

MINUTES
OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE
WATER RACE SUB-COMMITTEE
EXECUTIVE MEETING ROOM
ON MONDAY 11 DECEMBER 2017 – 1.30pm

Committee Members in Attendance

1. Cr Pat McEvedy
2. Cr Craig Watson (Selwyn Central)
3. Harry Schat (Ellesmere)
4. John Clarkson (Malvern)
5. John Shanks (Paparua)
6. Martin Le Comte (Paparua Water Race Irrigation User Group)
7. Mike Mora (Christchurch City Council - representing Waimairi and Wigram Wards)
8. Kerry Pauling (Malvern Community Board representative)

In Attendance

9. Murray England, Strategic Manager Water Services
10. Daniel Meehan, Surface Water Operations Engineer
11. Maree Pycroft, Secretary
12. Creagh Robinson, Accountant
13. Cr Murray Lemon
14. Cr Debra Hasson
15. Mayor Sam Broughton

1. APOLOGIES

Mike Chaffey (Ellesmere)
Nigel Barnett (Chairman)
Clayton Fairbairn
Jo Carlton, Christchurch City Council
Tim Morris (Paparua)

Moved – Mike Mora / Seconded – Craig Watson

“That the apologies be noted.”

CARRIED

2. PUBLIC FORUM

Gareth Cox and Peter Redfern addressed the meeting on behalf of Riverbank Farming Ltd, proposing two water races be redirected in preparation for installing irrigation next season from Central Plains Water.

With a reticulated system, Riverbank Farming does not need the water races but they are agreeable to fund the redirection of two races that travel through their property to accommodate the installation of pivots and maintain water to Mr E Kars neighbouring property.

Riverbank Farming propose redirecting two water races as outlined in the diagram below:



Daniel Meehan to investigate if the proposals constitute as a closure or redirection and report back to the Sub Committee. The Sub Committee agreed the changes subject to the investigation which the Sub Committee stipulated must be either as good or an enhancement to the service for the down-stream ratepayer.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved – Mike Mora / Seconded – Craig Watson

“That the Selwyn District Council Water Race Sub-Committee confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday, 9 October 2017 as a true and accurate record subject to Kerry Pauling and Martin Le Comte being recorded as an apology.”

CARRIED

Moved – Harry Schat / Seconded – John Shanks

“That the Selwyn District Council Water Race Sub-Committee confirm the minutes of the Public Excluded Meeting held on Monday, 9 October 2017 as a true and accurate record subject to Kerry Pauling and Martin Le Comte being recorded as an apology.”

CARRIED

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Riverbank Farming Ltd and Peter Abrahamson, Elmhurst Road re-directing of the water race was noted and addressed in the Public Forum.

5. MATTERS ARISING

5.1 Hawkins Water Race Closure

The Hawkins Water Race has been diverted around the boundary of the farm in such a way as to allow continued flow to downstream water race users. This allows the immediate use of new pivots. CPW are preparing a cost estimate to provide piped water to the downstream land owners, this will allow the Hawkins race to be potentially closed sometime in the future.

5.2 Synlait Tree Removal

(Daniel Meehan, Memo from Surface Water Operations Engineer)

The outcome was noted.

5.3 Yaldhurst Village Development - Storm Water Discharge Sub Division – CCC

This matter is ongoing.

5.4 Central Plains Water Direct Deed – Sheffield Water Co-operation Agreement

The direct deed will be presented to Council on the 13 December 2017 for approval.

6. FINANCIAL

6.1 Finance Report to 31 October 2017

Concern was expressed about the decreasing reserve balance and future deficit.

It was agreed, for the Malvern irrigators, to charge 50% of the year's irrigation for those moving to CPW water in December.

The Sub Committee asked that the "Dawsons Road Water Race Upgrade" line in the Revenue Summary be removed.

Moved – Craig Watson / Seconded – Kerry Pauling

"That the financial report to 31 October 2017 be received for information"

CARRIED

6.2 Items of Unplanned Expenditure over \$5,000

(Daniel Meehan, Surface Water Operations Engineer)

Noted

Moved – Craig Watson / Seconded – Mike Chaffey

"That the Water Race Sub-Committee receives the Unplanned Expenditure Report"

CARRIED

7. WATER SERVICES REPORT

7.1 Proposed Water Race Closures to Proceed to Public Consultation

(Daniel Meehan, Report from Surface Water Operations Engineer)

Staff sought approval from the Sub-Committee to an extension to proceed to public consultation for the proposed closure of 2.9km of race through 2 property/owners on Feredays / Main Rakaia Road. This closure is immediately upstream of previously approved Lill Closure, approved in November 2016. This closure is yet to proceed as it is awaiting a fish salvage.

Based on the assessment, as outlined in the report, staff recommended that the proposed closures are considered of **low significance**. The level of significance impacts the degree of consultation undertaken on the engagement spectrum. Council takes a conservative approach to consultation.

Moved Craig Watson / Seconded Harry Schat

That the Sub-Committee:

- a) Agree to proceed to public consultation for the proposed closure of 1 length of water race totalling approximately 2.9km in the Ellesmere water race scheme.*
- b) Advise the Council that the proposed closures are considered to be of low significance not impacting the intended level of service provision for the water races.*
- c) Consider any submissions to the proposed closures raised during public consultation, and provide an opportunity to those persons wishing to be heard.*
- d) Recommend race closures to Council following the consultative process.*

CARRIED

7.2 Proposed Water Race Closures Approval – Post Public Consultation

(Daniel Meehan, Report from Surface Water Operations Engineer)

Staff sought a recommendation from the Sub Committee for the following proposed closures that were approved for public consultation at the sub-committee meeting in June 2017:

Ellesmere

- 1. Closure of 3.6km of race through 3 property/owners on Tramway Road
- 2. Closure of 3km of race through 2 property/owners on Leeston Dunsandal Road

Malvern

- 1. Closure of 4.8km of race through 6 property/owners on Horndon Street / Creyke Road
- 2. Closure of 0.3km of race through 1 property/owners on Pitts Rd
- 3. Closure of 3.7km of race through 7 property/owners on Bluff Rd
- 4. Closure of 2.1km of Race through 4 property/owners on Boultons Rd. Fish and Game require Fish Salvage on this property where there is life.

Based on the assessment, outlined in the report to the Sub Committee, staff recommend that the proposed closures are considered of low significance. The level of significance impacts the degree of consultation undertaken on the engagement spectrum. Council takes a conservative approach to consultation.

Moved Kerry Pauling / Seconded Martin le Compt

That the Sub-Committee:

- a) Consider any submissions received regarding the proposed closures.*

b) *Provide recommendations to Council on the closure of 6 lengths of water race totalling approximately 10.9km in the Malvern water race scheme and 6.6km in the Ellesmere water race scheme.*

7.3 Fish Screen Project Update

(Daniel Meehan, Memo from Surface Water Operations Engineer)

Noted

7.4 2018-28 Long Term Plan

Committee members were encouraged to consider the key issues and opportunities which will be consulted on as part of the 2018-28 Long Term Plan.

7.5 Workshop Outcomes

At the 30th October Workshop with the water race and rating committee, the committee agreed to recommend to Council to consult on a district rate for water races. The proposed new rating structure provides three standardised rating factors which replace the existing 10 rating factors currently used.

The new proposed structure is provided in the table below.

The structure has been built in water races closures. Christchurch City Council, DOC, ECAN, Ngai Tahu will be consulted on the effects of the potential public good funding proposal. The public will be informed through the LTP discussions.

Rate Applies	Rate Type (incl. GST)	Start Value	%Change
User	Annual charge revenue	\$300	6.0%
User	Per Hectare revenue	\$17	6.0%
Public	Public good rate revenue	\$20	10.0%

Cr Hasson raised concerns on behalf of the Land Drainage Committee about the impact of the closures:

- The Land Drainage Committee need to understand the impact on surface water drainage
- What is the criteria of a strategic race? Water Races as a whole is a strategic asset.
- What is the ecological impact?
- Need all representation - with regard to Iwi it is often the site not the race.
- LTP implications - need good reasons to keep them open.
- Maintaining the quality of the water and conservation in general. The Sub Committee referenced a letter received from the Canterbury Aoraki Conservation Board dated 14 November 2017 which outlines their concern about the ongoing closures of water race.

Public relations and communications must be considered during the LTP process to ensure accurate interpretation.

8. HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT

There has been no reports of Health & Safety breaches or potential risks to Council.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

9.1 Sheffield Fire Brigade Water Supply for Fire Fighting

Sheffield Fire Brigade has requested a meeting with the representative of the Sub Committee to discuss fire water availability and what water races may be closed. Murray England will follow this up.

9.2 2018 Meeting Schedule

The Sub Committee agreed to meetings every 2 months from March. The Secretary is to circulate the dates and send invitations.