

---

## **Banks Peninsula Water Management Zone Committee OPEN MINUTES**

---

**Date:** Tuesday 21 May 2019  
**Time:** 4.03pm  
**Venue:** Governors Bay Community Centre, 1 Cresswell Avenue,  
Governors Bay

---

### **Present**

Chairperson Dr Benita Wakefield - Te Rūnanga o Wairewa  
Deputy Gina Waibl - Community Representative  
Chairperson  
Members Rima Herber - Community Representative  
Elizabeth Macpherson - Community Representative  
Ben Manson - Community Representative  
Paula Smith - Community Representative  
Garrick Thorn - Community Representative  
Andrew Turner - Deputy Mayor Christchurch City Council  
Elizabeth Cunningham - Councillor Environment Canterbury  
Manaia Cunningham - Te Rūnanga o Koukourarata  
Aurora Smith - Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke/Rapaki

---

In Attendance: Gillian Jenkins, Helen Greenup, Mananui Ramsden (ECan); Pam Richardson (private landowner), Tom McTavish (DOC), Yvette Couch-Lewis and Karen Banwell (Whaka-Ora, Healthy Harbour Project)

**20 May 2019**

**Committee Advisor**  
Liz Ryley  
Tel: 941 8153  
**Christchurch City Council**

**Principal Advisor**  
Peter Kingsbury  
Principal Advisor Natural  
Resources  
Tel: 941 8487  
**Christchurch City Council**

**Zone Facilitator**  
Lesley Woudberg  
Zone Facilitator  
Tel: 027 706 4273  
**Environment Canterbury**

Mananui Ramsden, Te Rūnanga o Koukourārata, and Cultural Land Management Advisor at Environment Canterbury introduced himself to the Committee and opened the meeting with a Karakia/Timatanga.

The agenda was dealt with in the following order.

## **1. Apologies**

That an apology from Pere Tainui, and apologies for lateness from Manaia Cunningham and Deputy Mayor Andrew Turner, be accepted.

## **2. Updates from Banks Peninsula Zone Committee Members**

Members highlighted events/meetings/issues relevant to the Zone Committee. These were noted as:

**Benita** – Acknowledged Councillor Elizabeth Cunningham and the Environment Canterbury (ECan) Councillors for the climate emergency declaration.

### **Rima** –

1. Reported from the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Regional Committee meeting and workshop regarding Farm Environment Plans, how the Plans work and audited. The Plans require tangible outputs. The Regional Committee wants to ensure that the Zone Committee representatives have time to report to each meeting. They also take some time to discuss way out, nutty, radical ideas at each meeting to check for any useful outputs.
2. The beach area near her home, Birdlings Flat, between the canal and carpark – contains the weed *Yellow-horned poppy* so they are grubbing out this and other weeds with the assistance of DOC and volunteers. Rima will bring photos of the poppy to the next meeting.

Manaia Cunningham arrived at 4.14pm.

**Aurora** – Advised she has been talking to people at Rapaki and, as a newly appointed member, getting to know her fellow Zone Committee members better.

### **Manaia** –

1. Referred to a concern raised at the last Rūnanga meeting about topdressing around the harbour, where pellets are spread over the landscape. The question was asked about the effect on local water tanks. This is being raised with ECan workers for advice and information to be provided to Rūnanga members regarding cause and effects.
2. A letter received from the Department of Conservation (DOC) to our Rūnanga and other Rūnanga about pest free Banks Peninsula and management of possums using cyanide in bait trap certified by the Ministry of Health. Whanau have asked for more knowledge about cyanide.

The meeting noted that DOC had been invited to attend this meeting at 6pm, along with Pam Richardson as a private landowner to provide a presentation to the Zone Committee about the possum control programme and control methods, including bait containing cyanide.

**Paula** – Research by NIWA on biopsies of 55 carcasses of Hector’s and Māui dolphins, has found nine with a higher number of toxoplasmosis (spread by cats) that is possibly carried in sediment. This is another reason to keep sediment out of waterways. The press release about this is on the NIWA website at: <https://www.niwa.co.nz/>

**Liz Macpherson** – Advised that she had been invited to New York to attend the General Assembly of the United Nations “Interactive Dialogue on Harmony with Nature” on 22 April 2019, relating to changing world systems for harmony to nature and mother earth. She spoke about retraining lawyers and about the Nature Agents programme. A highlight was to hear about water protection cases, e.g. the Lake Erie Bill of Rights; and reconnecting children with nature.

**Ben** – Has talked to landowners on Banks Peninsula and later in the meeting will provide members with feedback he has received from them in relation to the Immediate Steps programme.

**Garrick** – Has been in touch with Professor David Norton and has a planned meeting with him regarding a reserve/ecosanctuary he is proposing on the Port Hills. Garrick will obtain information as to the water perspective of this project. He has also been promoting Water Management Zone Committees as a route for engagement between science and communities. Currently the MBIE funding round is underway so people with water related projects are considering ways to engage communities.

**Gina** – Attended the Whaka-ora Advisory Committee meeting; and next week will be providing the Zone Committee’s quarterly update to the Christchurch City Council (CCC). Please advise Gina any matters you want raised by her at that Council meeting.

**Elizabeth Cunningham –**

1. Last Thursday Benita spoke to the Banks Peninsula 2018 Annual report at ECan. This was a positive presentation in which she acknowledged the newly appointed Zone Committee members, thanked Paula for her past work for the Committee, and presented the new approach for this Committee regarding everyone being involved.
2. ECan has approved its Annual Plan, including an increased rate for Pest Free Banks Peninsula.  
**Action:** Lesley will circulate the increased amount for members’ information.
3. Thank you for acknowledging the climate emergency declaration.

Pam Richardson was invited to provide comment at this time, and reported on research work being carried out by Liz Slooten, University of Otago, regarding the impact cruise ships in the harbour have on dolphins. She referred to a cruise ship levy for environmental impacts relating to Milford Sound. Akaroa harbour has a marine mammal sanctuary and reserve, as well as some of the other bays containing pied oyster catchers and shags as examples.

Paula asked for the Zone Committee’s quarterly report to the Councils to be included in this Committee’s agenda.

### **3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

**Committee Resolved BPZC/2019/00018**

That the minutes of the Banks Peninsula Water Management Zone Committee meeting held on Tuesday, 16 April 2019 be confirmed, subject to the following amendments:

- Page 11, Item 2 (2) to read “A Regional Committee field trip on Farm Environment Plans is being organised for 14 May 2019.
- Page 11, Item 2 (3) to read “Opening of Te Roto o Wairewa – Lake Forsyth should be opening at drains to allow fish to get to the sea, e.g. tuna, and to clear sediment build-up.

Benita Wakefield/Elizabeth Cunningham

**Carried**

#### **4. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

Councillor Cunningham referred to Item 7, the site visit with Alison Evans where Alison had expressed concern at the build-up of tyres that have been dumped. Alison had contacted CCC to remove them but she had been advised this would be her responsibility.

The Zone Committee members acknowledged and supported Alison’s concerns about the tyres.

Ben Manson raised the matter in Item 7, Te Roto o Wairewa-Lake Forsyth opening level noted at 2.7 metres and possibly even at 3.4 metres. Lesley explained that the resource consent for this activity expires in 2051. It was noted that the lake levels are recorded on ECan’s website.

Deputy Mayor Andrew Turner arrived at 4.40pm.

A brief round of introductions was undertaken at this time. Andrew noted that the last presentation by the Zone Committee to the CCC was clear and excellent.

#### **5. Deputations by Appointment**

There were no deputations by appointment.

#### **6. Identification of Urgent Items**

Nil.

#### **7. Identification of General Public Contributions**

Nil.

#### **9. Whakaraupō Catchment Management Plan - Head of the Harbour Project Committee Comment**

1. Yvette Couch-Lewis, governing chair of the Whaka-Ora, Healthy Harbour project, addressed the meeting about the Whakaraupō Catchment Management Plan.
2. Paula referred to two projects from the Zone Committee’s Action Plan, relating to stream plantings and erosion sediment road cutting trials, which have been identified as being important and are fully aligned with the Whakaraupō Catchment Management Plan.
3. Yvette felt that was an example of how the two Committees could work together. Prioritisation of those two actions are aligned with the Whakaraupō Catchment Management Plan. Funding for the Head of the Harbour project is being sought from the Ministry for the Environment to look at three main streams from Teddington through to Living Springs, and waterways going into the harbour. On site interviews are being conducted with landowners.

The Head of the Harbour key priority when developing the Plan was causes of sedimentation. The landowners are being asked to tell the Project team about how they see their land, and they have been advising that incoming sediment, from tidal movements, is an issue for them. Issues covered include: types of plantings to reduce flooding; the effects of salt marsh; how much water runs off hills; and retiring some land. Yvette advised that Karen Banwell has been employed by the Whaka-Ora, Healthy Harbour project team to develop and align the Plan.

4. Further discussion was held by the Committee about alignment of the two Committees.
5. Andrew suggested giving weight IMS funding to support and align the Plan with the Zone Committee's work programme.
6. Lesley circulated some projects the Committee has funded and been involved in, in the past.
7. Elizabeth Cunningham suggested the Plan could be a model for each harbour on Banks Peninsula.
8. Yvette was thanked for her presentation.

### **Committee Resolved BPZC/2019/00019**

That the Banks Peninsula Water Management Zone Committee:

1. Receive the background information as the basis for discussion on the Whaka-ora, Healthy Harbour –Ki Uta Ki Tai Catchment Management Plan and the Head of the Harbour Project.
2. Consider Immediate Steps funding support to align the Whaka-ora, Healthy Harbour –Ki Uta Ki Tai Catchment Management Plan and the Head of the Harbour Project with the Zone Committee's work programme, consider areas of cross-over or creating areas of cross-over, particularly with priority projects and action plan projects.

Gina Waibl/Manaia Cunningham

**Carried**

## **8. Immediate Steps Funding Decisions**

### **Committee Comment**

1. Councillor Cunningham and Manaia Cunningham declared an interest in the Kahukunu Stream Restoration project.
2. The Committee members viewed a large map tabled that provided locations of projects that have been funded through Immediate Steps in the past as well as land managed by the Department of Conservation, and Christchurch City Council land.
3. Helen Greenup provided a brief overview of each project application.
4. A query was made regarding the name "Bill Hill Little Akaloa" and whether this was correct. Helen checked this following the meeting and confirmed the name should read "Big Hill Little Akaloa".
5. There was some discussion held about the applications. It was noted that particular applications are provided to the Zone Committee for decision-making. There was agreement

that staff should provide a full list of the applications that have been received at an early stage of the process, to provide Committee members with an overview.

**Committee Resolved BPZC/2019/00020**

That the Banks Peninsula Water Management Zone Committee:

1. Support the five Immediate Steps Project applications with the 2019/2020 Fund:
  - a. Mabel Hope Covenant \$26,750
  - b. Okuti QEII Covenant \$6,500
  - c. Crown Island Covenant \$25,240
  - d. Big Hill Little Akaloa \$6,000
  - e. Kahukunu Stream Restoration \$30,000 (+ \$10,000 per year x2)
2. Request that in future staff provide information on all Immediate Steps Project applications to the Zone Committee early in the process.

Aurora Smith/Andrew Turner

**Carried**

An adjournment was taken from 5.44pm to 6.20pm.

**IMS Process - Landowner Feedback**

Following the adjournment, Ben Manson was asked to provide the meeting with the feedback he has received from landowners about the Immediate Steps programme, as noted earlier in the updates.

Ben had received feedback and summarised the concerns of landowners. These were noted as:

1. The idea that ECan and CCC staff can enter a property many years after a project has been completed.
2. Landowners do not understand their ongoing obligations.
3. The potential for the Council staff to discover breaches of rules regarding compliance.
4. A belief that point 3 above is contained in council staff employment contracts.

Manaia thanked Ben for bringing these comments to the table, to assist the Committee in its decision-making.

Gillian agreed it was great to hear these comments. Part of ECan's values is to have integrity, so staff have a responsibility to be checking matters, however ECan always tries to work with landowners to find solutions in the first instance.

Andrew noted the importance of (1) giving priority to communications and engagement, for confidence and trust building, and (2) of information sharing between ECan and CCC.

Paula suggested that points 1 and 2 could be provided to the community by way of a Questions & Answers section of the IMS.

Other points noted were the need to be clear about ECan's approach, and whether there could be an independent person from one of the farming organisations/restoration areas to provide a link between

the landowners and councils, and a suggestion of putting people who have been through the IMS process in touch with those who are wanting to undertake the process.

**Action: Respond to some of the concerns that may be barriers to the IMS funding, as raised through Zone Committee discussion on points 1-4 above.**

**Action: Consider the employment of a co-ordinator led team, to be employed to plant and maintain riparian areas, including assistance with fencing, as suggested by Pam Richardson. Possibilities include the Conservation Trust or IMS Funding team.**

### **Department of Conservation – Possum Control**

Department of Conservation Marine and Biodiversity Ranger, Tom McTavish, was welcomed to the table, along with Pam Richardson.

Manaia advised there was support by the Rūnanga for Predator Free Banks Peninsula, however, concern had been expressed by whanau relating to the impact if the poison was to enter waterways, and whether this would affect us and our children if it gets into water and our food gathering areas.

Tom McTavish outlined the possum control programme, and the impact of possums on native species. The reason for this programme is to protect the native species from those negative impacts, as well as control the spread of Tb.

Pam Richardson provided some history of the community initiated possum control programme from the 1970s through to 2005 when Tb was removed from possums and cattle. This programme covered areas such as Purau/Port Levy, Charteris Bay, Pigeon Bay and Takamatua. A consultation process and survey engagement with landowners and farmers had been undertaken, when landowners and farmers agreed to a targeted rate, which has been in place for around 15 years. Possum numbers have reduced to low levels but we cannot let up on that work or numbers will increase.

Aurora asked for information about the use of the Feratox bait.

Tom advised that the bait was placed at a targeted rate into particular blocks on a rotation process. When ECan is working in wider segments, DOC augments that with its own control in its reserves for maximum effect. There are seven reserves in the centre block covered in the budget, and he noted the areas on the large tabled map.

Tom showed an example of the Feratox bait and explained how it works by producing a cyanide gas when it contacts water. It is placed into the reserves with six bags per hectare, i.e. six pellets into an area slightly bigger than a rugby field.

Regarding positioning of the bags in relation to waterways, Tom explained that DOC has to apply to the independent Medical Officer of Health for the use of this who considers the risks. They want to know if there are any human water intakes within 200 metres of the reserve boundary. There is no issue or any risk of the bait entering water and poisoning at these concentrations. DOC placed the bait at a distance from the waterways that is over and above what is recommended, to prevent possums entering the water. He noted that the bait does not accumulate in tissue, so there was a low chance of birds dying if they eat the possum carcass. He added that it was the responsibility of the Environmental Protection Authority to make decisions about the baits from a public health perspective.

Councillor Cunningham advised that the Rūnanga had received a letter from DOC about work in a specific area. She explained the Rūnanga are not specific landowners and there would be a number of people who do not attend Rūnanga meetings who are landowners who would need to be advised.

Benita thanked Tom for responding to the concerns of the Rūnanga. A presentation to the Rūnanga at some time would be a good idea.

**Action: Acknowledge differences between the Excell and High Country contractors letters notifying people of the operation. That is a matter DOC and ECan may want to consider when hiring contractors to provide appropriate information.**

## **10. Facilitator's Update - 21 May 2019**

### **Committee Comment**

1. Lesley's report was taken as read.
2. Lesley added the following comments to her report:
  - 2.1 The film "Fools & Dreamers: Regenerating a Native Forest" about the Hinewai Nature Reserve is out now to view.
  - 2.2 ECan has made a decision on a climate change emergency and Lesley tabled a document about ECan's key climate change work.
3. Questions were asked about Plan Change 7, about the status of the information cards being prepared by CCC, and about how climate change relates to Banks Peninsula.
4. The current Te Karaka publication was noted, that is published every three months, containing an article by Pere Tainui and mahinga kai.
5. Benita asked members to prepare for the updates to next month's meeting, the need to plan for 2020, and to encourage working groups to be formed on targets, and what areas members would want to work on specifically.

### **Committee Resolved BPZC/2019/00021**

That the Banks Peninsula Water Management Zone Committee:

1. Receive the Facilitator's Report.

Garrick Thorn/Rima Herber

**Carried**

Manaia Cunningham closed the meeting with a Karakia/Whakamutunga.

**Meeting concluded at 7.42pm.**

**CONFIRMED THIS 18TH DAY OF JUNE 2019**

**BENITA WAKEFIELD  
CHAIRPERSON**