

Minutes of the sixth meeting of the eleventh triennium of the Catchment Operations Committee held at 9.30am on Wednesday 14 April 2021, in the Tararua Room, Horizons Regional Council, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North.

PRESENT Crs DB Cotton (Chair), AL Benbow, EM Clarke (till 10.23am), SD Ferguson, EB Gordon, RJ Keedwell, WM Kirton, and JM Naylor.

IN ATTENDANCE Chief Executive Mr M McCartney
Committee Secretary Mrs JA Kennedy

ALSO PRESENT At various times during the meeting:
Mr R Strong (Group Manager River Management), Mr C Grant (Acting Group Manager River Management), Dr J Roygard (Group Manager Natural Resources & Partnerships), Mr G Cooper (Manager Land & Partnerships), Ms K McDowell (Senior Communications Advisor), Mr J Foxall (Area Engineer), Mr D Morrison (Ministry of Primary Industries), Mr S Barber (public speaking), and a member of the press.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APOLOGIES

COP 21-40 Moved Clarke/B Gordon

That the Committee receives apologies from Crs F Gordon, N Patrick, and J Turkington.

CARRIED

PUBLIC FORUMS / DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS

Mr Stuart Barber was granted public speaking rights at 10.00am to speak about the Foxton East Drainage System.

SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

There were no supplementary items to be considered.

MEMBERS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

COP 21-41 Moved Ferguson/Benbow

That the Committee:

confirms the minutes of the Catchment Operations Committee meeting held on 9 December 2020 as a correct record, and notes that the recommendations were adopted by the Council on 16 December 2020.

CARRIED

RIVER AND DRAINAGE ENGINEERING REPORT

Report No 21-47

Mr Strong (Group Manager River Management) introduced his report, provided updates on the progress of various river and drainage activities, and showed a series of photographs in support of some of the projects. He outlined the funding arrangements and liaison between Horizons Regional Council and Horowhenua District Council around the issue of a mature Rata tree at Kimberley Reserve which was under threat from the Ohau River.

COP 21-42 Moved Benbow/B Gordon

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 21-47.

CARRIED

Cr Clarke left the meeting at 10.23am.

PUBLIC FORUMS / DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS

A letter from Mr Stuart Barber (Chairman-Moutoa Drainage Scheme Liaison Group) which was also signed by Mr David Roach, had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting.

Mr Barber highlighted his concerns and outlined his proposal and options for the upgrade of the Foxton East Drainage System.

AGRICHEMICAL NO SPRAY REGISTER RISK MANAGEMENT

Report No 21-48

Mr Strong (Group Manager River Management) introduced the item which updated Members on the development of better system/processes for capturing landowner requests that agrichemicals not be used on/adjacent to their property.

Mr Foxall (Area Engineer) took Members through a powerpoint presentation outlining the progress to date and proposed next steps.

COP 21-43 Moved Keedwell/Naylor

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 21-48.

CARRIED

LAND MANAGEMENT PROGRESS REPORT

Report No 21-49

Dr Roygard (Group Manager Natural Resources & Partnerships) introduced the item which reported on the work carried out by the Natural Resources and Partnership - Land Management team during the period 1 November 2020 to 28 February 2021.

Mr Cooper (Land & Partnerships Manager) guided Members through a powerpoint presentation detailing how the Sustainable Land Use Initiative grant work programme was managed.

COP 21-44 Moved B Gordon/Kirton

That the Committee recommends that Council:

a. receives the information contained in Report No. 21-49 and Annex.

CARRIED

The Chair noted that this was the last Catchment Operations Committee meeting for Mr Strong (Group Manager River Management). He thanked him for his input to the Committee and wished him all the best for the future.

The meeting closed at 11.35am.

Confirmed

CHAIR

GROUP MANAGER RIVER MANAGEMENT

GROUP MANAGER NATURAL RESOURCES
AND PARTNERSHIPS