

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Communications Committee held in the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on Wednesday 20 July 2016 commencing at 12:00 noon

Membership:

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

Leave of absence: Cr Sam Neill

In attendance:

- Peter Bodeker
- Nick Donnelly
- Fraser McRae
- Scott MacLean
- Gavin Palmer
- Caroline Rowe
- Gerard Collings
- Lauren McDonald

Cr Kempton welcomed staff in attendance as observers:
Suzanne Watt, Eleanor Ross, Lisa Minhinnick, Glenn Lambert and Charlotte Panton

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest noted

PUBLIC FORUM

No public forum

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2016, having been circulated, were adopted on the motion of Cr Brown and Cr Kelliher.

Matters arising from minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

FOR NOTING

Item 1

2016/0891 **Stakeholder Engagement Report.** DSE, 12/7/16

Reporting on community, stakeholder and staff engagement activities carried out by Stakeholder Engagement directorate staff for the period 21 May to 1 July 2016.

A comment was made that it was good to see the awareness of the ORC water plan rules had lifted from 78% to 91% with the highest level of increase with sheep and beef farmers. It was also noted that the wallaby incursion awareness promotional material had been well received.

Attendance of the priority group meetings (section 2.2 of the report) had been excellent with attendees having a positive attitude which was pleasing to see leading into the second round of communication and meetings.

A question was raised on the provision of print copy material for the upcoming Local Body Elections with the information only currently available online from the ORC website.

Mrs Rowe advised limited print copies have been produced and she would follow up on access and distribution of information to potential candidates.

Cr Scott commented that the forestry contractors forum held in Milton recently was a very well organised meeting and well attended by key companies and contractors.

Discussion was held on improving the awareness of rural water quality regulations towards 2020. In regard to having a better understanding of what regular water sampling and testing was being undertaken by farmers and also if it was appropriate to seek this information as this is not a legal requirement for them to provide this.

Mrs Rowe advised that water sampling was not a question currently including in the survey, asking if farmers were undertaking testing but that this could be added to the questionnaire in the future. She commented that

it may also be worthwhile when groups are establishing their monitoring programme to ask farmers if they are actively water sampling.

Cr Bell commented on the meeting he attended in Alexandra with professional agribusiness people and asked when staff would be able to provide feedback on the discussion held at the meeting.

Mrs Rowe noted that this meeting was held outside of the reporting period and would be reported on for the next Committee round.

Moved Cr Robertson
Seconded Cr Scott

That the report be noted

Motion carried

Meeting closed at 12:14pm



Chairperson