



**District Plan Committee meeting
Held on Wednesday 19 February 2020 at 1.00pm
at Selwyn District Council,
Rolleston**

Present: Mayor S Broughton, Councillors M Alexander, M Lemon, D Hasson, B Mugford, G Miller, M Lyall, J Gallagher, S Epiha, S McInnes, Mr C Pauling (Environment Canterbury), Mr H Matunga (Te Taumutu Rūnanga) and Mr T Harris (Chair – Group Manager Environmental and Regulatory Services).

In attendance: Messrs J Burgess (Planning Manager), B Rhodes (Strategy & Policy Team Leader), S Hill (Business Relationship Manager), R Love (Strategy and Policy Planner), A Mactier (Strategy and Policy Planner), Greg White (Consultant, DHI), (Nick Griffiths, Callum Margetts, and Justin Cope of Environment Canterbury), Mesdames J Ashley (Project Lead), J Lewes (Strategy and Policy Planner), J Tuilaepa (Senior Strategy and Policy Planner), R Carruthers (Strategy and Policy Planner), V Barker (Planning Consultant), K Johnston (Communications Consultant) and T Van der Velde (District Plan Administrator).

Standing Items:

1. Apologies

Apologies received from Tania Wati (Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga) and Councillors Nicole Reid and Jeff Bland for absence.

Moved – Mayor Broughton / **Seconded** – Councillor Alexander

‘That the apologies from Committee members Tania Wati (Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga), and Councillors Nicole Reid and Jeff Bland for absence are received for information.’

CARRIED

2. Declaration of Interest

None

3. Deputations by Appointment

None

4. Outstanding Issues Register

None

5. Confirmation of Minutes

None

6. Update on draft Proposed District Plan programme

It is the focus of this year's District Plan Committee (DPC) meetings to address outstanding workstreams, report back on pre notification consultation and preparation for the formal notification process. The update report highlights some of the key changes to provisions since the last DPC workshop, a summary of Rūnanga advisory group feedback and priorities of the project team for the next six weeks.

Discussion was held around key changes particularly those to the Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity Chapter.

Councillor Lemon discussed the process of the Biodiversity working group which he chaired. This was a collaborative process where decisions were reached. Councillor Lemon indicated changes outside of the Biodiversity Group can put a strain on integrity of group and decisions made by the group.

Mr Mactier advised that after consultation and consideration from stakeholders particularly Rūnanga it was considered that changes were relatively minor.

It was clarified there was some Rūnanga representation during stages of the Biodiversity Working Group.

A Committee member acknowledged the Biodiversity working group's hard work and commented on Council's relationship with Rūnanga and the requirement to address Rūnanga feedback as well as noting the timings of when this feedback was received. There are two processes combined where it is expected there will be some critique.

The Chair questioned if Council could feed changes back to the Biodiversity group.

It was agreed as a first step that Mr Mactier and Councillor Lemon will work together to revisit some of the provisions.

It was agreed that the second recommendation of the report:

"That the Committee notes the recommended changes to draft provisions (in Appendix 2) since they were last presented to DPC at the Chapter/Topic Workshop, subject to any further amendments agreed by DPC."

Be included in the District Plan Committee's outstanding issues register.

Moved (as amended) – Mayor Broughton / Seconded – Councillor Lyall
Recommendation

“That the Committee notes the report.”

CARRIED

7. Communication Strategy for formal public consultation - Presentation

The Project Team is planning communications for the notification stage which is expected to start in May 2020. The consultation will last eight weeks (40 working days) which is the minimum time required under legislation, Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act.

Further communication will go out once submissions are received, summarised and further submissions requested.

The Project Team are expecting the new District Plan to be in place by mid-2022, subject to any Environment Court appeals.

Communication to go out for notification will provide the public with an understanding of key proposed changes, which means we want to proactively highlight changes that based on the engagement to date, will likely be of most interest. Council hope to hear feedback from a cross section audience.

The communications strategy will focus on engaging those that usually do not engage with the Council on planning matters. As a result Councils campaign theme is ‘Because it matters’ - this will focus on explaining why the District Plan matters and provide concrete examples of what the District Plan does. This will be communicated through various methods.

A Committee member suggested that before the plan is notified Council may look into holding a series of workshops to upskill and educate the public on the Resource Management Act and how to make a submission during a consultation. In addition the same Committee member advised to have targeted consultations with township committees and residents associations.

The Chair advised this is something the Project Team can look into.

Discussion was held over making the proposed plan and submission form easily accessible and an easy process, so more people are likely to hold interest and be engaged.

It was clarified that the team are somewhat restricted by requirements of Schedule 1 of the RMA for questions on submission form but are looking at different platforms to make sure it's user friendly and can be accessed from different devices.

Discussion was held around receiving advice for those Councillors who will be on the Hearings Panel as Commissioners in regards to their level of public engagement during the consultation on the Proposed District Plan.

The Chair will seek formal advice and will bring this back to the Committee. In the meantime it was advised for panel members to take a conservative approach.

Moved – Councillor Mugford / **Seconded** – Councillor McInnes

Recommendation

“That the Committee notes the presentation.”

CARRIED

8. West Melton Rifle Range – Update report

The Council is progressing the option of requiring new noise sensitive activities within an identified outer noise contour to be insulated for noise. This approach was endorsed by District Plan Committee (DPC) in June 2019.

When Council consulted with landowners about this approach last year the outer contour was based on a 2013 noise study provided by New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF). It was made clear that the noise contour was preliminary and that it would be reviewed and NZDF were to commission an updated noise report. An updated noise report was received from NZDF on 14 January this year. This report was expected around September/October last year therefore it has been delayed.

A key change in operations since the 2013 noise report is that NZDF now use a Barrett sniper rifle which has impacted the noise modelling. As a result there has been an extension to the outer noise contour.

To determine the number of additional affected properties, Council's GIS team produced the map in Appendix 2 of the report which shows the preliminary outer noise contour in green and the new contour in yellow. There are 33 additional potentially affected properties shown within the yellow contour.

‘Cr Lemon out 1.50pm’

Council has engaged Acoustic Engineering Services (AES) to peer review the updated noise report. AES have requested further information from NZDF's noise consultants to complete their review. This further information has not yet been received and is necessary to determine the noise levels on which the contours are based, and the extent of the contours.

A key preliminary message is that there may be fewer or more properties affected once the peer review is complete as the contour line has not yet been substantiated. Therefore the additional property owners affected has not been confirmed.

Last year in August Council indicated it would communicate with landowners once the updated report had been peer reviewed. As this is not completed the project team are proposing to communicate with select land owners who are well connected to the community and who we have communicated with directly in the past. Communications will advise of this DPC report and the noise report and the fact it is subject to peer review and the overall timing has been delayed. Once peer review is complete all affected landowners will be updated.

If the peer review is not complete by Mid-March, Council will still communicate with affected land owners, but the messaging will be more around the delay and the reasons for it and advising them of the opportunity to participate in the submission process.

A Committee member raised concerns about only contacting a selective group of landowners as there may be perception Council are favouring landowners. The same Committee member suggested the West Melton District Residents Association group be included in the mail out.

It was clarified as an interim step contact will be made with parties that were really involved with the last consultation, these are key landowners who rallied the community and who kept communication open with other landowners.

‘Cr Lemon in 1.52pm’

If there are delays with the peer review and the new proposed contours are not substantiated, Council intends to use the preliminary contours and their extent will need to be determined through the submission process.

The Chair suggested Council take a precautionary approach covering a wider area in case contour line increases, tailoring communication to suit.

It was agreed that there be no contact with select parties as an interim step and that instead all identified land owners would be contacted once the peer review is complete or if not complete by mid-March that all identified land owners be contacted in any case and advised about the delay and submission process.

Moved (as amended) – Councillor Alexander / Seconded – Councillor Lemon

Recommendation

“That the Committee notes the report.”

“The Committee notes that:

- i. an updated noise report has been received from NZDF and is currently subject to peer review which is yet to be completed. The extent of the proposed outer noise contour has increased, and the noise contour levels and extent of the outer noise contour may change further subject to peer review; and***
- ii. direct communications with ~~select~~ identified land owners will be initiated to provide an update about the revised noise report being available on the Council’s website and next steps; and***
- iii. the timing of the written communications to all affected landowners will follow the completion of the peer review and the extent of the noise contours being confirmed by Council, assuming this information is available by mid-March ahead of notification of the Proposed Plan. If not available by mid-March, communications will be sent advising of the delay and that participation will need to occur via the submission process following notification.”***

CARRIED

9. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

Moved – Councillor Miller / **Seconded** – Councillor Hasson

Recommendation

Recommended:

1. *That the public be excluded from the following proceedings of this meeting. The general subject matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason of passing this resolution in relation to the matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:*

General subject of each matter to be considered		Reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution	Date report can be released
1. Natural Hazards - Flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preferred Option Report• Communications and Engagement Summary Plan	<i>Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7</i>	<i>Section 48(1)(a)</i>	Date of commencement of landowner engagement
2. Natural Hazards-Report on Draft Flooding provisions				Date of commencement of landowner engagement
3. Natural Hazards – Coastal Hazards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preferred Option Report• Updated Communications and Engagement Summary Plan			Date of commencement of landowner engagement
4. Natural Hazards-Report on Draft Coastal Hazards provisions				Date of commencement of landowner engagement

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests

protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act or Section 6 or Section 7 or Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

1-4	Maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through: (i) the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or offices or employees of any local authority, or any persons to whom section (5) applies, in the course of their duty; (ii) The protection of such members, officers, employees and persons from improper pressure or harassment.	Section 7(2)(f)
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2. *That appropriate officers remain to provide advice to the Committee.*

The meeting moved to a Public Excluded meeting at 2.05pm

DATED this 04 day of March 2020

The Chair Group Manager Environmental and Regulatory Services
Tim Harris



Signature: