

**Minutes of the Maitara Catchment Liaison Committee  
Annual General Meeting, held at RSA,  
12 Bowler Avenue, Gore on  
Tuesday 21 February 2023, at 2.00 pm.**

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<b>Present:</b>	Mr B Watt	(Maitara)
	Mr H Gardyne	(Maitara)
	Mr J Gardyne	(Maitara) <i>left at 3.27 pm</i>
	Mr G Scott	(Maitara)
	Mr B McLeod	(Maitara)
	Mr S Dyer	(Maitara)
	Mr R Wilkins	(Maitara)
	Mrs P Wilkins	(Maitara)
<b>In Attendance:</b>	Ms C Andrews	(MPI)
	Mr G Saunders	(MPI)
	Ms T Clarke	(Thriving Southland)
	Ms R Kelly	(Stuff)
	Cr J McPhail	(Environment Southland)
	Cr P McDonald	(Environment Southland)
	Cr A Gibson	(Environment Southland)
	Cr J Pemberton	(Environment Southland)
	Mr R Beal	(Catchment Operations Manager)
	Mr D Connor	(Team Leader, Catchment)
	Mr J Turnbull	(Works Supervisor)
	Mr C Cartwright	(Works Supervisor)
	Ms S Grey	(River Engineering Officer)
	Mr L Mutton	(Project Engineer)
	Mrs E Kini	(Personal Assistant – Minutes)

<b>1 Welcome and Chairman's Report (<i>Haere mai</i>)</b>
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Mr B Watt welcomed the attendees to the meeting and spoke to his Chairman's Report, a copy of which has been retained on file (A887113).

<b>2 Apologies (<i>Nga Pa Pouri</i>)</b>
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***Resolved by Consensus:***

Moved Cr Gibson, that apologies were recorded on behalf of Chairman N Horrell, Mr P Hulse, Mr J English, Mr R Parata, Mr B Wilkins and Ms S Crooks.

**Carried**

### **3 Terms of Reference**

Discussion was held with regards to the consideration to the reference of soil conversation in the Terms of Reference, a review to amend the wording to this effect will be taken under consultation by Environment Southland staff.

### **4 Confirmation of Minutes of meeting of 27 May 2022**

***Resolved:***

**Moved Mr B McLeod, seconded Mr H Gardyne, that the minutes of the Mataura Catchment Liaison Committee Annual General Meeting held on 27 May 2022 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.**

**Carried**

### **5 Matters Arising**

It was noted that any matters arising from the minutes would be addressed via the reports to the meeting.

### **6 Appointment of Committee and membership**

Mr Connor assumed the Chair. Mr Connor called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Mataura Catchment Liaison Committee.

***Resolved:***

**Moved Mr J Gardyne, seconded Mr B McLeod that Mr H Gardyne be elected to the position of Chairman of the Mataura Catchment Liaison Committee.**

**Carried**

Mr Gardyne assumed the Chair and called for nominations for Vice Chair. No nominations were received.

Mr Gardyne called for nominations for the Mataura Catchment Liaison Committee.

***Resolved:***

**Moved Mr McLeod, seconded Mrs Wilkins that Mataura Catchment Liaison Committee comprise of all those members present at the meeting today, together with any apologies.**

**Carried**

## **7 Financial Report – 2022/23 and proposed 2023/2024**

Mr Connor and Mrs Hawkins spoke to the Works Programme and Draft Budget for the 2023/24 year presentation slides, and the Draft Budget as circulated in the agenda, noting the following:

- Current work programme for 2022/23
- Asset Management Programme, ongoing inspection of stopbanks.
- Land drainage, Riverworks and Spraying
- Team working in the Climate Resilience projects.
- Future work relating to aging willows, and determining additional funding to cover management of this.
- Flood Channel C (Gorge Road) requires upgrade and modification, redesign of flood control gate.

Discussion on stopbank inspection programme including breakdown of defects affecting stopbanks.

- Provided details and specifics on requirements of bylaws and suggestions to make the bylaws more specific, examples were provided in discussion.
- 2010 was the first bylaw and was updated in 2020. There is a process to be worked through, including public notification.
- Stopbanks are over private land and are considered a community asset.
- Work Programme would need a specific work programme to replace the top soil/silt as asked. Nothing has been done to date, can be done if that is what the Committee require.
- Still waiting for LIDAR information, the aerial information has been received.
- Gravel Management discussion - as gravel builds up gravel islands develop, vegetation locks them in and cuts down the channel, and if the river is particularly low enough, it can be perceived as gravel build-up. Overall the cross section of Mataura and Oreti is not showing build up.
- Waikaka River flow data, to be followed up with Environment Southland hydrologist.
- Provided an update on the Consents currently in progress.
- Advised 'Drop in' sessions are being held regarding work on the stopbank at Mataura township.
- Contractors used are providing/submitting competitive rates.

Mrs Hawkins spoke to the Draft Budget for the 2023/24 year presentation slides, and the Draft Budget as circulated in the agenda, noting the following:

- Substantial increase to costs in the past two years the offset to this in an increase investment income.
- Budgeted 4% on the Mataura Catchment reserve fund balance.
- Rate increase recommendation of 6.6% for 2023/24.

Discussion occurred regarding a Water Quality Plan, as part of an integrated catchment approach, to then endeavour to obtain funding.

**Resolved:**

**Moved Mr Watt, second Mr J Gardyne, that the budget be approved, including draft budget costs increase of 7%.**

**Carried**

**8 Catchment Report**

Mr R Beal provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Future Climate Change Predictions and spoke to his slides. A copy of the presentation slides are available on file, noting the following:

- Thanks was given to the Catchment team for progressing the Mataura True Left Bank work, due for completion in April.
- Presentation of three areas of work in progress:
  - o Rates Review
  - o Infrastructure Strategy review – a 30 year document.
  - o Committee feedback relating to what does the Committee want to be included in the Infrastructure strategy for the next 30 years.
- Climate Change data was presented in relation to increased rainfall predictions and impacts on rivers and floodbanks.
- Clarified the definition of slowing the water down, different interpretations were tabled.
- Discussion regarding the need for strategic management of gravel, including extraction and addressing erosion issues occurred, noting that removal is only a part of the issue.

**9 General****Progress update on Rates Review**

Mrs T Hawkins provided a PowerPoint presentation on a progress update of the Ratings Review, noting the following:

- Insurance
  - o Increase in Insurance costs
  - o A number learnings from the 2020 Flood.
  - o Increased insurance cover as identified as under insured as a result of 2020 Flood claims.
  - o Insurance is more expensive and more difficult to obtain.
- Disaster Reserves Fund not growing as fast as expected.
- Looking across the region, 34 to 37 different rating categories in Mataura, with two different rating methods - riverworks and drainage (riverworks being more complex).
- Draft a proposal detailing the different ways of “cutting the cake” within the rates structure providing three or four options of how it could be done, in consultation with each Catchment Liaison Committee.
- Provided an overview of the other Catchments rating structure/categories.

- Commencing the rates review with Mataura as a trial.
- General rate of riverworks/flood protection is 30%, of the remaining 70% the targeted rates of F Class is 28% with A – E being 42%.
- Extended invitation to the Committee to forward suggestions/recommendations as part of the consultation process.

#### **Environmental Challenges facing Murihiku Southland**

Ms Crack and Ms Raymond talked to presentation slides (a copy of the presentation will be kept on file) including:

- Provided an overview of the Catchment Integration team - who they are and what they do including:
  - o Riparian planting advice – what and how to plant.
  - o Pilot for Freshwater Farm Plans
  - o EnviroSchools
  - o Pollution and forestry education and compliance.
  - o Working with Federated Farmers regarding winter grazing
  - o Land Management Advice and Information
  - o Forestry
  - o Planting plans similar to riparian plants, more sheltering plants
  - o Assistance with Environmental Farm plans
  - o Projects include Intensive Winter Grazing, working with partners and communities
  - o Southland Riparian Planting Project – working with Catchment Operations team

### **9 Termination**

Mr Gardyne thanked all who had made presentations today and extended further thanks to staff members: Mr Beal, Mr Connor, Mr Cartwright and Mr Turnbull, Ms Grey, and to Councillors in attendance including the new Councillors Mr Gibson and Pemberton.

As there was no further business, the meeting was closed at 4.14 pm.