

Minutes of a meeting of the Strategy and Planning Committee
held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 1 December 2020 at
2:00 PM

Membership

Cr Gretchen Robertson	<i>(Co-Chair)</i>
Cr Kate Wilson	<i>(Co-Chair)</i>
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-chairperson Gretchen Robertson welcomed Councillors, members of the public and staff to the meeting at 2 p.m.

Staff present included:

Sarah Gardner	<i>(Chief Executive)</i>
Nick Donnelly	<i>(General Manager Corporate Services and CFO)</i>
Gavin Palmer	<i>(General Manager Operations)</i>
Richard Saunders	<i>(General Manager Regulatory)</i>
Gwyneth Elsum	<i>(General Manager Strategy, Policy & Science)</i>
Amanda Vercoe	<i>(Executive Advisor)</i>
Liz Spector	<i>(Committee Secretary)</i>

1. APOLOGIES

Resolution

That the apologies for Edward Ellison, Cr Hope and lateness of Cr Hobbs and Cr Laws be accepted.

Moved: Cr Wilson

Seconded: Cr Forbes

CARRIED

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

There were no additions or alterations to the agenda.

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Councillor Wilson indicated a potential conflict on item 7.4 and said she would not participate in discussions or voting on the item.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

Cr Laws joined the meeting electronically at 2:20 p.m.

Cr Hobbs joined the meeting at 2:23 p.m.

Mandy Mayhem Bullock (Waikouaiti Coast Community Board), Emily Cooper, Waikouaiti resident and Lindsey Dey, Chair of the Dunedin Trails Network Trust spoke to the Committee in support of a working group created to facilitate development of a two-part cycleway connecting Waikouaiti to Karitane and Warrington to Waikouaiti. They encouraged the Committee members to support creation of an integrated Otago Trail Network.

Cr Calvert moved to extend the time for the speakers by five minutes, seconded by Cr Wilson.

Resolution

That the Committee extend the time for Public Forum by 5 minutes.

Moved: Cr Calvert

Seconded: Cr Wilson

CARRIED

The motion was carried, and the group spoke for an additional 5 minutes. Councillors asked questions of the group and thanked them for their time.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolution

That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2020 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Cr Wilson

Seconded: Cr Forbes

CARRIED

6. ACTIONS

Cr Wilson moved that the Action Register be noted.

Moved: Cr Wilson

Seconded: Cr Noone

CARRIED

7. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

7.1. LTP Consultation Proposal - Integrated Environmental Management

This paper was provided to describe options for the ORC to achieve integrated catchment management in the region and discuss potential implications (including financial implications) of these options as part of preparing public consultation document for the Long-Term Plan (2021-2031).

Gwyneth Elsum (GM Strategy, Policy and Science) and Sylvie Leduc (Senior Strategic Analyst) were present to speak to the report and respond to questions. Ms Leduc stated that the paper was not seeking a decision on the options to achieve integrated catchment management, merely a decision for the framework for consultation.

Cr Hobbs noted her agreement with the principles of integrated catchment management but wondered how all Otago residents would be represented and encouraged to be involved. Ms Elsum said if the community supported Option 2 during consultation, it included additional resourcing for community engagement which could address Cr Hobbs' concern. Cr Laws said anything that promotes in depth consultation would benefit the community. Cr Malcolm asked how this proposal fitted within the current work underway by various Otago catchment groups. Ms Elsum said it was intended to be complementary, enabling various catchment groups to coordinate and learn from each other.

Cr Malcolm moved Option 2(b) and Cr Hobbs seconded his motion.

Dr Carter said mana whenua have applauded the integrated approach from the outset and said she would support Option 2b but could possibly support 2a. She said integrated catchments will provide a whole order approach, giving equitable footing to environmental, social and economic aspects of freshwater management.

Cr Malcolm then spoke to his motion, stating that the time is right for this approach and although some would prefer to move faster, he said there are concerns regarding resourcing due to so much work currently underway, as well as concerns regarding how to get the community on board. He said integrated catchment management is a fundamental shift in thinking and ORC will need time to make sure it is done correctly. Signaling a slightly slower approach in the LTP will give time to do this. He asked that the motion be taken in three parts.

Resolution

That the Committee:

- 1) **Agrees** that the statement of proposal "integrated catchment management" is a matter of significance as assessed in this report.

Moved: Cr Malcolm

Seconded: Cr Hobbs

CARRIED

Resolution

That the Committee:

- 1) Approves** the statement of proposal “integrated catchment management” for inclusion in the Long-Term Plan 2021-2031

Moved: Cr Malcolm

Seconded: Cr Hobbs

CARRIED

Resolution

That the Committee:

- 1) Approves** the following options to be presented to the public as part of LTP consultation:

- a. *Option 1: ORC supports and enables integrated environmental management in all the region’s catchments.*
- b. *Option 2: ORC leads, facilitates and coordinates integrated environmental management in all the region’s catchments.*
 - i. *Option 2a: and implements this approach at a moderate pace (over 5 years).*
 - ii. *Option 2b: and implements this approach at a slow pace (over 10 years).*

- 2) Agrees** its preferred option is Option 2b.

Moved: Cr Malcolm

Seconded: Cr Hobbs

CARRIED

DIVISION:

For: Cr Deaker, Dr Carter, Cr Forbes, Cr Hobbs, Cr Kelliher, Cr Malcolm, Cr Noone, Cr Robertson

Against: Cr Laws, Cr Scott, Cr Wilson

Abstain: Cr Calvert

Resolution carried 8 to 3, with 1 abstention.

7.2. Integrated Otago Trail Network Investigation

The report was provided to set out opportunities for Otago Regional Council to consider how to assist continued development of an integrated trail network throughout Otago. Michelle Mifflin (Manager Engineering), Garry Maloney (Manager Transport) and Gavin Palmer (GM Operations) were present to speak to the report and respond to questions.

Cr Scott said the community had a fundamental right to access public spaces and waterways and the ORC should do what it can to help grant access to the community. Cr Wilson noted the report cites the RLTP and transport functions for the ORC but doesn't mention its obligations under the RMA, including providing access to water. Cr Kelliher said he was in general support of providing public access to trails across Otago but said he would prefer to not facilitate public access to lands around floodbank assets. He said unlimited public access to those types of assets could compromise their integrity. Cr Malcolm agreed with Cr Kelliher and suggested mitigations be put into place to protect assets such as floodbanks. Cr Noone said he support the recommendations. He noted during the COVID-19 shutdown, the country reconnected with the outdoors, and with walking particularly. He said there would be advantages for such a connected trail network including economic, health and wellbeing.

Councillors suggested a workshop be conducted to further explore opportunities to develop an integrated trail network.

After further discussion, Cr Calvert moved:

Resolution

That the Council:

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Notes** that a Regional Trails Investigation report has been prepared, outlining potential opportunities for the Council to assist development of an integrated trail network throughout the region.
- 3) **Notes** that the opportunities identified in the report could be canvassed by the new proposed integrated catchment management plan and will require additional resources and funding to implement.
- 4) Further explores opportunities identified in the report at a future workshop in 2021.

Moved: Cr Calvert

Seconded: Cr Forbes

CARRIED

7.3. ORC Role in South Dunedin/Harbourside Adaptation collaboration with DCC

The paper was provided to seek a decision on how Council may collaborate with Dunedin City Council on delivery of Otago Regional Council's South Dunedin/Harbourside natural hazards adaptation programme of work. Dr Jean-Luc Payan (Manager Natural Hazards), Dr Sharon Hornblow (Natural Hazards Analyst) and Dr Gavin Palmer (GM Operations) were present to speak to the report and respond to questions.

After a discussion of the report, Cr Forbes moved Option 3, seconded by Cr Hobbs. Cr Noone said Central Government will look to the City and the Regional Council to show a united front by working together on an integrated program to address issues of South Dunedin and Harbourside. He then put the motion.

Resolution

That the Council:

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Notes** the programme of work being delivered by ORC in relation to South Dunedin/Harbourside natural hazards adaptation.
- 3) **Selects Option 3** presented in this report for continuing to collaborate with Dunedin City Council on delivery of that programme.
- 4) **Authorises** staff and the Chair to engage with Dunedin City Council to progress the preferred option and to report back to Council.

Moved: Cr Forbes

Seconded: Cr Hobbs

CARRIED

7.4. Lake Hayes Culvert

In September 2019, Council resolved to “formally invite QLDC, the Department of Conservation and the NZTA to co-fund, with ORC, scoping the investigation and establishment of a target water level range for Lake Hayes and scoping the investigation, consenting, design, construction, maintenance and funding of infrastructure to manage the lake level to that range. This option would require incorporation of activity and funding of ORC’s share of the scoping investigation into draft Annual Plans.” This report was provided to inform the Committee on the activities and associated cost and time frame that would be required to increase the outlet capacity of Lake Hayes (State Highway 6 culvert) and deliver the scoping report. Dr Gavin Palmer (GM Operations) was present to speak to the report and respond to questions.

After questions from Councillors, Cr Scott moved:

Resolution

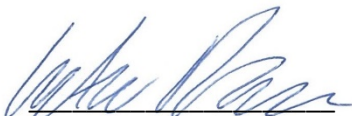
That the Committee:

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Notes** the activities, estimated cost and time frame that would be required to increase the outlet capacity of Lake Hayes (State Highway 6 culvert).
- 3) **Notes** the improvement and maintenance works that will be undertaken by the Department of Conservation on the department’s Lake Hayes walkway and trail this summer and looks forward to a strategy refresh.

Moved: Cr Scott
Seconded: Cr Calvert
CARRIED

8. CLOSURE

There was no further business and Co-Chair Robertson declared the meeting closed at 05:45 pm.



Co-Chairperson

10 February 2021

Date