MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE CANTERBURY WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY WAIMAKARIRI ZONE COMMITTEE HELD IN THE WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA ON MONDAY 10 DECEMBER 2018 AT 3.00PM.

PRESENT
Dave Ashby (Chairperson), Grant Edge (Deputy Chairperson), Carolyne Latham, Gary Walton, Michael Blackwell, Claire McKay (Environment Canterbury Councillor) and Sandra Stewart (Councillor, Waimakariri District Council).

IN ATTENDANCE
Owen Davies (Drainage Asset Manager, (WDC), G Meadows (WDC Policy Manager), Janet Fraser (WDC Utilities Planner), Ben Pearce (WDC Project Engineer), Gina McKenzie (Real Communications Ltd), Jason Butt (ECan), Diane Shelander (Christchurch City Council), Danny Kimber (Department of Conservation, Christchurch), Brent Walton (Waimakariri Irrigation Ltd), James Enson (Oxford-Ohoka Community Board and resident), Michael Bate, (Kaiapoi resident), Graham Rouse (District Resident), Murray Griffin (CWMS Facilitator, ECan) and Adrienne Smith (Governance Coordinator).

APOLOGIES
Moved G Edge seconded G Walton
THAT apologies for absence be received and sustained from Committee Members Cameron Henderson and Judith Roper-Lindsay.

CARRIED

REGISTER OF INTERESTS
Gary Walton advised some updates to the Register of Interests in his name, to read:
- Director, Walton Farm Consulting Ltd
- Chairman and Shareholder, Loburn Irrigation Co
- Trustee, Rugby World Heritage Trust
- Life Member, Ashley Rugby Football Club (Inc)
- Farmer, sheep and cattle, Loburn
- Registered member NZIPTM New Zealand Institute of Primary Industry Management

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
1.1 Minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting – 19 November 2018

Moved M Blackwell seconded G Walton

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:
(a) Confirms the minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting, held on 19 November 2018, as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED
MATTERS ARISING

Regarding the concerns of Robert Johnston and the subsequent report, C McKay advised that Ecan will be responding and there is likely some action underway early in the new year.

Regarding the presentation from Craig McIntosh – the Chair has agreed to meet with Mr McIntosh in the coming weeks and any other members of the committee are welcome to attend to hear Mr McIntosh’s concerns. Members G Walton, C Latham and M Blackwell expressed interest in being able to attend. The Chair will circulate the time and venue for this meeting to all members who may wish to attend.

G Edge noted the following matters:

Stockwater races: comment from Mr Johnston that one of the original conditions of Waimakariri Irrigation, was that the stock water races would remain.

Budget funding for spraying in the Ashley River: there will be an update from Andrew Apse at this meeting.

Biodiversity issues – G Edge sought confirmation that there will be a report to the committee in February on biodiversity. S Stewart advised that there is a report from WDC staff to the District Planning and Regulation Committee meeting of 11 December (tomorrow) titled “Improving Council’s approach to Biodiversity”. G Edge suggested this is a joint committee of both ECan and Waimakariri District Council and questioned why these two Councils aren’t dealing with this matter together to come up with a common goal and for gains within the Zone. G Edge suggested it would be nice to know in a report to the February Zone committee meeting, how the two organisations plan to promote and coordinate biodiversity within the Zone.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK

Graham Rouse

Graham Rouse, a resident of Harris Road, West Eyreton addressed the meeting expressing his concerns with the quality of drinking water. Mr Rouse has attended several of the community meetings and pointed out the current nitrate levels in their water supply. The big concern is the speed that these levels have risen.

A neighbouring property owner, with their own well, had tested their water in February for nitrate levels which had a reading of 10.4 and when tested again in October was over 12. Mr Rouse has a well on his property, which is 11.3 metres deep and readings done from this supply back in October 2014 had nitrate levels of 11, in February this year they were 11.2, in November now 12.3, which is well above the MAV. Mr Rouse is concerned about how high these levels will go. They have installed a reverse osmosis filter which has been successful at this stage. Mr Rouse suggests the whole Eyreton community will be effected by these rising nitrate levels.

Mr Rouse commented on recent media article on portable nitrate testing kits that Mike Joy is using and suggested that ECan could have something like this so that many wells could be monitored and have information available on the nitrate levels. This monitoring could be regularly at three, or six, monthly intervals.

Councillor McKay commented that ECan are aware of these concerns as are Waimakariri District Council. Pointed out that seasonal peaks need to be taken into account - wet weather events can have an impact on nitrate level readings. If there is a trend of increases in readings, there will need to be more regular testing, but this is still to be determined.

D Ashby noted that WDC offer a water testing service and there is a testing service available at Hills Laboratories. Mr Rouse noted that their water testing has been undertaken by Hills Laboratories.
S Stewart noted that the nitrate levels in private water supplies has come up for discussion and how these can be monitored. Noted that land use practices have caused the high levels of nitrates and this is highlighted in the ZIPA as an issue.

Mr Rouse questioned the systems that have been put in place to try to reduce nitrate levels and is there any data available to indicate that these have been effective or not? Councillor McKay said this information could be provided and brought back to a future meeting in the New Year by an ECan scientist. There is information that has been gathered, showing that water quality in some streams is improving. Councillor McKay advised that there is some work being undertaken in Canterbury on technology for real time nitrate testing and some is currently being trialed. Mr Arps said there is a monitoring site in the vicinity of Harrs Road.

G Edge noted with concern the nitrate levels rising and that the issue is the cause of the problem, being the high nitrate infiltration from dairy industry on the light soils. There has already been scientific information provided to the committee during the formation of the draft ZIPA and noted that the levels will increase, with positive result not expected for 30 to 40 years. The other issue is what is the extent of this problem, and how far and how fast is it spreading, which is a monitoring exercise. Another issue is who is going to pay for this, whose responsibility is it to be able to drink clean water. This Committee can’t address these issues, but ECan through public pressure will probably need to address these, suggesting this should be sooner rather later.

Regarding the reverse osmosis filter, Mr Rouse advised that this took the nitrate reading down to 2.2, from 11.2, but as these filters need to be replaced every 18 months to two years, the effectiveness of the filter may diminish as it gets filled up

C Latham suggested that this data could be provided to the District Health Board to keep them up to date with these readings. Mr Rouse advised that Alistair Humphreys is aware of it.

G Edge said there needs to be some urgency in advising the public, especially the Eyreton community and it was confirmed that this was the responsibility of the District Health Board. Mr Rouse said there needs to be more information spread to the public on the availability of this water testing and there could be far bigger health implications than is currently realized.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Rouse for speaking to the meeting, confirmed that the committee is aware of this issue with the sharp increase in nitrate levels in drinking water, and is a concern to the committee.

Michael Bate

Mr Bate spoke of the portable nitrate testing machines, which cost $25,000. These are used by Michael Joy (freshwater ecologist) and suggested that the Waimakariri District Council and Environment Canterbury could purchase one of these machines. This would allow for regular monitoring of the water in all wells in the district to be conducted as each test only takes 30 seconds, and a good picture could be built up of any changes to the water quality over a few months.

Regarding the spraying, the continued use of heavy spraying is still a concern. On speaking with fishermen from both Australia and England, they expressed surprise at the amount of spraying that is undertaken here in New Zealand around waterways. There is some done in both these countries, but not to the extent that it is done here. Mr Bate referred to his presentation from last month meeting, reinforcing his concerns that weed spraying in waterways needs to stop. Though acknowledging the possible financial burden on farmers, Mr Bate said there needs to be more urgent action on this matter, if not there will be no changes in 20 or 30 years from now.
**WAIMAKARIRI FINAL ZIP ADDENDUM UPDATE** – David Ashby (Committee Chairperson) and Murray Griffin (CWMS Zone Facilitator)

D Ashby spoke to a PowerPoint presentation on the draft ZIPA which was presented to the Waimakariri District Council on Tuesday 4 December and was approved 7 votes to 3, with one Councillor abstaining. It will go to the Environment Canterbury Council meeting on Thursday 13th December for their consideration. Of the general feedback received, those who aren’t supportive of the ZIPA, is because it is not moving fast enough or hard enough and there are some feelings that the ZIPA does not embrace the cultural feedback that had been received, in terms of minimum flows and also in regard to the speed.

Over the timeline in the planning process, it was noted that the committee members had attended some 60 additional meetings and 22 ordinary committee meetings over the past two years. As was noted by Mayor Ayers at the Waimakariri District Council meeting last week, this has never been asked of a committee of community members before, and the Chairman extended thanks for this commitment from all members. This has been challenging work and it was important to note that all members have different views on these matters and to come up with a document that the community wants. D Ashby also said it was important to note that it will be 2022 before some of these recommendations become rules in a Plan. It is important that there is progress on the non-statutory items coming through before the Plan is in place. This will be challenging for the farming community – noting what is proposed particularly with the nitrate priority area, is:

- Base line GMP by 2025
- 15% reduction by 2030
- A further reduction of up to 15% by 2040
- A further reduction of up to 15% by 2050

There will also be ongoing measuring and monitoring of the water resource which will be done on a regular basis. There is already issues with levels of nitrates, and it was pointed out the development of land that has happened over the last 100 years or more, from native, to farming, and more intensive farming. With a combination of science and enhancements it is hoped to make this plan work and find solutions to the surface waterways. There is good science available now and other activities happening to enhance and speed up the process, and not wait until 2022. The ZIPA documents attempts to reflect what the people of the community want, though some may not be happy where things are at, but this is the start of the process. The Chair sought comments from the committee members.

**Claire McKay**

- Noted that there is further opportunity to submit as part of the RMA process.
- Noted disappointment that not all the Waimakariri District Councillors voted in support of this Addendum.
- Noted the good relationship with the Waimakariri Irrigation Ltd farmers.
- Noted the concerns of Graham Rouse, who spoke earlier at the meeting, and residents, on the health of drinking water.
- Extended thanks to the Chair D Ashby for leading the committee through the draft ZIPA process.
Grant Edge

The "on the ground actions" will need to get underway next year, which will mean some investment by both ECAn and WDC.

At this time the Chair thanked G Edge for his input through the entire ZIPA process and also standing in as Chair when required.

Sandra Stewart

Endorses comments from the all members and noted the extraordinary community process that this has been to improve water quality.

Voted against the adoption of the draft ZIPA at the Waimakariri District Council, along with three other Kaiapoi councillors, because she believes it doesn’t go far enough, fast enough and aligns with Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga who have expressed the same concerns. The Rūnanga also has not endorsed the document. S Stewart added the mechanisms for delivery of all the recommendations is not spelt out and she has major concerns with how this recommended work will be undertaken with no funding associated with it.

S Stewart thanked C McKay and G Edge for their input into the process over the entire eight years of the committee and acknowledged and congratulated everyone involved on the process and delivery of this document. She also noted the issues with the private shallow well water supplies and there is no mechanism to address this as yet. S Stewart concluded stating the challenge is enforcing the regulations through the Plan Change. This is the first step, and the second step is funding it and delivering it.

At this time C Latham asked B Walton from Waimakariri Irrigation Ltd, what is WIL able to do to encourage farmers in the scheme with particularly high nitrate losses to make reductions over and above the 15% by 2030? B Walton responded that the consent was issued in 2016 and noted that if evidence is suggesting that it’s tracking along, consistent with the modelling, then it will be good to carry on this track. In the time since consent, some considerable improvements have taken place. For a farm to go from a C grade to B or A, some capital investment is required, in the form of Regen and installing pivots. B Walton suggests that in five years’ time there will be significant farms that will move from B grade to A grade. Farmers in the WIL project have made massive steps and there is a young generation with good support and has confidence in the continued improvement.

Moved G Edge seconded M Blackwell

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

(a) Receive this update on the feedback received on the amended recommendation of the Waimakariri Land and Water Solutions Programme Draft ZIP Addendum 2018.

CARRIED
WOODEND STORMWATER NETWORK DISCHARGE CONSENT APPLICATION – Janet Fraser (Utilities Planner, WDC), Owen Davies (Drainage Asset Manager, WDC) and Ben Pearce (Project Engineer, WDC)

Janet Fraser spoke to a PowerPoint presentation and provided an update on the preparation of the Woodend Stormwater Network Discharge Consent Application. The consent is sought for a term of 35 Years. The Council is lodging stormwater network discharge consents for the major towns in the district, where there is reticulated networks. The first application lodged has been for Rangiora and the Council is soon to lodge the Woodend application, which includes the new development areas of Ravenswood and east Woodend. The Kaiapoi consent application is currently a work in progress and will be the next to be lodged. Each network requires a comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan by 2025. This will identify how the Council will manage urban stormwater to meet water quality standards by 2040. There is a budget of $2.6m to implement the proposals being developed for Woodend, a budget of $9m for Rangiora and $7.7m for Kaiapoi.

The consent application shows no significant flood risk for urban Woodend. The application also includes fish and invertebrate surveys and ecology surveys and how the urban stormwater discharges effect the health of the streams in Woodend. The discharges are predominantly to McIntosh Drain, Taranaki Stream, Tuahiwi Stream, Cam River and Kaiapoi River.

Ben Pearce provided information on the water quality monitoring results sampling that was undertaken in 2016 in eight different sub-catchments – Ravenswood North, Ravenswood South, Taranaki Stream, Waiora Stream, Box Drain, McIntosh Drain, Transit Drain and Pankhurst Subdivision. Some of the contaminants recorded high readings and likely issues relating to urban stormwater noted were sediment from local constructions sites from the movement of trucks, zinc from metal roofs (unpainted galvanized) and zinc from tyres. Ongoing monitoring will be required now to identify the sources of these contaminants and J Fraser spoke on the proposed monitoring plan.

A Cultural Impact Assessment will be undertaken, as was done for the Rangiora consent, noted that the Stormwater Bylaw requires pre-treatment for industry of its stormwater discharges. There are currently trial innovations being undertaken at the University of Canterbury with oyster/mussel shell based filters to remove dissolved heavy metals, and iron filings in sand filter to remove dissolved reactive phosphorous.

J Fraser explained that there will also be some ecological monitoring undertaken by the Council for its own information, though this is not a requirement of the consent.

The Council also work with Ngāi Tūāhuriri develop and implement a landscape planting plan using plant species which would have historically occurred within current urban limits.

The Council will be developing a basic metal contaminant source model by 2020 have several steps planned to be included as part of the consent. This includes:

- Sample TSS/ clarity & dissolved metals twice a year
- Which sub-catchment discharges continue to exceed the standards?
  - Further investigation into problem sites
- Develop basic metal contaminant source model by 2020
- Model zinc & copper sources by sub-catchment
- Roof surface survey in sub-catchments with demonstrated zinc exceedances (more data needed)
- Investigate potential wastewater overflow urban sources
- Implement stormwater bylaw provisions for high, medium risk and construction sites
- Investigate options to reduce or control source contaminants
- Trial & report on effectiveness of LID options
- Wherever practicable, investigate diverting stormwater to ground
- With Government, lobby industry to reduce copper brake pad use

G Edge noted that there is the potential for stormwater to go to the ground without any treatment – will there be some monitoring of this, to confirm it meets the standard. O Davies noted that best practice currently, is for roof water to go into the ground. There is potential for Zinc contamination and this is something that will be looked into in the future. This is the reason that the Council have allowed a reasonable amount of time for implementation. There is still a lot of work being undertaken to identify the sources of contaminants and also the correct products to use to reduce contaminants. There is also further education to remind people about what does go down the drains (noted the recent use of blue plastic fish beside stormwater drains, to remind people that this water does into the rivers and streams. O Davies also added that it may be in time that copper brake pads are banned by the Government.

Moved M Blackwell seconded C Lathan

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

(a) Receives this briefing paper.
(b) Notes the pending application for stormwater discharge consent for the Woodend stormwater network to be lodged shortly with Environment Canterbury.

CARRIED

3

CWMS FIT FOR THE FUTURE PROJECT– Chris Wikstrom, (ECan) and Murray Griffin (CWMS Facilitator, ECan)

Murray Griffin spoke to this report and it was noted there is significant amount of information included in this for members to digest. G Meadows noted that this is to go to the Mayoral forum in May and asked members to look at this document and suggest any items that they considered should be included in the attached work programme. ECan staff have been working on this document aligning with the ZIPA recommendations. The agreed approach was that members are to review this individually and provide any feedback.

Moved G Edge seconded C Latham

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

(a) Receives this report.
(b) Encourages members to provide individual feedback to the Zone Facilitator (M Griffin) by January 14, 2019.

CARRIED
4 COMMITTEE UPDATES – Zone Committee Members, Murray Griffin,  
(CWMS Facilitator, ECan)

4.1 CWMS Regional Committee update – Carolyne Latham,  
(Waimakariri Zone Regional Committee Representative)

The Regional Committee has not met since the last meeting of the Waimakariri Zone Committee on 19 November. The next meeting of the Regional Committee is scheduled for tomorrow (11 December 2018).

4.2 Auditor-General Letter regarding the Regional Zone Water Management Committees

The letter from the Auditor-General dated 13 November 2018, provides a renewal of the declaration that members of all the Zone Water Management Committees and the Regional Water Management Committee can participate in all discussions and decisions despite any pecuniary interests that members may have in those matters. (under section 6(4) of the Local Authorities (members Interests) Act 1968). This declaration applies for five years from date of the letter.

4.3 Waimakariri Zone Delivery Update on current priorities in the Zone  
(Andrew Arps)

A Arps spoke on Zone Delivery and provided an update across all the 12 Solutions Programmes of work. A report will come to the February 2019 meeting of the Zone Committee on the Clean and Green Silverstream, showing progress on this area.

The 12 programmes include:

- ZIPA Recommendations
- Supportive Regional Plan
- Relationships, Respect and communication (important to go out and consult with the members of the community in relevant areas and keep people informed, noting that this all takes time)
- GMP Showcase
- Compliance and Alliance
- Waimakariri Corridor
- Clean and Green Silverstream
- Coastal Corridor Extension
- Caring for the Cam
- Te Aka Aka Connection
- Ashley Rakahuri Stepping Stones (includes the concerns of Robert Johnston)
- Lees Valley and the foothills

Billion trees project update – this is an opportunity for funding which is being applied for, with the project to be greening the banks of all of the lowland streams of Canterbury, also in the downs and wetlands and the Pest Free Banks Peninsula.

A Arps noted that there is a lot of work happening over a lot of projects and a full report will come back to this committee in the February meeting.
4.4 **Waimakariri Immediate Steps Overview – December 2018 – Jason Butt (ECan)**

J Butt advised that this is his last meeting as the Biodiversity Officer in Waimakariri as he has taken on a Regional Support role. J Butt spoke to a slide showing the amount of outstanding funds for biodiversity projects in the zone. These were not just Immediate Steps Funds, but also from the Biodiversity Regional Initiatives (BRI) and Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy Fund (CBS). It was noted that some of these are older projects have been underway for some time (four years). Also in the agenda is a current position of the Immediate Steps Position in Waimakariri, and an overview of current projects some of which are spread over several years. It was noted that the wet weather that has been experienced in the district over the past several months has delayed the completion of some of these biodiversity projects. The projects highlighted that have been delayed were White Rock Mains QE11 Covenant, Mounseys Stream and the Pines Beach Wetland weed control projects.

A presentation will come to the February 2019 meeting of the Zone Committee and this will include a map showing location of projects. S Stewart also requested information on historic IMS grants.

G Edge added that the weather has also impacted on progress of the Easterbrook Road Project. There was also discussion on the consenting process for work and the need to ensure that there is not doubling up of the consent process.

The Chair thanked Jason Butt for his input into the committee and extended best wishes in his new role.

4.5 **Media and Communications – Update 1- 30th November – Gina McKenzie (Director – Real Communications)**

G McKenzie presented this report and suggested the trial of the denitrification wall at Silverstream as a possible field trip for the Committee members. Information on the results of the trial would be of interest to committee members. G McKenzie had earlier in the week been to the site for filming.

G McKenzie has met with the recently appointed Communications Manager at Waimakariri District Council, discussed the sharing of content and working together, and noted that the Council has good resources available. There will be a further meeting in the New Year with both WDC and ECan communications staff.

The Chair extended thanks to Gina for her work, especially over recent months.

Moved C McKay seconded G Walton

**THAT** the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

(a) **Receive** these updates for its information and regarding the committee’s 5 Year Outcomes and community engagement priorities for 2019.

CARRIED
5 GENERAL BUSINESS

The Chair asked members for comments on any matters of interest.

C Latham, G Edge and M Blackwell all saw the need for priority work to start in the New Year on catchment management plans.

C McKay noted that a Resource Package has been put together by ECan on mahinga kai.

Regarding Plan Change 5, this is to go to Council on Thursday this week (13 December) to make the Plan Change operative from 1 February 2019. C McKay noted that there has been delays and issues with how the Farm Portal works for consent applications.

S Stewart suggested a field trip to include the Cam River work which is occurring now. She is also in agreement with catchment management plans being a priority and suggested that there needs to be joint discussion between ECan and Waimakariri District Council to discuss funding.

S Stewart was concerned to learn that the Silverstream Hatchery is moving out to another location as there is not enough water flow to raise the adult fish.

D Ashby spoke about attending the Next Generation Farmers meeting that he had recently attended in Mandeville. This had been an informal meeting with this group, along with several other members of the Zone Committee and also present were representatives from industry groups. D Ashby noted that it was important to get all members of these group on board and stressed this involves both on-farm and outside the farm gate work.

6 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the CWMS Waimakariri Water Zone Committee will be held on Monday 11 February 2019 commencing at 3.00pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6.15pm.

CONFIRMED

______________________________________
Chairperson

______________________________________
Date