>Protection of privacy of natural persons To carry out commercial activities without prejudice</td>
<td>A2(a) A2(b)ii</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CARRIED
**Resolution to resume in open meeting**

Moved Councillor Farrant seconded Councillor Meyer  

**THAT** open meeting resumes and the business discussed with the public excluded remains public excluded.  

**CARRIED**

11. **QUESTIONS**

There were no questions.

12. **URGENT GENERAL BUSINESS**

There was no urgent general business

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.47pm.

**CONFIRMED**

_______________________  
Chairperson

_______________________  
Date

**BRIEFING**

At the conclusion of the meeting, there was a staff briefing to discuss:

1. Future Wastewater Servicing of Fernside – Ric Barber  
2. Drainage Maintenance Budget – Owen Davies