

**Minutes of the Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee
Annual General Meeting, held at Salvation Army Hall,
7 Dejoux Road, Winton on Tuesday,
21 February 2023, at 10.00 am.**



Present:	Mr D Rose	Co-Chair
	Mr D Marshall	Co-Chair
	Mr G Milligan	
	Mr L McCallum	
	Mr G McGregor	
	Mr G Hubber	
	Mr A Macdonald	
	Mr J Scully	
	Mr W Currie	
	Mr J McDougall	
	Mr C Hawkins	
	Mr L McGregor	
	Mr L Gerrard	
	Mr S McEwan	
	Mr P Thomson	
In Attendance:	Mr B Febery	Fish and Game
	Mr Z Moss	Fish and Game
	Cr J McPhail	Environment Southland
	Cr P McDonald	Environment Southland
	Cr P Evans	Environment Southland
	Mr P Pollard	Environment Southland
	Mr G Gerrard	Environment Southland
	Miss S Gray	Environment Southland
	Ms E Whalley	Environment Southland
	Mr R Bird	Environment Southland
	Mr R Beal	Environment Southland
	Mrs T Hawkins	Environment Southland
	Mrs M Wass	(Personal Assistant – Minutes)

1 Welcome and Chairman's Report (<i>Haere mai</i>)

The Chairs welcomed all attending the meeting. Mr Rose and Mr Marshall presented their co-chairs reports, copies of which have been retained on file (A885478 and A885479).

Resolved:

Moved Mr D Rose, seconded Mr D Marshall that the co-chairs report for the 2023 Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee Annual General meeting be accepted.

Carried

Environment Southland is the brand name
of Southland Regional Council

2 Apologies (*Nga Pa Pouri*)

Resolved:

Moved Mr C Smith, seconded Mr L McGregor, that apologies for absence be recorded on behalf of Jim McKenzie, Peter O'Callaghan, Scott Whyte, Hamish English, Annie English, Chris Senior, Duncan McGregor, Nicol Horrell, Tony Dunnage, John Ferris, Maurice Dodd, Tim Dawkins, Rebecca Dawkins, Nigel Gilkison and Roger Hamilton.

Carried

3 Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting of 23 May 2022

Resolved:

Moved Mr L McGregor, seconded Mr D Marshall, that the minutes of the Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee Annual General Meeting held on 23 May 2022 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Carried

4 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

5 Catchment Report

The Catchment team provided a detailed presentation to the meeting, a copy of which was retained on file.

Mr Pollard spoke to stopbank inspections and anticipated river and land drainage works, and highlighted the following:

- historical flood bank defects (how the bank defect priorities were applied and what each priority looked like);
- current fencing on the centre line should be relocated along the landward toe with the bank being lightly grazed with smaller animals during warmer months as current fencing and practices were not ideal for the structural integrity of the bank;
- Information and pictures had been sent to NZTA on the Mossburn Bridge gravel build-up at the end of 2022, however no response had been received at the time of the meeting;
- updates on the Ram Hill Quarry future, the Winton Bridge erosion issues and the Lochiel Bridge lignite and erosion issues.

Mr Beal presented on the effect of climate change and flood events. He elaborated on the meaning behind the data and how assets would need to be future-proofed to lessen the risk of flood event impacts. This was a potentially very expensive task but if planning was started early, the cost could be spread more evenly over generations. A discussion took place on what the committee would like to see happen with their assets and the following feedback was received:

- slash (forestry debris) blockages had been a major issue in previous flood events. Forestry practices needed to be improved;
- flood banks could be increased if there was capacity;
- gravel build-up and the Winton Bridge was a concern. Strategic gravel management needs to be included in planning;
- more information on possible options (including cost analysis) was required before a decision was made on the level of service the committee could agree to.

Oreti/Branxholme Gravel extraction trial: Mr Pollard provided an update on the Branxholme gravel extraction consent and explained the proposed methodology. As a result of feedback Fish and Game and the Department of Conservation (DOC) had given, a trial would be undertaken to prove the limited impacts that crossing the river in Moxy trucks would have. It was noted that KiwiRail had also raised concerns that their piles would be further undermined. Because of this, Catchment staff had engaged WSP to write an engineering report to address this concern.

Fish and Game representative, Mr Zane Moss, addressed the committee and explained that there had not been enough evidence given on implications which is why the trial had been requested. A fulsome discussion took place and the committee noted the following to Mr Moss:

- On-site meetings with Fish and Game would be beneficial to land owners to keep lines of communication open;
- providing land owners with rationale on decisions made may help understanding and improve the relationship with Fish and Game.

6 Financial Report – 2022/23 and proposed 2023/2024

Mr Pollard spoke to the financial report and advised that a considerable amount of work had been undertaken since the start of the previous financial year. Consequently, the structure maintenance budget was well over-spent, however, the other budgets were at acceptable levels for the time of year. He noted that there was still a lot of work to be done and to keep in line with rising contractor and machinery hire costs, there would need to be an increase to the 2022/23 budget. After a short discussion the committee decided it would be best to increase the 2023/24 budget by 4.5%.

Resolved:

Moved Mr D Marshall, seconded Mr G Milligan that the Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee agrees to increase the 2023/24 budget by 4.5%.

Carried

Future Insurance cost and disputed 2023 flood claim outcome: Mrs Hawkins noted the learnings from negotiations with AON over the 12 months following the flood event, and elaborated on the revised insurance amounts and what they would mean for the catchment. It was noted that the Oreti Catchment would receive \$32,000 from the claim.

7 Appointment of Committee and membership

Cr Peter McDonald assumed the role of Chair and called for nominations for the Chair of the Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee.

Resolved:

Moved Mr G Milligan, seconded Mr L McGregor that Mr David Rose and Mr David Marshall be elected to the positions of Co-Chairman of the Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee.

Carried

Mr Rose and Mr Marshall resumed their roles as co-chairs at this time.

Resolved:

Moved Mr D Marshall, seconded Mr C Smith that Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee comprise of all members present, those with apologies recorded and those who are listed on the mailing list that was circulated with the agenda of the meeting.

Carried

Resolved:

Moved Mr D Rose, seconded Mr D Marshall that the Technical Group of the Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee comprise of Walter Currie, Hamish English, Roger Hamilton, Grant Hubber, John McDougall Snr, Dave Marshall, Peter O'Callaghan, David Rose, John Ferris, Tim Dawkins, Peter Thomson, Annie English, Lachlan McGregor, Scott Whyte and John McDougall.

Carried

8 General

Gravel Extraction Habitat Ponds: Mr Marshall directed a question to Fish and Game as to the purpose and benefit of habitat ponds. Mr Moss explained that it was an off channel option started in the late 1990's to create habitat as well as providing opportunities for gravel extraction. He noted that the system was due to be revisited as there were opportunities for more modern and effective options.

Lake Hawkins pumps (Invercargill Airport): Staff advised that this project was going well. The groundwater construction phase had been the biggest uncertainty, however

since getting the project underway, there was now a high level of confidence that the project would be delivered on budget.

Makarewa River erosion issue: the meeting noted that erosion issues in the Largs Street area had been an ongoing issue. Design costings had been sought, however there was no outcome to report at the time of the meeting. It was noted that part of the difficulty was that Wallacetown was not part of a rating district.

Catchment Committee Report: Mr Colin Smith gave an update on the Greater Dipton Catchment Group which included a project called 'Carbon Free Dipton' that involved five farms looking at ways to reduce carbon. Thriving Southland was collaborating with the Catchment Group and he noted that there would be a Facebook page for those who were interested in following the project.

Mr Marshall read the Lower Oreti Catchment Group update which had been provided via email from Scott Whyte and Sarah Thorn and has been appended as appendix 2.

Catchment Integration Team: Mrs Whalley explained the role of the Catchment Integration team and introduced Rob Bird and Keith Finlayson as the staff member who cover the Oreti Catchment.

Mr Bird noted the positive result of recent Intensive Winter Grazing flights and also advised alternative ways for disposing of baylage wrap.

9 Termination

As there was no further business, the meeting was closed at 12:11 pm.