

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Southland Regional
Council, held in Regional House, corner
North Road and Price Street, Invercargill, on Wednesday,
23 June 2021, at 10.00 am**



Present:	Chairman N Horrell	(Chair)
	Cr L McCallum	(Deputy)
	Cr A Baird	
	Cr N Cook	
	Cr L Esler	
	Cr R Guyton	
	Cr L Ludlow	
	Cr P McDonald	
	Cr J McPhail	
	Cr B Mager	
	Cr E Roy	
	Cr D Stevens	
In Attendance:	Mr R Phillips	(Chief Executive)
	Ms W Falconer	(GM Strategy, Planning and Engagement)
	Mr P Hulse	(GM Integrated Catchment Management)
	Ms A Kubrycht	(GM Organisational Development and Transformation)
	Mr C Wood	(Interim GM Finance and Corporate)
	Mrs J Brown	(Executive Assistant)
	Mrs N Baxter	(Personal Assistant)

1 Welcome (*Haere mai*)

The Chairman welcomed members to the Ordinary meeting of Council.

2 Apologies (*Nga Pa Pouri*)

No apologies were recorded as all members were in attendance.

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 Public Forum, Petitions and Deputations (*He Huinga tuku korero*)

There were no Public Forum, Petitions and Deputations presented to the meeting.

5 Notification of Extraordinary and Urgent Business (*He Panui Autaia hei Totoia Pakihi*)

5.1 Supplementary Reports

There were no supplementary reports tabled for inclusion in the agenda.

5.2 Other

There were no other items of business raised by Councillors for inclusion in the agenda.

6 Questions (*Patai*)

There were no questions asked at the meeting.

7 Staff Report – 21/C/47

⇒ Item 1 – Consideration of 2021-2031 Long-term Plan Submissions and Views

This item had been prepared to allow Council to hear and decide on submissions and views received to the 2021-2031 Long-term Plan Consultation Document.

It was noted that a correction was required on page five of the agenda, under the key issue heading should read the majority of submissions (56%), not 54% as stated.

Resolved:

Moved Cr Mager, seconded Cr Roy, that Council:

- (a) note that the 2021-2031 Long-term Plan Consultation Document '*Tō tātou haerenga – Our Journey*' has undergone consultative processes and submissions have been received;
- (b) receive the submissions made to the 2021-2031 Long-term Plan Consultation Document '*Tō tātou haerenga – Our Journey*';
- (c) receive the feedback given on the following supporting documents:
 - Levels of Service;
 - Significance and Engagement Policy;
 - Infrastructure Strategy;
 - Revenue and Financing Policy;
 - Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022;
 - Rates Remission and Postponement Policy (including for Māori freehold land); and
 - Proposal to join New Zealand Local Funding Organisation (LGFA).
- (d) agree to accept all late submissions received up to 16 June 2021;
- (e) agree not to receive any further late submissions;
- (f) agree to hear all submitters who wish to be heard on the 2021-2031 Long-term Plan Consultation Document '*Tō tātou haerenga – Our Journey*' and supporting documents.

Carried

Submitter 31 – Mr Doug Fraser

The submission hearing was recorded and a full audio record of each submission has been retained. For Doug Fraser that record commences in the “Morning Session” - 2.05.08 through until 1.53.30

Mr Fraser introduced himself and noted he owned a sheep and beef farm as well as a dairy farm in the Western Southland area. He said that the rates increase proposed was significant when he spread it across the two properties and would have a large impact.

He felt that the documentation on the LTP was not very informative, he was aware that legally Environment Southland could not be as forth coming as previous years, but still felt the Consultation Document should have given more information.

He noted that it was a \$440 increase for one of his properties and \$490 for the other property. Which was more than what most urban property owners pay in total.

He felt that the UAGC should be used to more fairly distribute the rates and this sort of rate increase was not sustainable in his opinion. The UAGC was only a 20% increase not a 33% rate increase, as was claimed.

He felt that the targeted rate and UAGC should go up, not total rates.

The Councillors made some general enquiries about the rates increase before Chairman Horrell thanked Mr Marshall for coming into speak to his submission.

Submitter 41 - Mrs Jenny Campbell

The submission record commences “Morning Session” – 1.53.23 through until 1.42.28

Mrs Campbell provided a Mihi to introduce herself to Council. She wanted to make Southland more environmentally sustainable, user friendly for cyclists and walkers, to have more native biodiversity, healthier warm homes, stop the use of coal, and methane gas production. She commended staff and Councillors for the work they do to make sure that land, air and water are given the attention they deserve.

She was happy to pay the increase in rates to allow Council to do the work that needs to be done.

She then noted the following as priorities in her view for Environment Southland moving forward:

- it was important for the four Southland Councils to work together collaboratively on climate change;
- reducing carbon emissions and reducing methane emissions;
- the decisions being made now are for the next generations;
- all decisions and policies need to be science based;
- we need to build resilience, Southland is very vulnerable to flooding and becoming isolated. We need to produce our own resources so we are not reliant on others;
- consultation with Iwi at every step is essential;

- agreed with the actions proposed around freshwater and the integrated catchment approach;
- more staff needed to be employed to deliver these implementations at the earliest opportunity; and
- Environment Southland needed to increase compliance, monitoring and enforcement.

In response to a question posed about working together with the other three Councils in the region, Mrs Campbell felt it was more cost effective and a better outcome could be achieved by working together.

Chairman Horrell then thanked Mrs Campbell for taking the time to attend the meeting and speak to her submission.

Submitter 32 – Healthy Families, Invercargill – represented by Ms Stella O'Connor

The submission record commences “Morning Session” – 1.41.58 through until 1.34.31

Ms O'Connor introduced herself saying she is from Healthy Families Invercargill and was representing the Murihiku Kai Collective. She then thanked the Committee for the opportunity to speak.

Ms O'Connor explained that the Murihiku Kai Collective is made up of a number of community groups which have formed around the common vision of enabling Southlanders to have the capability to produce and access good food.

They commended Environment Southland for recognising community resilience as a big issue and creating an in-house community garden.

Ms O'Connor noted that Murihiku Kai Collective had identified a number of action points that they would be committing to over the next few years. They would like to invite Environment Southland along with other territorial authorities to partner with them to adopt a Good Food Road map and co-design a Murihiku Food Resilience Strategic Plan. She asked Environment Southland at the least to attend and support the community food resilience workshops and work with Kai Collective to support their initiatives.

The Murihiku Food Strategic Plan was being developed to help create food security and support local food suppliers. She felt the region needed a plan so that by 2030 healthy, sustainable food will be available to the community.

Cr Guyton enquired how well prepared she felt the region was in regards to food sustainability. She felt that the community can be contacted quickly, but more strategies needed to be put in place. Families in the community felt stressed during the COVID-19 lock down about providing food, but this was a daily struggle for some families in the community.

Chairman Horrell thanked Ms O'Connor for presenting to the Committee.

The meeting adjourned for a few minutes while zoom submitters made themselves available online

**Submitter 26 – Water Safety New Zealand – represented by Mr Neil McInnes
– by Zoom**

Mr Neil McInnes was not present and did not speak at the meeting.

**Submitter 16 – Mamaku Point Conservation Reserve – represented by Roy and
Rachel Thompson – by Zoom**

The submission record commences “Morning Session” – 1.30.07 through until 1.23.58

Mr Thompson thanked everyone for giving himself and his wife time to speak to their submission. He then gave a brief background on the reserve and its history before highlighting the key points:

- the Trust is trying to transfer Mamaku Point Conservation Reserve to a QEII reserve;
- the reserve has running costs of about \$150,000 per year, 1/3 of this is paid for by grants, and 2/3 is paid for via fundraising;
- the main objectives being worked towards are enhancing biodiversity on the reserve, and to use the reserve as a means of environmental education. They have a camp on the reserve that was re-opened in 2017;
- they were planting approximately 1,500 natives in the Lee Bay Creek area;
- the Trust want to do ongoing pest control which includes bait stations and traps within the reserve;
- the Trust wish to improve the septic system and bunk room for school camps;
- Mr Thompson would like to take advantage of some funding through the Jobs for Nature funding that Environment Southland had received to fund a biosecurity ranger to assist with the translocation for tuatara.

Cr Roy enquired what size the committee was and how much local community support did the reserve have. Mr Thompson replied that they are getting more local support and the committee is working hard to grow support.

The Chairman then thanked Mr Thompson for taking the time to present his submission to Council.

**Submitter 12 – Fiordland Marine Guardians – represented by Ms Ali Ballantine and
Ms Rebecca McLeod**

The submission record commences “Morning Session” – 1.23.21 through until 1.17.15

Ms Ballantine introduced herself as a member of the Fiordland Marine Guardians and put in an apology for Rebecca McLeod who was unable to attend.

Ms Ballantine then gave a brief background on the group saying that they were established under the Marine Management Act 2005 to manage integrated management of Fiordland marine area and work with the agencies in an advisory capacity. They are focused on risk identification, mitigation and are future focused.

The Guardians work together with Environment Southland on a wide range of issues and were appreciative of the opportunity to meet with Councils Strategy and Policy Committee in February to discuss their concerns regarding the following matters that needed to be included in this LTP:

- the risk posed by the delay of progressing the review of the Regional Coastal Plan (RCP);
- the increase in applications for new and/or variations to existing Surface Water Activity consents in the Fiordland Marine Area, in an attempt to increase the scale and scope in anticipation of tighter restrictions under the new Coastal Plan.
- the limitations of the current RCP to effectively deal with the cumulative effects and adverse Surface Water Activities on the natural character and natural features and landscapes that will be difficult to resolve;
- the Guardians urged Council to keep up the pace with the Coastal Plan and also to initiate a plan change to the existing plan to help mitigate the issues they had raised;
- the Guardians now have a clear position on provision of written approvals for Resource Consent Applications. They will not provide for any approval for any new Surface Water Activities in the FMA until such time as cumulative effects can be adequately measured and assessed, and the proposed plan change is in place to ensure the values of this unique area are not eroded any further by increased levels of activity.
- to better manage marine biosecurity, it was requested that Council expand the Fiordland Marine Pathways Plan to improve marine biosecurity monitoring and compliance provisions needed to prevent marine pests entering the Fiordland area.
- it was requested that Council consider expanding the Marine Pathways Plan to include areas such as Rakiura;
- to make it easier for vessel operators to comply with the plan an appropriate haul-out facility needed to be developed at Bluff;
- the Guardians were pleased with the written commitment from Chairman Horrell on behalf of Council to hold a Council Workshop in May to discuss these matters raised, and the Guardians look forward to hearing the outcomes of that workshop.

Chairman Horrell enquired if Ms Ballantine would like to see the Pathways Plan extended around New Zealand. Ms Ballantine replied that it would good for it to be New Zealand wide, and that the Guardians had submitted to Otago about including it in their policies.

The Chair then thanked Ms Ballantine for attending and submitting.

Submitter 40 – New River Estuary Forum – represented by Mr Richard Kyte

The submission record commences “Morning Session” – 1.16.42 through until 1.09.28

Mr Kyte introduced himself saying he was there to represent the New River Estuary Forum and took his submission as read. He noted the following key topics from their submission:

- the Forum were pleased that a series of projects were planned in Southland over the next 10 years to help with the estuary’s declining health;

- they were concerned that no thought had gone into the ongoing decline of the New River Estuary, in particular leaching of the old rubbish dump into Pleasure Bay;
- it was felt that funding recently secured by Environment Southland and Invercargill City Council for Stead Street stop bank could be used to create a stop bank and prevent further leaching into the estuary;
- the estuary proximity to the Airport and Te Araroa Trail also made this area the ideal gateway to Southland;
- Pleasure Bay is still popular and Southland needs a water front everyone could be proud of;
- it was felt that the restoration of the estuary needed to be included in the LTP.

Cr Guyton requested ideas and approaches for improving the estuary, and if people other than the New River Forum were involved in the restoration. Mr Kyte advised that Iwi were involved along with about 40 other people in the community. It was felt nutrients that were entering the waterway upstream were being mitigated with the Three Waters project. But unfortunately, this did not address the leachate issue from the old Invercargill refuse site at Pleasure Bay and it was a public health risk with people collecting kai from the area.

No data was available around the leachate, so Public Health South would not close the collecting of kai. The Rowing Club and Iwi were the core groups leading this work but there was also community support. The group had also submitted to the Invercargill City Council LTP.

The Chair then thanked Mr Kyte for his submission on behalf of the New River Estuary Forum.

Submitter 47 – Ms Wendy Baker

The submission record commences “Morning Session” – 1.06.17 through until 53.52

Ms Baker introduced herself and raised the following issues:

- the rates increase options of 20% and 16% were both too significant in her opinion;
- consideration needed to be made for people that haven’t got the income to support this sort of rates increase;
- Ms Baker was running a petition to increase the rates rebate threshold;
- she praised Environment Southland on their level of service, she noted a miscommunication that she had and was impressed that Environment Southland apologised immediately which she felt was very admirable;
- Ms Baker felt more needed to be done around winter grazing, there needed to be more monitoring and more enforcement in her view;
- air testing needed to be completed around the region – not just in Gore and Invercargill;
- small towns also have smoky hazes, including Nightcaps where she lived and felt it needed to be assessed;
- she noted the Express article from SAFE and Asthma New Zealand in regards to Air Quality and that New Zealand had the second highest rate in the world for asthma;

- coal dust contributes greatly to this;
- she presented a container of coal dust that she collected off her car and was having tested by Environment Southland;
- she was passionate about the environment and then read a poem she wrote.

Questions were raised by the Councillors about the residue on her car which she passed around the Councillors.

The question was then raised if the climate change initiatives proposed in the LTP would be sufficient in Ms Baker's opinion. She replied that she still had a lot of concerns and enquired how the Invercargill and Gore air was monitored. Chairman Horrell replied that Environment Southland staff will inform her of the process and thanked her for speaking to her submission.

Submitter 14 – Stewart Island Rakiura Community Environment Trust – represented by Ms Shona Sangster – by Zoom

The submission record commences "Morning Session" – 53.31 through until 44.15

Ms Sangster opened her presentation with a mihi and informed Council that she was speaking on behalf of the Stewart Island Rakiura Community and Environment Trust. She then raised the following key points in her presentation:

- their submission was in regards to the relationship and funding received from Environment Southland in the past;
- previously they had received \$10,000 per annum for biosecurity and \$5,000 per annum for weed control from Environment Southland;
- the Trust thanked Environment Southland for this funding and what it allowed the Trust to achieve around Stewart Island;
- the Trust wished to seek a continued relationship with Environment Southland going forward; and
- the Trust was interested in learning more about the Environmental Enhancement Fund;
- Ms Sangster then gave Council an update on the work that they were progressing within the Trust;
- the Trust had received significant funding through Jobs for Nature grant for the next two years;
- this funding will increase weed and predator control and they hope to remove the Darwins Barberry with this funding;
- Ms Sangster noted that this funding is only for two years, which was not very long and sought further funding beyond the two years to continue the work they were doing;
- she then thanked Environment Southland again for their generosity and assistance and hoped it continued in the future.

Cr McDonald enquired if she felt tourism had put pressures on Stewart Island in regards to pest control. She said that trampers can transfer pest weeds, but they also gave back by sponsoring traps.

Cr Baird enquired about the species of pests they trap. Ms Sangster replied that they trap possums, rats and wild cats. There were no stoats or ferrets luckily.

The question was then raised if the Trust was looking for the current funding to continue or increase. Ms Sangster replied that they would like a continuation of the funding at this stage, but perhaps in coming years they would be seeking an increase in funding. They did not have a figure at the time of the meeting that they would require it to be increased too.

Submitter 34 – Mrs Christie Henderson - by Zoom

The submission record commences “Morning Session” – 43.51 through until 34.01

Mrs Henderson joined the meeting by zoom to speak to her submission. The key highlights from her submission are noted below:

- Mrs Henderson felt that the spiritual values of the Waiau River needed to be restored;
- the Waiau needed to have flow reinstated by putting 400 cumecs back into the flow of the river;
- she felt the Waiau River needed to be assessed prior to any decisions being made about electricity post the Tiwai closure;
- NZTA has been unhelpful with the roads and bridges around Southland;
- South Roads said our region’s roads were so bad we should only be travelling at 80km/hr;
- in regards to climate change Mrs Henderson felt that trains needed to be reinstated to get cars off the road and reduce our carbon foot print;
- in her opinion raising the stop banks at Gore will cause issues for bridges and troubles downstream, and another way of dealing with the issue should be found;
- Mrs Henderson thought it was good that Environment Southland was working with farmers to better improve winter grazing in the region;
- She felt that carbon credits being offered to farmers would be a good incentive to get them to reduce their carbon foot prints;
- in her opinion QEII needed more funding and more assistance to continue with the important work they did.

Following Mrs Henderson’s presentation there were enquiries from Councillors regarding the planting of native plants. Mrs Henderson felt more natives needed to be planted and that it would be well supported if Environment Southland did this.

The Chairman then thanked Mrs Henderson for speaking to her submission.

The meeting was adjourned while the next submitter arrived

Submitter 25 – Invercargill City Council – represented by Ms Claire Hadley

The submission record commences “Morning Session” – 31.28 through until 25.44

Ms Hadley took her submission as read and felt it was important to attend today to show the value she sees in the relationship between Invercargill City Council and Environment Southland, and to solidify that relationship.

The Councillors made enquiries about the Climate Resilience Working group, rates increases, the old city rubbish dump at New River Estuary and the Clean Air Loans which raised brief discussion.

The Chair then noted that Ms Hadley had raised questions in her submission that would need to be discussed outside of the meeting.

Ms Hadley asked that the reason for the increases with the Resource Consent charges be made known, and possibly staggering the increases should they go ahead.

The Chairman then thanked Ms Hadley for attending and speaking to her submission.

Submitter 23 – Southern District Health Board – represented by Ms Renee Cubitt

The submission record commences “Morning Session” – 25.02 through until 14.01

Mr Tom Scott introduced himself as the Team Leader of the Policy and Strategy Team at Public Health South for the Southern District Health Board (SDHB). Ms Renee Cubitt the Health Protection Officer at the SDHB and Professor John Eastward were also in attendance to support Mr Scott. He then spoke to his submission highlighting these key points:

- Mr Scott acknowledged the pressure Environment Southland is under with NPSFW2020;
- the SDHB will continue to work with Environment Southland to help with the processes and are keen to ensure public health is clearly articulated;
- a clear strategy improving the quality of the water in the Oreti River would require up-stream mitigation to help with the public health risks.
- ground water is also an issue in several parts of Southland where nitrate levels occur well in excess of the maximum allowed for drinking water in New Zealand.
- the effective implementation of the NPSFW2020 will hopefully see a reversal of this trend;
- recreational contact with water is also a risk which SDHB collaborate on with Environment Southland;
- it was felt that once the NPSFW2020 was in full effect this will help with the public health risk;
- SDHB support a Southland wide approach to fixing air quality issues in the region;
- SDHB look forward to working with Environment Southland to work on water and air quality.

Cr McCallum queried if a working group should be created between Environment Southland and the Southern District Health Board to help with some of the issues raised in their submission. Mr Scott felt it would be helpful, but it would be difficult to get the right level of engagement in the future.

Submitter 33 – Royal NZ SPCA – represented by Dr Christine Sumner – by Zoom

The submission record commences “Morning Session” – 13.02 through until 00.56

Dr Christine Sumner introduced herself as a Science Officer with the SPCA. She then thanked Council for the opportunity to speak to her submission. Below are the key topics from her submission:

- the SPCA would like Environment Southland to get on board with the “snip and chip” programme they initiated;
- this programme was designed to help with the number of unwanted cats and dogs in New Zealand;
- Dr Sumner believed that this would help with the risks to native wildlife by lowering numbers of unwanted companion animals and help with animal welfare;
- cats and dogs are a very popular companion animal and fixing and microchipping was a big issue due to the cost involved;
- the “snip and chip” programme was popular and could sell out quickly. With this in mind they would like to expand the programme and engage with Local Government to make more spots were available in the community;
- Dr Sumner also suggested target areas to run this programme, looking at areas that strays are brought in from the most and try to get more people to “snip and chip” in problem areas.

Cr Baird asked how successful the SPCA had been with getting other Councils on board. Dr Sumner responded that they were in the early stages of the campaign to Councils.

Cr Ludlow wondered if they have interaction with other pest animal organisations, particularly around cats. She noted that Council did not want to fund the same work twice through supporting another organisation for the same programme. Dr Sumner replied that the SPCA did not work with any pest agencies in Southland.

Cr McCallum asked if enough was being done to prevent people dumping companion animals, especially over the Christmas break. Dr Sumner agreed that more work needed to be done in that space.

Chairman Horrell then thanked Dr Sumner for submitting on the LTP.

Submitter 45 – Mr Roger Hodgkinson

Mr Hodgkinson was unavailable on the day to speak to his submission and would discuss his submission with Council at a later date.

Luncheon adjournment was taken from 12.20 pm through until 1.30 pm.

Submitter 36 – Forest and Bird – represented by Mr Rick Zwaan by Zoom

The recording commences “Afternoon Session” – 1.19.58 through to 1.07.40

Mr Rick Zwaan introduced himself as the Regional Conservation Manager for Forest and Bird covering the Otago and Southland region. The key topics from his presentation are listed below:

- Forest and Bird were broadly positive about the LTP which Environment Southland had proposed. He noted that they were content with the amount being spent on Water and Land and the water plan aligning with the NPS;

- they felt there would need to be an increase in investment in this area to further improve the water quality;
- it was pleasing to Forest and Bird to see Climate Resilience was being planned for in the future;
- Mr Zwann wondered if focusing on stop banks would be as constructive as restoring riparian planting and wetlands, which would also help with better climate resiliency;
- he noted that Council could contribute to lowering emissions by including more electric vehicles in the fleet and that more public transport would also be advantageous;
- Forest and Bird wanted to see protection for existing forests become more of a priority than it currently is;
- grazing predators in our existing forests needed addressed, not only possums, rats and stoats. Deer and goats also affect the fauna which in turn affects the birds;
- Forest and Bird support the rates increase option one and felt more work needed done in the climate resilience area and restoring rivers to their natural state;
- Mr Zwann also encouraged more funding being put towards compliance and monitoring in the future.

No questions arose from this submission.

Submitter 48 – Federated Farmers Southland – represented by Mr Chris Dillon and Mr David Rose

The recording commences “Afternoon Session” – 1.07.15 through to 51.00

Mr Dillon introduced himself as the Provincial President of Federated Farmers, he also had Mr David Rose attend as a Life Member of Federated Farmers. The following was noted from their presentation:

- Mr Dillon noted that there was daunting information in the LTP from a Federated Farmers point of view;
- He noted the overarching challenge with the rates increase and that there was a lack of supporting information in the LTP Consultation Document;
- Federated Farmers felt that the LTP was hard to understand and a lot of people did not understand it;
- they did not support either of the rates increase options;
- Mr Dillon said that Federated Farmers felt that Council should reduce the levels of service due to the lack of cruise ship income;
- the Shovel Ready projects should not be paid for by the rate payers, it should be paid for by a loan and the debt spread out through the life of the assets, not through rates increases;
- consultation meetings were not well advertised and were hard to find information on and attend;
- the rates increases were not consistent with what was being proposed in the budget documents provided;
- Federated Farmers felt that consultation had failed. The Consultation Document was terrible and did not provide information to the public;
- Mr Dillon highlighted Environment Canterbury’s Consultation Document as being much more informative;

- Environment Canterbury had also asked for large rate increases of 18% and 24% and ended up with a 12% increase in rates;
- he requested information about how the 30% rates increase is made up as they were not quantified;
- Federated Farmers noted that there was a lot of uncertainty in the farming community at the moment.

Cr McPhail asked what rate increase Federated Farmers representatives felt was appropriate, given they did not support either a 20% or 16% increase, and was advised that they did not have a figure in mind. Mr Rose felt it should be up to the ratepayers not a consultant.

The Chairman thanked Mr Rose and Mr Dillon for speaking to the Federated Farmers submission.

Submitter 38 – Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee – represented by David Rose

The recording commences “Afternoon Session” – 50.50 through to 41.10

Mr David Rose spoke on behalf of Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee’s submission. He noted the following from their submission:

- it was positive to see work being done to mitigate flooding due to climate change and felt the work being done was great;
- Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee didn’t feel that the local share for the funding for the pumps at Lake Hawkins should be paid by the Oreti Catchment rate payers;
- all Southlanders should contribute to this, as all Southlanders benefit from having an Airport;
- the River Liaison Committees also felt that Lease Reserves should not be used for Shovel Ready projects.

Cr Ludlow enquired what the long-term plan should be in the River Liaison Committees’ opinion, to fund the Shovel Ready projects. Mr Rose informed the Councillors that they had drafted some guidelines and had delivered these to Cr McPhail who could distribute them to all.

The Chairman thanked Mr Rose for speaking to the Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee’s submission.

Meeting adjourned at 2.11 for afternoon tea

Whiteboard Session

The meeting resumed at 2.26pm

The Chair resumed the meeting and asked about what further information Councillors wished to be provided with to allow them to deliberate.

Direction/Issues that are to be discussed further:

- the percentage of rates for rural and urban – ICC and Federated Farmers figures did not align. Discussing the general rate rather than the overall rate.
- the need to dispel thinking that Councillors has not considered rates increase enough – there were a number of workshops and the information is available;
- working together came through strongly and community resilience;
- clarification around who holds lease reserves;
- UAGC – can we use this more? Is there still scope to do this?
- Bluff haul out facility – where are we at with that? Who is managing that?
- technology spend – can we break this down/comment on relevance to farming community;
- cost of in-kind support for Food Collective? Where do we source funding?
- info on grant process – EEF. What is the expectation of EEF people? What have they been getting from us.
- testing around New River Estuary and landfill;
- Re FMG submission, is our current plan tough enough to be able to decline applications for activities?
- we need a rates increase explanation;
- commentary on charges not clear in ICC response;
- can we comment on Forest and Bird's point around focus in climate change space being too much on short-term solutions rather than long-term (adaption vs mitigation);
- Federated Farmers submission included two solutions – shovel ready and coastal activities – we need to look at this.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3.04 pm.