

**Minutes of the Aparima Catchment Liaison Committee  
Annual General Meeting, held at SDC Council & District  
Library, 176 Main Street, Otautau  
Friday, 24 February 2023, at 9.30 am.**

---



<b>Present:</b>	Mr G McGregor	(Chair)
	Mr A Brown	
	Mr E Mathieson	
	Mr G Saunders	
	Mr H Boyd	
	Mr G Kidd	
	Mr J Ingram	
	Ms L Shaw	
	Mr E Mabonga	
	Mr L Baird	
	Mr C Lawry	
	Mr D Fraser	
	Mr A De Wolde	
	Mr M Beattie	
<b>In Attendance:</b>	Ms R Halder	(Thriving Southland)
	Ms B Aitken	(Thriving Southland)
	Cr P McDonald	(Environment Southland)
	Cr L Ludlow	(Environment Southland)
	Cr P Evans	(Environment Southland)
	Mr R Beal	(Environment Southland)
	Mr D Connor	(Environment Southland)
	Mr C King	(Environment Southland)
	Miss S Gray	(Environment Southland)
	Ms E Lawton	(Environment Southland)
	Ms N Bulling	(Environment Southland)
	Ms J Lloyd	(Environment Southland)
	Mrs M Wass	(Personal Assistant – Minutes)
	Ms M Geldenhuys	(Personal Assistant)

**1 Welcome and Chairman's Report (*Haere mai*)**

The Chairman welcomed all attending the meeting. Mr G McGregor read his Chairman's report, a copy of which has been retained on file (A885466).

## 2 Apologies (*Nga Pa Pouri*)

**Resolved:**

Moved Mr G McGregor, seconded Mr J Ingram, that apologies were recorded on behalf of Mr Z Moss (Fish and Game), Mr J McKenzie, Mr H Ryan, Mr F Drummond, Mr W Egan, Mr J Hayward, Mr A Simpson, Mr P Turner, Mr J White, Mr S Wills and Mr D Wohlers.

Carried

## 3 Terms of Reference

No comments were made on the terms of reference.

## 4 Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting of 24 May 2022

**Resolved:**

Moved Mr G McGregor, seconded Mr M Beattie, that the minutes of the Aparima Catchment Liaison Committee Annual General Meeting held on 24 May 2022 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Carried

## 5 Matters Arising

No matters arising.

## 6 Appointment of Committee and membership

At this time Mr Connor assumed the chair and called for nominations for the Chairman of the Aparima Catchment Liaison Committee.

**Resolved:**

Moved Mr P Taylor, seconded Mr M Beattie, that Mr Grant McGregor be elected to the position of Chairman of the Aparima Catchment Liaison Committee.

Carried

Mr McGregor assumed the Chair.

**Resolved:**

Moved Mr G McGregor, seconded Mr M Beattie that those present, together with all those who had lodged apologies for the meeting, and those on the mailing list, should constitute the members of the Aparima Catchment Liaison Committee.

Carried

## 7 Catchment and Financial Report – 2022/23 and proposed 2023/24

Mr Connor provided a detailed presentation (which would be retained of file) that included the 2022/23 and 2023/24 work maintenance programmes and the financial report. He highlighted the following:

- the Linz spraying areas and hectares covered;
- the replacement of the second woodstave culvert during the 22/23 period and the replacement of the third culvert during the upcoming 23/24 period;
- stopbank defects and the priority system;
- willow layering in Avondale and Otautau stream willow removal
- Anderson beach channel debris removal and rock work;
- Vegetation spraying, concentrating on vegetation build up and re-growth.

It was noted that due to rising contractor (10-13%) and product prices (40%), despite a proposed rate increase of 6% this would not be sufficient to keep up with the work required.

Ms Lloyd gave a brief overview of the budgets to date and explained the correlation between asset valuations and increasing insurance costs.

### ***Resolved:***

**Moved Mr C Lawry, seconded Mr A De Wolde that the 2023/24 works budget for the Aparima Catchment Liaison Committee be approved and the catchment operations rate be increased by 6%.**

**Carried**

### **Potential Bylaw Changes**

Mr Connor explained the potential bylaw changes and clarified the following:

- removal of vegetation and lower stock numbers on the banks would allow for re-fencing of the stop bank to further protect the structural integrity;
- all land owners should consider a stop bank plan when coming into wintering. This could include grazing options and ideas for better practice;
- informational flyers had been beneficial to some landowners and staff would continue to improve communication methods.

Mr Beal presented on the future 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 events. It was noted that it would be an 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 was noted:

- there is a need to invest in data for medium and long-term solutions;
- managed retreat, adapting the land for 'living with a flood' and better evacuation zones would be good starting points for future proofing.

## 8 Catchment Report

Ms Lawton explained the Catchment Integration Teams role and gave a detailed presentation that included their key projects (Crack Willow Project on the Pourakino, Baleage Wrap Recycling and MfE Freshwater Farm Plan Pilot). She also introduced Nicola Bulling as the key liaison person for the Aparima catchment.

## 8 General

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

A presentation was available on this, if interested contact the Catchment Integration Team.

### **Other Business**

It was noted that a large area was being missed during gorse spraying in the Hamilton burn and McKenzie covenant. Gorse had been spreading to neighbouring areas and attempts to maintain had come at significant cost with little to no progress being made. Staff advised they would look into the matter.

Concerns were raised over an influx of Canadian geese in the upper Aparima as well as near Lake George. They had been destructive to water ways and vegetation and Staff advised they would discuss the matter with the Biosecurity Team. It was also noted that the catchment groups who were having similar issues could come together and form a petition to Environment Southland that could be included in the Long Term Plan.

### **Thriving Southland**

Ms Rachael Halder spoke to the committee and explained the role of Thriving Southland throughout the multiple catchment groups within the Aparima FMU. She noted that if land owners had any projects in mind, they could contact Thriving Southland for assistance and possible funding.

## 9 Termination

As there was no further business, the meeting was closed at 11:55 am.