

Minutes of a meeting of the Manawatu River Users' Advisory Group held at Tararua Room, Horizons Regional Council, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North, at 7.00pm on Tuesday 1 June 2021.

PRESENT Cr FJT Gordon (Chair), SD Ferguson (via Zoom), Mr B Culley (River Warden), Mr I Taylor (Manawatu Freshwater Anglers Club/Honorary Enforcement Officer), Mr B Sprozen (Manawatu Power Boat Club), Mr B Cottrill (Manawatu Marine Boating Club), Mr R Anderson (Jet Boating New Zealand), Mr K Lane (Manawatu Estuary Trust), Cr J Mason (Howowheua District Council) and Mr M Wheatley (Manawatu Four Wheel Drive) (via Zoom to 7.40pm when Zoom connection was lost).

IN ATTENDANCE Harbourmaster Ms J Boost-Turner
Acting Group Manager River Management Mr C Grant (to 8.10pm)
Engineering Officer Central Ms J Buchanan
Committee Secretary Mrs JA Kennedy

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited Members and staff to introduce themselves.

APOLOGIES

Mr Lane submitted an apology later in the meeting from Cr Robert Ketu (Horowhenua District Council).

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved **Culley/Anderson**

That the Committee:

confirms the minutes of the Manawatu River Users' Advisory Group meeting held on 1 December 2020 as a correct record, and notes that the recommendations were adopted by the Council on 16 December 2020.

CARRIED

HARBOURMASTER'S REPORT

Report No 21-60

Ms Boost-Turner introduced the item which provided an update on matters relating to navigation and safety on the Manawatu River and its tributaries. She commented on the river event activities, and the work undertaken in conjunction with the New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi regarding hazard signage to warn the public of the Manawatu river bridge works associated with Te Ahu a Turanga. Ms Boost-Turner provided an update on the programme and scope for the review of the Navigation and Safety Bylaw and responded to Members' questions.

Moved **Buchanan/Sprozen**

That the Committee recommends that Council:

a. receives the information contained in Report No. 21-60.

CARRIED

LOWER MANAWATU SCHEME (LMS) - RIVER MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Report No 21-61

This item informed Members of the Lower Manawatu Scheme management issues that may have some impact on the recreational use of the river. Ms Buchanan (Engineering Officer Central) took Members through the report, provided further information where relevant, and responded to Members' questions.

There was discussion about possible sightings of Alligator Weed in the Manawatu Estuary and Old Man's Beard in the city area, and the New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi position around a decision to retain or remove the old river bridge at Whirikino.

Moved

Sprozen/Culley

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. *receives the information contained in Report No. 21-61.*

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS

The Chair commented on the followups and associated actions from the December 2020 Manawatu River Users' Advisory Group meeting. She then summarised the feedback received from that meeting and discussed it with Members. One point raised was around the importance of river access to launch boats. A list of launch sites had been compiled and would be circulated for Members' information. Going forward Members noted the value of ensuring that the river reach was maintained. The ecology of the Manawatu Estuary was also noted as being important

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Confirmed

HARBOURMASTER

CHAIR