

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE WATER RACE SUB-COMMITTEE**  
**EXECUTIVE MEETING ROOM**  
**ON MONDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2018 – 12.30pm**

**Committee Members in Attendance**

1. Nigel Barnett (Chairman)
2. Cr Pat McEvedy
3. Mike Chaffey (Ellesmere)
4. Harry Schat (Ellesmere)
5. Martin Le Comte (Paparua Water Race Irrigation User Group)
6. Tim Morris (Paparua)
7. Mike Mora (Christchurch City Council - representing Waimairi and Wigram Wards)
8. John Shanks (Paparua)

**In Attendance**

1. Creagh Robinson, Accountant
2. Daniel Meehan, Surface Water Operations Engineer
3. James Skurupey, Surface Water Engineer
4. Jo Carlton, Surface Water Engineer, Christchurch City Council
5. Maree Pycroft, Secretary

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and noted by the following:

1. Cr Craig Watson
2. Kerry Pauling, Malvern Community Board representative
3. John Clarkson (Malvern Ward)
4. Murray England, Strategic Manager Water Services
5. Mayor Sam Broughton

**2. IDENTIFICATION OF ANY EXTRAORDINARY BUSINESS**

Nil

**3. FISH SCREEN DRONE FOOTAGE**

The Water Race subcommittee viewed drone footage of 3 fish screens.

**Kowai River Fish Screen**

*Key points:*

- Fish & Game provided advice on design and optimum flows of.
- There is a coarse screen for large and a fine screen for smaller debris which is safe for the fish.
- Contractor checks the screens every couple of days or as necessary depending on weather conditions and cleans the grills and screens as required.
- The design allows for the fish to be channelled back into the river.

## **Lower Ellesmere**

### *Key points:*

- The silty ground at this site presented challenges and took a lot of ground works to keep the flow during works.
- Selwyn DC has an arrangement with Lower Rakaia Diversion Group to do the maintenance on these screens.

## **Glentunnel Fish Screen**

### *Key points:*

- There was 2 major rain events during construction which the design took into consideration for the future
- The river bed was lowered at this point and the site is open channel so the water can go back into the river
- Flows are quite small so only needed one screen
- Work is in progress building the pen and doing some modification.
- Provision for electronic flood gate opening has been allowed for in the future.

## **4. PUBLIC FORUM**

### **4.1 Kevin Harmer, Araawa Stud, 934 Leeston Dunsandel Road, Killinchy**

Mr Harmer attended the meeting to support his correspondence to the Selwyn District Council received 28 August 2018 (tabled under Item 7 – Correspondence) relating to the water race which runs along the roadside of his property. Mr Harmer has requested a refund of the portion of water race rates on his property for the period of no flow from October 2017 until June 2018 and for a full remission of rates for the 2018-19 and subsequent rating years.

The meeting referred to correspondence from the Department of Conservation dated 8 November 2018 (tabled under Item 7 – Correspondence) which relates to this water race.

DOC have repeated a survey searching for young mudfish in the water races around Killinchy. DOC originally surveyed for adults last autumn with the aim of setting up two monitoring sites. No adult fish were found so they have been carrying out the spring larval survey as these are more easily detected.

DOC are concerned as it appears there has been major losses of mudfish habitat in the water races, drain network and nearby natural waterways for a number of reason outlined in the letter.

DOC would like the Water Race subcommittee to consider the issue of rates relief for the properties to assist them to get on board with the protection of the sites. They would like to see the three remaining threatened sites protected from further decline by establishing agreed management plans, signage and contractors and landowners being informed.

The Water Race Subcommittee support the recommendations outlined and directed Selwyn DC staff to work with DOC and ECAN to protect and maintain these sites. Closure cannot proceed without all landowner's agreement.

### **4.2 Adrienne Grose**

**359 Marshs Road, Halswell, Christchurch**

**Ms Grose was supported by Ross McFarlane from the Halswell-Hornby-Riccarton Community Board**

Ms Grose's property is located within the Christchurch City Council boundary but pays a water race rate to Selwyn DC. However, Selwyn DC maintenance responsibility for the water race finishes at the Selwyn District Boundary at 328 Marshs Road. The water race crosses Springs Road and continues down Marshs Road where it goes to ground at 491 Marshs Road.

There has been no improvement to the flow or quality of the race since raising the issues at the last meeting.

**Moved Cr Pat McEvedy/Mike Chaffey**

*'That staff contact all residents on the Marsh's Road Water Race, both in Selwyn District and Christchurch City Council, advising a Water Race closure is in progress and ask them if there is any objections.'*

*Cr McEvedy will also speak with Murray England on his return from leave to understand the outcomes of the meetings with Christchurch City Council about this matter and what are the next steps.*

**CARRIED**

#### **4.3 Public Forum Responses**

The Water Race subcommittee instructed staff to provide an update on closures and proposed timelines.

#### **6 February 2018 Water Race Subcommittee Meeting**

**Mr Michael Schat, Ardlui Road, Dunsandel**

*Mr Schat questioned why Council had not addressed the poor performance of the water race and overall inefficiency of the system.*

*Operational staff will be instructed to review the cleaning programme.*

**Ms Mandy Burrows – North Rakaia Road**

*Ms Mandy Burrows expressed her support of Michael Schat's verbal submission has requested the Upper Ellesmere Water Race be closed.*

**Mr Doug Gough, Coal Track Road**

*Mr Gough spoke in support of his application to shift the water race running through his property.*

**Mrs Somerton-Smyth – Paparua School Road – rates and closing race**

*Mrs Somerton-Smyth questioned the water race rating formula and the 70% increase in 2013/14 charged for the entire property*

*She is paying the old rate which has accumulated debt until it is resolved.*

*The Subcommittee asked management to investigate and communicate the findings. The Subcommittee advised Mrs Somerton-Smyth to initiate a formal closure application process.*

#### **26 August 2018 Water Race Subcommittee Meeting**

**Dr Bruce Smith, 32 Pococks Road, Springfield**

*Dr Smith requested assistance to repair the bridge across the water race to his property. Dr Smith also raised concerns of flooding after a rain event earlier this year when the water race overflowed and flooded properties in Albert Street and asked Council to investigate further whether it is a matter for the Water Race Subcommittee or a storm water issue.*

**Adrienne Grose, 359 Marshs Road, Halswell, Christchurch**

*Ms Grose requested the Paparua water race which runs along the boundary of her property on Marshs Road be closed.*

**5. FINANCIAL**

**5.1 Finance Report to 30 September 2018**

The Finance Report to 30 September 2018 was taken as read.

*'That the financial report to 30 September 2018 is accepted for information.'*

**Moved Mike Chaffey / Seconded Harry Schat**

**CARRIED**

**5.2 Unplanned Expenditure over \$5,000**

**Moved Harry Schat / Seconded Martin le Compt**

*'That the Water Race Subcommittee receives this report "Items of Unplanned Expenditure Over \$5,000" for information'.*

**CARRIED**

**6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING HELD 20 AUGUST 2018**

**Moved Cr Pat McEvedy / Seconded John Shanks**

*'That the Water Race Sub Committee confirms the minutes of the meeting of the Water Race Sub Committee held on Monday 20 August 2018'.*

**CARRIED**

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

**Moved Mike Mora / Seconded Mike Chaffey**

*'That the following correspondence be received.'*

**7.1 Letter from Araawa Stud, 934 Leeston Dunsandel Road**

Addressed under 4.1 Public Forum.

**7.2 Letter from Department of Conservation (DOC), 8 November 2018**

Addressed under 4.1 Public Forum.

**CARRIED**

**7.3 Letter of Resignation from Clayton Fairbairn (Paparua)**

The Subcommittee noted the resignation and thanked Mr Fairbairn for his contribution.

**Moved Cr Pat McEvedy / Seconded Mike Mora**

*'That the Secretary write to Mr Clayton Fairbairn on behalf of the Subcommittee and thank him for his input.'*

**CARRIED**

## **8. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Water Race Subcommittee discussed representation outlined in the Terms of Reference and considered whether it was necessary to replace the Paparua vacancy in the short term now that Council is operating under the new water race funding model.

The election of officers to the Water Race Sub Committee takes place following the Local Government elections in November 2019. However, Council will need to provide guidance on the future of the Subcommittee.

## **9. 2019 MEETING SCHEDULE**

The Water Race Sub Committee agreed to 4 meetings next year. The Secretary is to identify suitable dates in February, May, August and November and inform members.

## **10. WATER SERVICES REPORT**

### **10.1 Proposed Water Race Closures to Proceed to Public Consultation**

#### **Moved Cr Pat McEvedy / Seconded John Clarkson**

*'That the Water Race Sub Committee approve to proceed to public consultation for the proposed closure of 2 lengths of water races in the Paparua and Malvern Water Race Schemes as outlined in the report.'*

**CARRIED**

### **10.2 Old West Coast Road Water Race Status**

Two Landowners have requested a change to the status of approx. 2.2km of Water Race along Old West Coast Road from SDC cleaned to private clean. They want to maintain sections themselves and this would require an agreement / memorandum of understanding between landowner and Council.

The matter came to the attention of Council when a complaint was received from landowners regarding race cleaning on the Old West Coast Road. The Landowner has claimed that he had cleaned the race 2 months prior, Selwyn DC cleaning was not required, and the operator has caused major damage to the race. Investigation showed that Selwyn DC contractors removed significant amounts of material from the race which was slowing flows. The operator was new and had made some minor errors where the bank had been hit. This was deemed minor by Water Race staff but have agreed to repair damage at entranceway.

The Water Race subcommittee support the view of staff that adhoc agreements with land owners is messy and difficult to manage.

#### **Moved Harry Schat / Seconded John Clarkson**

*'That the Water Race subcommittee approve Selwyn DC to retain the rights to clean the water race and inform the owner of the outcome.'*

*The Water Race subcommittee also recommended staff regularly send out public notices about land owner obligations around the maintenance of water races they are responsible for.*

**CARRIED**

**Cr Pat McEvedy declared a conflict of interest and withdrew from voting.  
Creagh Robinson left the meeting at 2.00pm**

## 11. MATTERS UNDER INVESTIGATION

Meeting Referred from	Item	Responsibility	Date
20 Aug '18	<p><b><i>Marshs Road / Cross Boundary Rates Collection</i></b></p> <p>Selwyn District Council staff have had two meetings with the Christchurch City Council equivalents to discuss a cross boundary rating agreement. These meetings were positive in nature. Following these meetings, Selwyn DC has formally written to Christchurch City Council outlining our position and seek their formal acceptance. Correspondence is ongoing between organisations.</p>	Murray England	12 Nov meeting
12 Nov '18	<p>Staff to contact all residents on the Marsh's Road Water Race, both in Selwyn District and Christchurch City Council, advising a Water Race closure is in progress and ask them if there is any objections.</p> <p>Cr McEvedy to speak with Murray England to understand the outcomes of the meetings with Christchurch City Council and what the next steps are.</p>	Daniel Meehan/James Skurupey	Feb 2018
20 Aug '18	<p><b><i>Springfield Water Race Flooding Issues</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check flooding events in Springfield</li> <li>• Ensure Council have done everything to avoid a reoccurrence.</li> <li>• Clear gravel build up from Culverts</li> <li>• Follow up NZ Rail's responsibilities clean the rail culverts</li> <li>• Write to Dr Smith to confirm Council Policy is that it does not maintain private property assets.</li> <li>• Investigate the maintenance programme of the Malvern Race through Springfield.</li> </ul>	Daniel Meehan	12 Nov meeting
12 Nov '18	<p>The Water Race Subcommittee commended Daniel on a comprehensive report that addresses all the issues.</p> <p>The report recommends:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The removal of gravel at each culvert during annual operational works and during summer periods.</li> <li>• Digging deeper to creat gravel traps.</li> <li>• Continuing to clear the section below the Railway Yard</li> </ul>	Daniel Meehan	Feb meeting

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove small willow seedlings.</li> <li>• Repair scour at Pococks Road culvert.</li> </ul> <p><b>Moved Harry Schat / Seconded John Clarkson</b></p> <p><i>‘That staff are to write back to Dr Bruce Smith with the outcome of their investigations and attach the report advising the Water Race Subcommittee supports Council’s position.’</i></p> <p><i>‘That staff are also to confirm to Dr Smith that Council does not maintain private property assets.’</i></p> <p><b>CARRIED</b></p> <p>The committee agreed this matter is closed.</p>		
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## 12. HEALTH & SAFETY

There have been no issues to report.

## 13. GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

## RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

### Recommended

‘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
1	Minutes and actions of the PX section	Good reason to withhold exists under section 7 (as set out below)	Section 48(1)(a)
2	Public Excluded Memorandum from the Asset Manager Water Services in relation to the closure of the Upper Ellesmere Water Race		

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 7 of that Act, 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	Enable the local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	Section 7(2)(h)
2	Enable the local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).	Section 7(2)(i)

That appropriate officers remain to provide advice to the Committee.

*Moved Cr Pat McEvedy / Seconded Mike Mora to move into Public Excluded to discuss Glenroy Community Irrigation Company Ltd, Lynton Irrigation Limited and Canterbury Grasslands Ltd.*

**CARRIED**

**Meeting closed at 3pm**