

Minutes of the second meeting of the eleventh triennium of the Catchment Operations Committee held at 9.30am on Wednesday 11 March 2020, in the Whanganui District Council, 101 Guyton St, Whanganui.

**PRESENT** Crs DB Cotton (Chair), EM Clarke, SD Ferguson, FJT Gordon (from 9.36am), RJ Keedwell, WM Kirton, NJ Patrick (to 9.45 and from 11.03am), and GJ Turkington.

**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), Dr J Roygard (Group Manager Natural Resources & Partnerships), Mr G Cooper (Manager Land & Partnerships), Ms C Morrison (Manager Media & Communications), Ms J Buchanan (Engineering Officer), Mr J Jamieson (Environmental Programme Coordinator), Ms L Owen (Environmental Progress Coordinator), Mr K Russell (Operations Manager), Mr R Dalrymple and Mr M Chrystal (Rangitikei Catchment Community Group), Mr R Hall, Mr G Albert (Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui Trust).

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **APOLOGIES**

**COP 20-6** *Moved* *Keedwell/Patrick*

*That apologies be received from Crs A Benbow, B Gordon, J Naylor, and an apology from Cr W Te Awe Awe (attending other Council business).*

**CARRIED**

## **PUBLIC FORUMS / DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS**

There were no requests for public speaking rights.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS**

The Chair advised that Mr Albert and Mr Hall (Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui Trust) would provide Councillors with an overview of Te Awa Tupua.

## **MEMBERS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**COP 20-7** *Moved* *Turkington/Ferguson*

*That the Committee:*

***confirms** the minutes of the Catchment Operations Committee meeting held on 11 December 2019 as a correct record, and notes that the recommendations were adopted by the Council on 17 December 2019.*

**CARRIED**

**PROCEDURAL MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**

**COP 20-8          Moved    Keedwell/Kirton**

*THAT the public be excluded from the following part(s) 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 follows.*

*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 and 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, as follows:*

**CARRIED**

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
PX1 Confirmation of Public Excluded Meeting held on 11 December 2019	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	s48(1)(a)  The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
PX2 Council / Committee to consider whether any item in the Public Excluded minutes can be moved into the public domain and define the extent of the release		

The meeting adjourned to the Public Excluded part of the meeting at 9.32pm.

**CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC EXCLUDED MEETING HELD ON 11 DECEMBER 2019**

**COP PX 20-4          Moved    Patrick/Clarke**

*That the Committee:*

**confirms** *the minutes of the Catchment Operations Committee meeting held on 11 December 2019 as a correct record, and notes that the recommendations were adopted by the Council on 17 December 2019.*

**CARRIED**

**COP PX 20-5      Moved    Kirton/Turkington**

*That the Committee moves out of Public Excluded.*

**CARRIED**

The meeting resumed in the public part of the meeting at 9.35am.

**RIVER AND DRAINAGE ENGINEERING REPORT**

*Report No 20-33*

This item reported on progress with river and drainage activities for the period December 2019 to February 2020. Mr Strong (Group Manager River Management) spoke to a powerpoint presentation which illustrated items covered in the report. He highlighted the suite of issues covered in a series of workshops held with government department representatives in January 2020.

*Cr F Gordon joined the meeting at 9.36am.*

Mr Strong gave an update on matters and discussions relating to owners of the Te Arakura Road land parcels, noted that Horowhenua District Council had been advised they could submit through Horizons' Annual Plan process if they wished to seek Horizons funding in support of stopbank work for Foxton Futures, and commented on the pressures and complications to river management as a result of increased growth and new subdivision development in the Horowhenua district.

Members provided comment and sought clarity on activities presented in the report.

**COP 20-9                      Moved    Turkington/F Gordon**

*That the Committee recommends that Council:*

- a. *receives the information contained in Report No. 20-33.*

**CARRIED**

**TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 4.2**

**COP 20-10                  Moved    Ferguson/Clarke**

*That the Committee suspends Standing Order 4.2 in order that the meeting can continue to sit beyond the two hour limit, without a ten minute break.*

**CARRIED**

**FOXTON FLOOD MITIGATION**

*Report No 20-34*

This item provided Members with an update on the mitigation approach proposed to address flooding of Foxton. Mr Strong (Group Manager River Management) spoke to the item, showed a graphical illustration of the proposed mitigation approach, commented on the upcoming community engagement process with Whirokino Scheme ratepayers, and clarified Members' questions.

**COP 20-11      Moved                                  Cotton/Keedwell**

*That the Committee recommends that Council:*

- a. *receives the information contained in Report No. 20-34 and Annex.*

**CARRIED**

**LOWER MANAWATU SCHEME - SECONDARY STOPBANK RUAHINE STREET TO RUAMAHANGA CRESCENT**

*Report No 20-35*

Mr Strong (Group Manager River Management) introduced Ms Buchanan (Engineering Officer) who provided a presentation and spoke of the challenges associated with maintaining a section of secondary stopbank adjacent to the Fitzroy Bend in the Manawatu River in Palmerston North. She explained that the stopbank structure had become compromised over time, due to the number of properties with structures on or near the stopbank. Members sought clarity, provided their comments, expressed concern at the risk of stopbank failure, agreed that the stopbank integrity should not be compromised, and that further discussion on the matter was warranted.

**COP 20-12      Moved                                  Kirton/Te Awe Awe**

*That the Committee recommends that Council:*

- a. *receives the information contained in Report No. 20-35 and Annex.*

**CARRIED**

**PRESENTATION: OVERVIEW OF LOWER WHANGANUI RIVER MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

*Report No 20-36*

Mr Strong (Group Manager River Management) provided an overview of river management matters and work programme in Whanganui.

*Cr Patrick joined the meeting at 11.03am.*

**COP 20-13      Moved                                  Cotton/Turkington**

*That the Committee recommends that Council:*

- a. *receives the information contained in Report No. 20-36.*

**CARRIED**

## LAND MANAGEMENT PROGRESS REPORT

*Report No 20-37*

This report covered work carried out by the Natural Resources and Partnership – Land Management team for the period 1 November 2019 to 31 January 2020. It included the activity areas of the Sustainable Land Management Initiative, Regional Land and Coast, and Nursery. Dr Roygard (Group Manager Natural Resources & Partnerships) introduced the item, and highlighted a number of uncertainties which were having an impact on landowner confidence. Mr Cooper (Environmental Manager Land) updated Members on the fencing programme, and commented on feedback from a carbon funding meeting. Mr Jamieson (Environmental Programme Coordinator) updated Members on the extent of damage caused by a fire on 1 February 2020 on Whanganui River Road near Wickham joint venture forest and clarified Members' questions.

**COP 20-14      Moved                                      Patrick/Turkington**

*That the Committee recommends that Council:*

- a. *receives the information contained in Report No. 20-37 and Annex.*

**CARRIED**

## ROGER DALRYMPLE - RANGITIKEI CATCHMENT GROUP

*Report No 20-38*

Mr Roger Dalrymple and Mr Mark Chrystall presented to Members about the challenges associated with the set-up and ongoing role of the Rangitikei Catchment Group.

**COP 20-15      Moved                                      Patrick/F Gordon**

*That the Committee recommends that Council:*

- a. *receives the presentation from Mr Dalrymple.*

**CARRIED**

## TE AWA TUPUA

Mr Albert and Mr Hall (Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui Trust), provided Members with an overview of the journey of Te Awa Tupua, and what it might mean going forward for Horizons Regional Council.

The meeting closed at 12.30pm.

Confirmed

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CHAIR

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GROUP MANAGER RIVER MANAGEMENT

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GROUP MANAGER NATURAL RESOURCES  
AND PARTNERSHIP