



## Minutes of a meeting of the Strategy and Planning Committee held in the Council Chamber on 11 November 2020 at 1PM

### **Membership**

Cr Gretchen Robertson *(Co-Chair)*  
Cr Kate Wilson *(Co-Chair)*  
Cr Hilary Calvert  
Dr Lyn Carter  
Cr Michael Deaker  
Mr Edward Ellison  
Cr Alexa Forbes  
Hon Cr Marian Hobbs  
Cr Carmen Hope  
Cr Gary Kelliher  
Cr Michael Laws  
Cr Kevin Malcolm  
Cr Andrew Noone  
Cr Bryan Scott

### **Welcome**

Co-Chair Kate Wilson welcomed Councillors, members of the public and staff to the meeting at 1 p.m.

Staff present included: Sarah Gardner (Chief Executive), Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services), Gwyneth Elsum (GM Strategy, Policy and Science), Gavin Palmer (GM Operations), Amanda Vercoe (Executive Advisor), Liz Spector (Committee Secretary, minutes), Anita Dawe (Manager Policy and Planning), Anne Duncan (Manager Strategy), Julie Everett-Hincks (Manager Science), and Jason Augspurger (Environmental Resource Scientist – Freshwater).

*For our future*

## **1. APOLOGIES**

### **Resolution**

*That the apologies for Cr Hope, Cr Malcolm be accepted.*

Moved: Cr Wilson  
Seconded: Cr Calvert  
CARRIED

*Cr Laws joined the meeting at 1:10 p.m.*

## **2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA**

The agenda was confirmed as published.

## **3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

No conflicts of interest were advised.

## **4. PUBLIC FORUM**

No public forum was held.

## **5. PRESENTATIONS**

Crs Noone and Robertson updated the meeting on recent activities of the Land and Water Regional Plan Governance Group (LWRPGG).

Cr Wilson moved that the presentation be accepted and this was seconded by Mr Ellison.

Moved: Cr Wilson  
Seconded: Mr Ellison  
CARRIED

## **6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **Resolution**

*That the minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2020 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record.*

Moved: Cr Hobbs  
Seconded: Cr Noone  
CARRIED

## **7. ACTIONS**

The Actions Register was reviewed. GM Strategy, Policy and Science Gwyneth Elsum noted that initial work had commenced on Thomsons Creek, in alignment with the resolution, however she noted the work may merge in with other work due to the announcement from Central Government that the Manuherekiia will be the third exemplar catchment to be targeted as part of the Government's plan to clean up waterways by supporting community-led programmes. She suggested work on this issue would best be directed through that government group and the outstanding action item be closed off. The Councillors agreed to this suggestion.

## 8. MATTERS FOR NOTING

### 8.1. ORC's Science Approach for the Land and Water Regional Plan

The Otago Regional Council must notify a new, NPSFM compliant, Land and Water Regional Plan (LWRP) by 31 December 2023 upon recommendation of the Minister for the Environment. This report provided an overview on the proposed science approach to inform the work on the LWRP.

Jason Augspurger (Environmental Resource Scientist - Freshwater), Julie Everett-Hinks (Manager Science) and Gwyneth Elsum (GM Strategy, Policy and Science) were present to respond to questions about the report. Several Councillors had questions, noting specific interest in the community engagement process to seek formal feedback during drafting of the final Land and Water Regional Plan.

After an in depth discussion, Cr Noone said the overall report was a sound building block to work towards the 2023 due date target for the LWRP and he was encouraged by staff's openness to all approaches. He then asked for a motion to receive the report.

#### Resolution

*That the Committee:*

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Notes** the proposed science approach for the LWRP outlined in this paper.

Moved: Cr Hobbs

Seconded: Cr Noone

CARRIED

### 8.2. Overall Implications of Essential Freshwater Reforms

A suite of regulatory reforms, including a National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020, a National Environmental Standard for Freshwater, and Section 360 Resource Management Act regulations, was released in August this year, taking effect from 3 September 2020. This report was provided to inform Councillors of implications on work programmes and budgets for the current financial year as a result of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPSFM).

Anita Dawe (Manager Policy and Planning) and Gwyneth Elsum (GM Strategy, Policy and Science) were available to speak to the report and respond to questions. After a brief discussion of the paper, Cr Calvert moved:

#### Resolution

*That the Committee:*

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Notes** the additional resources required to start implementing the NPS FM.
- 3) **Notes** the additional expenditure required for the 2020/21 financial year.
- 4) **Notes** that any additional resource implications will be addressed as part of the Long Term Plan.

Moved: Cr Calvert  
Seconded: Cr Hobbs  
CARRIED

### **8.3. Otago Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory by District**

This report was provided to update the Committee on work being undertaken towards ORC's commitment to do a regional emissions assessment in 2020/21. Anne Duncan (Manager Strategy) and Gwyneth Elsum (GM Strategy, Policy and Science) were present to speak to the report and respond to questions. After a general discussion of the report, Cr Calvert moved:

#### **Resolution**

*That the Committee:*

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Notes** that a draft report is expected to be completed by March 2021 and the final report is expected to be completed by April 2021.

Moved: Cr Calvert  
Seconded: Cr Deaker  
CARRIED

### **8.4. Avenues for Investment in COVID-19 Recovery**

This report was provided to assist the Otago Regional Council with responses to COVID-19 recovery proposals. Sarah Gardner (Chief Executive) was present to speak to the report and respond to questions. She noted a question for the working group was whether the ORC should be involved in job creation or whether its role should be as facilitator. She said it was a challenging question and will be for Council to determine how it should proceed, taking into account budgeting for the Long Term Plan.

Cr Robertson asked whether this should go to the Finance Committee for input into budget impacts. Mrs Gardner noted that there was no Finance Committee meeting scheduled before the Christmas break and if Councillors want to discuss this prior to then, the report should go directly to Council. The Councillors agreed to invite chairs of Committees to the Working Group's next meeting to discuss finances. Cr Laws mentioned the notable labour shortages for seasonal work in Central Otago and asked that the group take this into account when they met.

After further general discussion, Cr Hobbs moved:

#### **Resolution**

*That the Committee:*

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Notes** the potential for Council to need to make decisions on proposals for funding related to Kaimahi for Nature and other Central Government grants for COVID-19 recovery.

- 3) **Approves** the proposed decision tree to evaluate funding applications or proposals made to or by ORC against Council's Strategic Directions.
- 4) **Approves** the COVID-19/Jobs for Nature Working Group of Council as the evaluator of proposals for funding received by ORC
- 5) **Invites** the COVID-19/Jobs for Nature Working Group to devise a funding process and funding envelope for consideration by Council in late 2020, ensuring a financial lens is considered by inviting Chairs of Committees and GM Corporate Services to participate in the meeting with the Working Group.
- 6) **Requests** that the Working Group will take note of seasonal labour shortages in Central Otago.

Moved: Cr Hobbs  
Seconded: Cr Robertson  
CARRIED

## 9. CLOSURE

There was no further business and Co-Chair Wilson declared the meeting closed at 02:40 pm.



Chairperson

1 December 2020

Date