MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE CANTERBURY WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY WAIMAKARIRI ZONE COMMITTEE HELD IN THE FUNCTION ROOM, RANGIORA TOWN HALL, 303 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA ON MONDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2017 AT 4.00PM.

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

IN ATTENDANCE
Craig McIntosh (Irrigator), Richard Stalker (Irrigator), Brent Walton (General Manager, WIL), Kalley Simpson (3 Waters Manager, WDC), Greg Bennett (Land Drainage Engineer, WDC), Janet Fraser (Utilities Planner, WDC), Alicia Kloss (Project Engineer, WDC), Mayor David Ayers (WDC from 5.15pm), Greg Miller (Rangiora-Ashley Community Board), Ryan Hepburn (Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu) Larry Burke (NZ Salmon Anglers Association), Karl French (Silverstream Hatchery), Michael Bate (Kaiapoi), Gina McKenzie (Real Communications), Lionel Hume (Federated Farmers of NZ), John Benn (Department of Conservation), Emma Barr (Consents Planner, ECan), Nick Reuther (Consents Planner, ECan), Jill Atkinson (Director, Strategy & Planning), Steven Bragg (Tangata Whenua Facilitator, ECan), Andrew Arps (Zone Delivery Team Manager, ECan), Murray Griffin (CWMS Facilitator, ECan) and Adrienne Smith (WDC Committee Advisor).

KARAKIA
To open the meeting Steven Bragg conducted the karakia.

1  APOLOGIES
Moved Michael Blackwell seconded Gary Walton
THAT apologies be received and sustained from committee members Cameron Henderson and Cherie Williams.
CARRIED

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

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
1.1 Minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting – 9 October 2017
Moved Claire McKay seconded Gary Walton

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:
(a) Confirms the circulated minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting, held on 9 October 2017, as a true and accurate record, with the following amendments:

Remove last paragraph comment from David Ashby at end of “Opportunity for Public to Speak” under Greg Morriss item
Item 3.1 – Second sentence to read: “ECan staff would be asking the working group for comments as to how this could be achieved.

Item 3.1 – Claire McKay comment regarding the ECan LTP, projects to be connected to leverage of funding and minimise cost per project.

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING

Monitoring sites on Greg Morriss’s property. Andrew Arps responded that the sites have been monitored on an annual basis, and during the summer these will be monitored on a monthly basis. It is intended to make the monitoring more robust.

An update on Cam River funding was sought and Sandra Stewart advised that a report “Cam River Enhancement Allocation of Funding”, went to the Waimakariri District Council meeting of 24 October. Following this will be a plan for the funding from the Utilities and Roading Committee. This plan will incorporate some work of both private land owners and work of the Council and is likely to start in the New Year. Kalley Simpson noted the scope will clarify the allocation of work. The work will address legacy issues as opposed to future issues. Carolyn suggested that some landowners are looking for advice on work that could be done. Sandra advised that the Henry Hudson report had been shared with some landowners who are probably digesting this information. It was agreed that a report will come to the Zone Committee in the future on the Cam River funding work.

2 OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK

Craig McIntosh

Craig McIntosh, Flaxton Road Farmer, spoke to the committee on his concerns with the minimum flow level on the Cam River, and the impact of raising this on him and a neighbouring farm. He noted a minimum flow was originally set to dilute the sewerage discharged into the river. This is now not needed but the minimum flow is still set at 1000 litres a second. Mr McIntosh advised that when they start to use irrigation the flow is at or above 1200 litres a second, but as the season progresses the river flow lowers and often the irrigation season is very short. With the sewerage having not been discharged into the river for ten years the quality of water is now improving, stones are clean and plants are coming back.

Mr McIntosh said they could have a viable farm if they had adequate water. Alternatively, he noted that if their farm was subdivided into 10 acre blocks, this would mean many more cars on the road, and asks, which is best of the environment?

Richard Stalker spoke in support of the McIntosh’s situation, noting this huge impact on his farming business and also that of neighbouring farmer Randall Inch. He noted the Rūnanga preference is to raise the level of 1200 litres a second, but it was important to consider where Craig is coming from.

David Ashby asked how many days the farm is on restrictions over a summer. Mr McIntosh said this varies from year to year. He added if there was another drought, and the proposed ‘cultural’ minimum flow was in place, this would put them out of business. The property currently has a permit for 66 litres per second, and the farm takes 54 litres.

The Chair thanked Mr McIntosh and Mr Stalker for speaking and said further information would be sought by the committee on the ecological values of the Cam River.

Michael Bate
In support of his concerns with the use of glyphosate near waterways, Mr Bate presented a video of the drains in the spray test undertaken earlier this year. One of these, Easterbrook Drain, showed evidence of algae growth and very little sign of fish life 12 weeks after it was sprayed and Mr Bate does not accept that the spraying has no effect on waterways. Other drains shown in the video were Ashworths Drain and Mill Stream. Mr Bate brought samples to the meeting of sediment from three different creeks or drains from around the district which, he suggested, were very toxic and would burn human skin. By comparison a sample from a creek on his property was also shown, which is in much better condition.

3 COMMITTEE UPDATES – Zone Committee Members, M Griffin (CWMS Facilitator, ECan), A Arps (Waimakariri Zone Delivery Team Leader, ECan)

Zone Delivery Manager, Andrew Arps advised that there will be an update at the next committee meeting on the Ravenswood subdivision, including a video presentation.

Regarding the ‘Big Rocks’ document, it is Andrew’s intention to catch up with committee members individually and get their thoughts on this to help build the document. The Zone Delivery Team has been working with lifestyle and small block owners, and has run three workshops. There has been good feedback received from these workshops and there is a possibility that more will be run. There is a target to have 100 lifestyle block owners engaged.

David Ashby noted he has recently given a presentation to Harcourts staff, which included information from the pilot small block workshop programme. It was noted the importance of building awareness of matters relating to water to people who are buying rural properties.

There was discussion on the North Canterbury Business Awards and the request for the Zone Committee to be a sponsor of an Environmental Sustainability Award. Feedback was sought from committee members on this proposal. To become a sponsor would involve support of a $5,000 prize, which could be across two zones. Members agreed this would raise the profile of work of the committee.

Jill Atkinson (Director of Strategy and Planning, ECan) – Announced that this will be her last committee meeting as she has resigned from ECan after 19 years employed there. Jill has been involved with this committee from its inception and commends members of the committee, both past and present, on the work undertaken to date. ECan Councillor Claire McKay spoke on behalf of the committee in thanking Jill for her contribution and support of the work of the committee and presented a card and flowers in appreciation.

3.1 Regional Water Committee Working Groups meeting – 10 October 2017
(CWMS Regional Committee representative Carolyne Latham)

Carolyne took her report as being read and had nothing further to add to this report.

3.2 Wakeman Trust Wetland application for Immediate Steps Funding
(Zone Committee member Judith Roper-Lindsay)

Judith Roper-Lindsay spoke to this application at the previous meeting. Grant Edge, Judith, and Jason Butt (Biodiversity Officer, ECan) undertook a site visit on 19 October and looked at the wetland and ponds. Fish and Game had originally dug the ponds to promote wildfowl habitat but there would be no further input from this organisation – John Wakeman had done this work. These could now become part of the native habitat in the area. Members had
met with the Wakeman family members and the following recommendation
was suggested to the committee.

Moved Grant Edge seconded Michael Blackwell

**THAT** the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

(a) **Approves** the Immediate Steps funding application from Wakeman
   Trust of $7,262.50, noting the following:

I. Jason Butt (ECan) should work with the Wakeman family to
   advise on planting and maintenance.

II. The management agreement attached to the IMS funding
    should note that there should be no further excavation for
    ponds in the wetland.

   **CARRIED**

3.3 **Media and Communications Report – 11 August – 6th November 2017 –**
   (Gina McKenzie, Real Communications)

Murray thanked Gina for providing the media and communication report. Gina
advised members there are good videos available on the work at
Ravenswood. Positive feedback has been received from the Ashley-Rakahuri
Rivercare Group on the videos showing at the Rangiora movie theatre.
Andrew noted the positive impact that the media items are having. Sometimes
these may appear to go under the radar, but people are actually noting these.

3.4 **ECan Land Use Consents to Farm Update** – (copy of presentation from
   Anna Veltman to 9 October Zone Committee meeting)

No further questions.

3.5 **CAREX report on Glyphosate** – (report from Greg Bennett, WDC Land
   Drainage Engineer, to the Waimakariri District Council meeting of 24 October
   2017, circulated to the Zone Committee for information)

Greg Bennett was present and noted this report highlights there is more work
to be done on this matter. It was noted there was already a presence of
glyphosate in the sediments before the trial, and it is hard to say how much
impact this has had on the invertebrates or fish. There was a decline, though
it is difficult to say if the glyphosate was the sole reason. Flow rates weren’t
included. Michael Bate noted this is an important step in trying to improve the
drains that are flowing in to the rivers, the water of which the Zone Committee
are trying to improve.

Greg said there is no information yet, but what effect mechanical removal of
weeds would be, is a good question. Grant Edge noted that glyphosate lasts
around 14 days, but mechanical removal could upset riverbanks and asked
what would happen if drains were left alone? He added are there any
stretches of streams that could be left alone and let the water cress be dealt
with naturally. It was also suggested the drainage systems in place (culverts),
are not adequate.

Greg advised that following this report being presented to the Council there
will be a discussion document developed, to be part of the Council’s LTP
process in 2018. It is suggested that this document should not only
concentrate on glyphosate.
4 WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL RANGIORA STORMWATER NETWORK DISCHARGE CONSENT APPLICATION – Janet Fraser (Utilities Planner, WDC)

Kalley Simpson (3 Waters Manager Waimakariri District Council), introduced this presentation, and Waimakariri District Council staff members present Janet Fraser, Alicia Kloss and Greg Bennett. Janet presented the PowerPoint presentation on the Rangiora network discharge consent.

By way of introduction Janet explained that this is the first in a series of stormwater “network” discharge consents, which are required for all reticulated stormwater networks. Each network consent will require a comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan (SMP) for 2025. The SMP will identify how the Council will meet (or work towards meeting) water quality standards by 2040. The presentation touched on comparisons of water quality in rural and urban areas, which source different contaminants. It is important to note that commercial and industrial areas are the likely source of many metal, hydrocarbons, and other wastes into receiving waters.

The consent application also includes an overview of flood modelling and current/proposed flood mitigations for Rangiora, an overview of stormwater discharge quality from the Rangiora network, and surveys of aquatic habitat for fish and invertebrate species to help clarify the effects from network discharges.

Janet clarified the Rangiora stormwater system has high nutrients and E-coli entering the network from rural areas. Upgrading the Rangiora wastewater system is addressing major urban sources of E-coli. The presentation showed that the levels of TSS (Total Suspended Solids) currently complies with the Land and Water Regional Plan (50gm3). She added specific problem areas have also been noted.

The presentation noted that likely issues for urban stormwater are:

- Sediment from construction sites
- Zinc from metal roofs (unpainted, galvanised)
- Zinc from tyre wear
- Copper building facades
- Copper brake pads

There will be further analysis undertaken on the instances of copper exceedances.

Sandra Stewart asked how these results compare to CCC, or other Council’s in the country. Kalley Simpson responded that there hasn’t been any comparison undertaken. He noted the Waimakariri is trending towards having an issue with Zinc, and Christchurch City are also experiencing similar issues. Regarding the Copper and Zinc allocations, WDC is setting a date of 2040 in the consent application to meet the levels required in the Land and Water Regional Plan.

This being a 20 – 30 year programme, Michael asked if there was any liaison with the Building Unit of the Council, to provide for any control of materials used in building, which may impact on stormwater (i.e. Copper, Zinc). It was noted that this is a challenge, but there is a Stormwater Bylaw which can include provisions.

5 SILVERSTREAM SALMON HATCHERY UPDATE – IDEAS FOR IMPROVING WATER QUALITY AND FLOWS IN THE SILVERSTREAM –Karl French (Silverstream Hatchery Manager) and Matt Dodson (ECan Hydrogeologist)

Karl French from Silverstream Hatchery Manager, provided an update on the hatchery and options to make the hatchery sustainable. The noted this winter’s rainfall has lifted flow levels in the stream. The flip side of this higher rainfall is it has also raised the nitrate levels in the stream. The hatchery advocates for a minimum flow to maintain hatchery operations and support ecology within the stream, and
assist with the Salmon run. The hatchery also advocates for spring head improvements, through the first 500 initiative. Karl would also like to see the stream narrowed to increase velocity, and the introduction of shelter to decrease the water temperature and enhance instream ecosystems. Karl added he would like to see the surface water nitrate levels reduced to national bottom line levels. If conditions for the hatchery cannot be improved Smolt would have to be removed and will be reared at another site in Ashburton to avoid being lost due to low water levels. This increases operation expenditure by $30,000, just to keep operating. The water needed will not be available for augmentation.

K French then spoke to the next big issue for the hatchery, which is the level of nutrients within the bores. The hatchery would like to put a deeper bore down, with the water used to pass over some of the salmon stocks and then pass into Silverstream. Neither the public nor the Council would have to pay for this or any other ongoing costs. There is presently no planning mechanism in place to allow this to happen as the hatchery is located in a ‘red’ nutrient allocation zone and an over allocated catchment. Karl put this to the committee to consider as part of the developing water management options for the Silverstream catchment.

The hatchery is also looking at bio-mechanical filters which can strip the nitrates out of the water. This is being piloted in the Marlborough Sounds.

K French thanked ECan, and Matt Dodson in particular, for providing information on these options. He affirmed the deeper bore is seen as a feasible option. Hatchery staff have endeavored to engage with the local Rūnanga but have not to meet with representatives to date.

Discussion took place on the options for allowing for this deeper bore. In closing it was noted the effects of land use are impacting on the Salmon hatchery now, with the potential to impact on other freshwater species and enterprises in next ten years.

6 GENERAL BUSINESS – D Ashby and Zone Committee members

Additional items to be added to the Action Sheet:

1. Follow up on the Cam River reliability
2. Silverstream Hatchery investigation
3. Big Rock consultation with the committee – Andrew to set up feedback sessions.
4. Copies of the Living Streams Handbook to be circulated to committee members

Grant noted comments from Greg Millar, from Rangiora Ashley Community Board, regarding the Garrymere drinking water supply and asked if the committee could get some more information on this. Mayor Ayers commented from the public gallery that this is a small council water supply, and currently there are a number of small council water supplies that require some work to meet the National Drinking Water Standards, this being one of them.

Carolyn asked if there has been any survey undertaken by the Ashley-Rakahuri Rivercare Group (ARRG) on the success of the bird breeding season. It was noted this survey is being undertaken this weekend and results will be made available to the committee.

It was agreed that Murray and Andrew will contact Nick Ledgard (ARRG) regarding the habitat island programme which was funded through the IMS funding.
NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting of the Committee is on Monday 11 December 2017, at 4.00pm in the Function Room, Rangiora Town Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6.07pm.

CONFIRMED

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Chairman

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Date