

Environmental Implementation Committee MINUTES

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Environmental Implementation Committee held in the Council Chamber, Level 2 Philip Laing House, 144 Rattray Street, Dunedin on Wednesday 8 May 2024, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

YouTube Link Here

PRESENT

Cr Bryan Scott

(Chairperson)

Cr Kate Wilson

Cr Alexa Forbes

Cr Gary Kelliher

Cr Michael Laws

Cr Kevin Malcolm

Cr Lloyd McCall

Cr Tim Mepham

Cr Andrew Noone

Cr Gretchen Robertson

Cr Alan Somerville

Cr Elliot Weir

1. WELCOME

Chair Bryan Scott welcomed Councillors, members of the public and staff to the meeting at 9:00 am with a karakia. Staff present included Richard Saunders (Chief Executive), Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services) online, Anita Dawe (GM Policy and Science), Gavin Palmer (GM Operations), Joanna Gilroy (Acting GM Regulatory), Amanda Vercoe (GM Governance, Culture and Customer), Kylie Darragh (Governance Support), Libby Caldwell (Manager Environmental Implementation).

2. APOLOGIES

Resolution: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Weir Seconded:

That the apologies for Cr Noone for lateness be accepted.

MOTION CARRIED

3. PUBLIC FORUM

No requests to Public Forum were received.

4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The agenda was confirmed as published.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Chairperson Scott noted that he would stand aside for the Eco Fund matter.

Cr Mepham indicated he was a trustee of an unsuccessful applicant and was asked to manage his conflict appropriately by the Chair.

6. PRESENTATIONS

No presentations were held.

7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolution: Cr Scott Moved, Cr Wilson Seconded

That the minutes of the Environmental Implementation Committee meeting held on 8 February 2024 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

MOTION CARRIED

8. OPEN ACTIONS FROM RESOLUTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

The open actions from the Resolutions of the Committee were reviewed.

9. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

Cr Scott left the meeting at 9:10 am due to declaring a potential conflict, Cr Wilson chaired 9.1 Eco Fund Application Recommendations.

Cr Noone joined the meeting at 9:14am

9.1. Eco Fund Application Recommendations (YouTube 12:00:00)

This paper sought endorsement of the recommended applications for ECO Fund and Incentives Funding for the March 2024 round, as well as the recommended funding to targeted groups under the Terrestrial Site-Led programme fund. Elodie Letendre (Environmental Initiatives Funding Co-Ordinator) Anna Molloy (Principal Advisor Environmental Implementation), Libby Caldwell (Manager Environmental Implementation), and Gavin Palmer (General Manager Operations) were available to respond to questions.

Resolution EIC24-105: Cr Somerville Moved, Cr Wilson Seconded

That the Environmental Implementation Committee recommends that Council:

- 1. **Approves** the funding recommendations of the ECO Fund Assessment Panel for the March 2024 round to a total value of \$854,733.92, as outlined in tables 2 to 7.
- 2. **Approves** the funding recommendation of the direct funding to support community groups undertaking pest management work within the Terrestrial Site-Led Programme areas as outlined in Table 8.
- 3. **Notes** that a review of ECO Fund and associated incentives will be completed by October 2024 in time for the next funding round and to reflect priorities in the Long-Term Plan 2024-34.
- 4. **Thanks,** and acknowledges the community groups for their applications and time involved.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Scott returned to the meeting at 9:31 am.

9.2. Integrated Catchment Management (YouTube 35:08:00)

This report provided an update on the Integrated Catchment Management (ICM) Programme. Anna Molloy (Principal Advisor Environmental Implementation), Libby Caldwell (Manager, Environmental Implementation), and Gavin Palmer (General Manager Operations) were available to respond to questions. Ms Molloy noted to the Committee that since this paper was written the Catlins Integrated Catchment Group has held its third workshop looking at goals around values and enhancement strategies, drafting the Catchment Action Plan (CAP) and working on an online hub so that the wider community can contribute, a media release will be out on this in 2-3 weeks. There will be a community drop in session for the wider community as the CAP moves towards being final. The meeting last week, addressed the creation of an Upper Lakes ICG, they are waiting for a rūnaka representative to be nominated, there is a hui planned for this process in the next few weeks. There was an opportunity for questions from Councillors. There was amendment to the recommendation.

Resolution EIC24-106: Cr Malcolm Moved, Cr Laws Seconded

That the Environmental Implementation Committee:

- Notes this report.
- Recommends to Council to endorse the boundary for the Upper Lakes Catchment Action Plan (CAP) being adjusted to best reflect the community of interest and to better enable integrated management. Any adjustment shall be reported to and approved by Council.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Forbes voted against this item.

Cr Kelliher left the meeting at 10:32 am. Cr Kelliher returned to the meeting at 10:34 am.

9.3. Marine Biosecurity (YouTube 1:05:40)

Sarah Irvine (Team Leader – Environmental Implementation Project Delivery), Duncan Campbell (Biosecurity Specialist – Marine and Freshwater), Libby Caldwell (Manager – Environmental Implementation) and Gavin Palmer (General Manager, Operations), were available to respond to questions. Mr Campbell showed the Committee a slideshow update on Otago's marine biosecurity programmes including the spread of invasive species and ORC responsibilities under the Biosecurity Act (1993). Alongside Kai Tahu and key marine stakeholders such as other regional councils and NIWA, collaboration is planned on a proposed marine biosecurity programme pathway.

Resolution EIC24-107: Cr Robertson Moved, Cr Weir Seconded

That the Environmental Implementation Committee:

1. **Notes** this report

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned for a ten minute break at 10:45 am.

Meeting resumed 10:55am.

Cr Forbes left the meeting at 10:56 am.

Cr Noone left the meeting at 10:57 am.

Cr Forbes returned to the meeting at 10:57 am.

Cr Noone returned to the meeting at 10:58 am.

Cr Laws returned to the meeting at 11:26 am.

9.4. Freshwater Improvement Projects Update (YouTube 2:00:45)

Libby Caldwell (Manager Environmental Implementation), Melanie White (Project Delivery Specialist – Jobs for Nature), Sarah Irvine (Team Leader Projects), Jennifer Lawn (Project Delivery Specialist Regional Programme), and Gavin Palmer (General Manger Operations) were available to respond to questions on the report. This large report was reviewed in sections, for the Waiwhakaata, Lake Hayes Strategy Group, Chair Jana Davis spoke to the Committee on the benefits between the community and stakeholder partnerships and nature. Ministry for the Environment funding and Lagarosiphon management were also discussed.

Resolution EIC24-108: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Forbes Seconded

That the Environmental Implementation Committee:

- 1. **Notes** this report.
- 2. **Notes** the progress of implementation activities that are occurring on the water quality projects delivered by ORC, partners and the community as detailed in this report.
- 3. **Recommends to Council to endorse** the implementation plans for Tomahawk Lagoon and Lake Tuakitoto (Appendix 1 and Appendix 3).
- 4. **Notes** the Cultural Values Statement Waiwhakaata (Appendix 6) and the Ngāi Tahu ki Murihiku Environmental Statement of Expectation Waiwhakaata/Lake Hayes (Appendix 7)
- 5. **Notes** that the Toitū Te Hakapupu project is in its last year of delivery to successfully deliver on all the objectives of the MfE funding deed.
- 6. **Notes** the progress made on the site led programme for Lagarosiphon. **MOTION CARRIED**

It was moved by Cr Malcolm, seconded Cr Kelliher:

That the last two papers of the agenda lay on the table, 9.6 Regional Pest Management Plan, 9.7 Biosecurity Compliance and Enforcement Policy.

MOTION CARRIED

9.5. Wallaby Programme Update and Recommendations (YouTube 3:01:32)

The Committee was shown a video on the extent of boundary growth for the Wallaby population since 1874 in southern Canterbury and Otago. Gavin Udy (Project Delivery Specialist - National Programmes) was online, and Libby Caldwell (Manager Environmental Implementation) and Gavin Palmer (General Manager, Operations) were present to respond to questions. Cr Malcolm gave an update as Chair of the Otago Region Wallaby Eradication Group regarding the logistical challenges and costs of removing this pest. Cr Kelliher also added that pet wallabies being released are also an ongoing cost issue.

Resolution EIC24-109: Cr Weir Moved, Cr Somerville Seconded

That the Environmental Implementation Committee:

1. **Notes** this report **MOTION CARRIED**

12. CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 11:57am.

Chairperson

08.08.2024

Date