

Hearing notes by Roger Mclenaghan.

Thank you for the opportunity to present at this hearing, I think you have a difficult decision to make.

A bit about me:

- I have been a Lincoln resident for almost 50 years and have always lived in Selwyn. Before moving to Lincoln I lived on a cropping farm in Killinchy on Wakanui soils.
- I strongly believe in being part of a community and consider that the council should work for the people of the community to create a good living environment.
- Currently it seems that the council is only working for the developers and there is a lack of town planning, which means that some developments are a disgrace.

In my submission, I raised concerns over the loss of productive land.

I have read the evidence presented by Katherine McCusker and I disagree on a number of points.

- In section 11 and also in the appendix she indicates that the Wakanui soils are mottled. What she fails to recognise is that the mottles are a legacy of the past soil forming factors that occurred in the previous 10,000 to 3,000 years. This area of land was waterlogged due to the high lake level, but since European settlement the lake has been lowered and a drainage network installed. This makes the Wakanui soil highly versatile and some of the best cropping soils in Canterbury, as indicated in the report by Professor Keith Cameron.
- I note that one of the paddocks on Greenslade's property that is mapped as Wakanui has been planted in maize. Maize seed requires warm conditions (>10 °C) to germinate. If the soil was waterlogged the soil would be colder and the maize seed would fail to germinate.
- Katherine McCusker also indicates in Table 1 of the appendix that the Wakanui soil is a Pallic soil with a dense subsurface horizon. This is true for Pallic soils, but both the Wakanui and Templeton soils are classified as Immature Pallic soils. There is no dense subsurface horizon such as the Fragipan that occurs in Pallic soils.
- She also comments that the Wakanui soils are summer dry and winter wet. Almost all soils on the east coast of both the North Island and South Island are summer dry, winter wet.
- The Flaxton soils, although less well drained, are still highly productive when drained as they are silt loam in the top 40 cm over clay. This silt loam and the depth of the soil makes them valuable for cropping. I note that Lance Roper's vegetable cropping farm around the corner on Collins road is Flaxton soils.
- Saying that the Wakanui and Flaxton soils are not suitable is like saying to the market gardeners in marshland that their soil is unsuitable for growing vegetables. Marshland was a swamp, but when drained it is extremely good for market gardening.