

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Technical Committee held in the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on Wednesday 22 July 2015 commencing at 1.20 pm

Present:

- Cr Bryan Scott** (Chairperson)
- Cr Doug Brown** (Deputy Chairperson)
- Cr Graeme Bell**
- Cr Louise Croot MNZM**
- Cr Michael Deaker**
- Cr Gary Kelliher**
- Cr Trevor Kempton**
- Cr Sam Neill**
- Cr Gretchen Robertson**
- Cr David Shepherd**
- Cr Stephen Woodhead**

Leave of Absence: **Cr Gerrard Eckhoff**

In attendance:

- Peter Bodeker**
- Wayne Scott**
- Nick Donnelly**
- Jeff Donaldson**
- Jane Leahy**
- Fraser McRae**
- Gavin Palmer**
- Janet Favel**
- Deborah Mills** (Item 2)
- Dean Olsen** (Item 4)
- Mike Goldsmith** (Items 1 & 3)

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 June 2015, having been circulated, were adopted on the motion of Crs Scott and Neill.

Matters arising from minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

PART A – RECOMMENDATIONS

- Item 1
2015/1003 **Updated landslide hazard information for Dunedin City.** DEHS, 26/06/15

The report provided an update on a program of work to improve the understanding of landslide hazard with the Dunedin City district. The full report ‘Active landslides in the Dunedin Area’ and the GNS Science report ‘Dunedin Landslide susceptibility’ were circulated with the agenda.

Dr Palmer stated that this work was part of the programme of work to inform the Dunedin City Council 2GP review. It was intended that landslide provisions will be incorporated into the district plan and based on this information, it was likely that restrictions could be placed on land use.

A question was raised as to whether any new information or new landslides had been found. Mr Goldsmith explained that the work refined previous information/mapping held. He confirmed that the report would be available on the ORC website and the Natural Hazards database in due course.

Cr Robertson moved
Cr Kelliher seconded

That:

- 1. This report be noted;*
- 2. The landslide reports and associated datasets described above be provided to the Dunedin City Council and updated to the Otago Natural Hazards Database.*

Motion carried

PART B - ITEMS FOR NOTING

- Item 2
2015/0927 **Air Quality SoE Report 2005 – 2015.** DEHS, 19/05/15

The report described the current state of air quality, provided information on trends in air quality over the last 10 years, and discussed the pressures and influences on ambient air for 14 sites in Otago. The full report ‘Air Quality SoE Report 2005 – 2014’ was circulated separately. Councillors commended staff on the comprehensive report.

Dr Palmer explained that the report focused on the state of the environment, not the causes. It was noted that most of Otago had good air quality, but there were still some issues to be addressed.

This information would be the foundation for the air strategy, which was provided for in the Long Term Plan for the current financial year.

Cr Woodhead moved
Cr Croot seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

Item 3
2015/1008

Coastal Otago Flood Event 3 June 2015. DEHS, 08/07/15

The report summarised the rainfall event of 3 June 2015 and the observed river flows and water levels which resulted from that rainfall, and described Otago Regional Council's response to the situation. Councillors commended staff on the comprehensive report that pulled together relationships between sea level and rainfall, topography and rainfall etc.

This was a significant event showing significant flows, particularly for the Leith, and ongoing communication between the flood manager and the territorial authorities was noted. Rainfall figures showed good warning had been received from Met Service. It was noted that this event affected not just Dunedin, which in turn affected how ORC responded.

Dr Palmer stated that there was quite a high likelihood of seeing a similar event again. Probabilities showed that there was a 27% chance of the daily rainfall measure in South Dunedin happening in a 30 year period and a 55% chance of this happening in a 50 year period. He commented that the sea level wasn't particularly high, and rainfall in South Dunedin was significant but not extreme. Groundwater levels had been rising in the month leading up to the event.

ORC's proposed work with DCC on South Dunedin was noted, and it was agreed that ORC should present the technical information to DCC. Dr Palmer noted that he and Mr Bodeker were to meet with their counterparts at DCC, where the 3 June event was to be discussed, including how best to present the information.

Cr Deaker moved
Cr Neill seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

Item 4
2015/1024

Lindis Catchment: Water Quality Study. DEHS, 07/07/15

The report presented the results of long-term State of the Environment monitoring at two sites in the Lindis River, intensive water quality monitoring at six additional mainstem sites and two tributary sites in 2013-2014, and ecological surveys carried out in 2014-2015. The full report 'Water Quality Study: Lindis River Catchment' was circulated with the agenda.

Dr Olsen noted that the groundwater being nitrogen enriched was linked to surface water. It was relative to the Lindis catchment, not the rest of Otago.

It was noted that this report was not directly linked to the minimum flow work but would have relevance.

Cr Woodhead moved
Cr Kempton seconded

That the report and the technical report "Water Quality Study: Lindis River Catchment" be received and noted.

Motion carried

Item 5
2015/1026

Taieri River Shutdown. DEHS, 07/07/15

The report presented information on the hydrology of the main stem of the Taieri River and tributaries as well as on the ground observations gathered during the 24 hour voluntary irrigation shutdown. The full report 'The effects of the 24 hour voluntary irrigation shutdown on flows in the Taieri River: 15th – 16th January 2015' was circulated separately.

It was noted that the report had been shared with those affected as it was important public information.

Comment was made that photos and observations were very helpful in the explanation.

Cr Croot moved
Cr Neill seconded

That this report and the technical report “The effects of the 24 hour voluntary irrigation shutdown on flows in the Taieri River: 15th–16th January 2015” be received and noted.

Motion carried

Item 6
2015/0999

Director’s Report on Progress. DEHS, 09/07/15

Topics covered in the report were: Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Weather radar for Otago, and Waipori floodbank seismic investigations.

Dr Palmer noted that he had included the Sendai framework that the nation signed up to for the awareness of Councillors. The radar image included in the report highlighted the importance of a weather radar for Otago.

Cr Deaker moved
Cr Kelliher seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

The meeting closed at 3.00pm

Chairperson

