

Our Reference: A1062745

4 April 2024



**The Members  
Oreti Catchment Liaison  
Committee**

***Notice of Meeting***

The **Annual General Meeting of the Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee** will be held on **Thursday, 4 April 2024** at the Salvation Army Hall, 7 Dejoux Road, Winton.

Light lunch available from 1pm, **meeting starts at 1:30.**

**Agenda**

1. Welcome and Co-chairs' report
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of meeting of 21 February 2023 (attached)
4. Matters arising
5. Catchment Report – Grant Gerrard and Paul Pollard
  - Anticipated river works, fairway spraying and land drainage
  - Stopbank Inspections – Worst areas identified and actions taken
  - Education campaign – Landowner stopbank responsibilities
6. Oreti Branxholme gravel extraction trial - report on Moxy river crossing trial 15 February 2024
7. Financial report – 2023/24 and proposed 2024/25 (attached)
  - Proposed change to Capital Value rating
8. Appointment of Committee and membership
9. Catchment groups reports
  - Greater Dipton – (Colin Smith)
  - Lower Oreti

10. Showcasing the Oreti Catchment – Environment Southland Catchment Integration Team
11. General Business
12. Meeting close

After the meeting Environment Southland staff will be available to discuss matters of interest. We expect the Rating Review will throw up many questions. It is important you come as we need your input as any changes adopted in June in the LTP will determine your rates bill in November.

David Rose  
0274 142 573

Dave Marshall  
0272 205 1895

### **Co-Chairs**

Enclosed for your information:

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|---|----------------|
| 1. Terms of Reference   | <i>Page 3</i>  |
| 2. Minutes of 21 February 2023 meeting of the Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee | <i>Page 6</i>  |
| 3. Financial report - 2023/24 and proposed 2024/25                              | <i>Page 11</i> |
| 4. List of members  | <i>Page 14</i> |

## Terms of Reference

Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee

### Reporting to

*The Community*

*The Regional Services Committee, Southland Regional Council (or "the Council")*

### Objective

To be a connection between the catchment community, its rating district and the Council to effectively manage the catchment's natural resources, and assist the Council to maintain better communications.

### Catchment Liaison Committees role:

1. be an advisory group that provides a leadership role in integrated catchment management, developing and supporting projects with agreed principles and structures through which competing interests in natural resources can be discussed.

Areas of opportunity are in: water quality and quantity, soil health, river management, land drainage, land management that affects water and flood planning;

2. report to the Council on project initiatives and budgets for projects and maintenance works, including advice on the financial overview of budgets and reserves;
3. make recommendations on behalf of the community to maintain and improve the state and management of the catchment and its environment, with any decisions resting with the Regional Council in terms of its statutory obligations;
4. provide advice to the Council on behalf of the rating district for the annual work programme for these projects, including long-term work programmes, maintenance works, river and flood planning and special projects;
5. provide advice to the Council on the development of any plan or strategy in their catchment;
6. reflect the opinion of the whole catchment, complaints or other matters relating to individual ratepayers must be redirected to the Council.

### Standard operating Procedures (16/09/2020)

#### Membership

Public membership is limited to ratepayers including lessees (or their representative) who own land within the Catchment. Membership of Industry, Non-Government-Organisations and Government organisations that do not own land in the catchment is limited to scope of work.

A Sub-Committee or Technical Advisory group may be appointed at the AGM to deal with specific matters and feedback on financial expenditure when required.

The larger membership and the Sub-Committee/Technical advisory group have the ability to co-opt and are generally open to any ratepayer.

Representation from interest groups and industry groups where appropriate.

Environment Southland will appoint its own representative with the agreement from the committee.

#### *Appointment process*

Nominations are to be sought at the Annual General Meeting.

Key considerations will be ensuring Committee interest and geographic balance to enable productive dialogue to occur.

Each committee member reflects the interests of a wider group within the community and preferably have the skills, experience and knowledge to relay information between the (catchment name) committee and different sectors within the community.

### **Governance**

#### *Chairperson*

The group will select a Chair and/or Co-Chairs from amongst its members. The Chair will ensure a fair and equitable group process and be responsible for fostering an atmosphere of respect, open mindedness and group learning.

#### *Quorum*

A quorum shall include the Chair or Deputy Chair and a total of at least 3 normal committee members. The size of each quorum can change at an Annual General Meeting, on November 1 2020 the following applies: *Aparima Catchment Liaison Committee – 6; Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee – 4; Mataura Catchment Liaison Committee – 3; Makarewa Catchment Liaison Committee – 3; Te Anau Catchment Liaison Committee – 3; Waiau Catchment Liaison Committee – 5; Waimatuku Catchment Liaison Committee – 3; Waituna Catchment Liaison Committee - 3*

#### *Meeting Frequency*

Meet with the relevant Environment Southland staff and/or Councillors when necessary with one Annual General Meeting and workshops and additional meetings as required.

The Chair and/or Co-Chairs will represent their committee at combined liaison meetings and workshops.

#### *Collaborative Decision-making*

A credible commitment to the collaborative decision making process by the individuals and organisations involved is required. Decisions will be based on majority voting but consensus should be sought where possible, with the Chair/Co Chairs holding a casting vote.

#### *Principles of Participation*

All members of the committee agree to participate in the following ways:

- contributions are made without prejudice – i.e. nothing said within the group may be used in subsequent planning or legal processes except for any recommendations or agreements reached by the group;
- members to show respect for others views and avoid promoting discord within the group;
- any public statements by the group are to be agreed by the group and made through an agreed spokesperson;

- members of the group are expected to support decisions and recommendations reached by consensus by the group in subsequent public discussions;
- the Chair is responsible for fostering the principles of participation and is expected to be respected as a leader in their role.

**Minutes of the Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee  
Annual General Meeting, held at Salvation Army Hall,  
7 Dejoux Road, Winton on Tuesday,  
21 February 2023, at 10.00 am.**

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<b>Present:</b>	Mr D Rose	Co-Chair
	Mr D Marshall	Co-Chair
	Mr G Milligan	
	Mr L McCallum	
	Mr G McGregor	
	Mr G Hubber	
	Mr A Macdonald	
	Mr J Scully	
	Mr W Currie	
	Mr J McDougall	
	Mr C Hawkins	
	Mr L McGregor	
	Mr L Gerrard	
	Mr S McEwan	
	Mr P Thomson	
<b>In Attendance:</b>	Mr B Febery	Fish and Game
	Mr Z Moss	Fish and Game
	Cr J McPhail	Environment Southland
	Cr P McDonald	Environment Southland
	Cr P Evans	Environment Southland
	Mr P Pollard	Environment Southland
	Mr G Gerrard	Environment Southland
	Miss S Gray	Environment Southland
	Ms E Whalley	Environment Southland
	Mr R Bird	Environment Southland
	Mr R Beal	Environment Southland
	Mrs T Hawkins	Environment Southland
	Mrs M Wass	(Personal Assistant – Minutes)

**1 Welcome and Chairman's Report (*Haere mai*)**

The Chairs welcomed all attending the meeting. Mr Rose and Mr Marshall presented their co-chairs reports, copies of which have been retained on file (A885478 and A885479).

***Resolved:***

**Moved Mr D Rose, seconded Mr D Marshall that the co-chairs report for the 2023 Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee Annual General meeting be accepted.**

**Carried**

Environment Southland is the brand name  
of Southland Regional Council

## 2 Apologies (*Nga Pa Pouri*)

**Resolved:**

Moved Mr C Smith, seconded Mr L McGregor, that apologies for absence be recorded on behalf of Jim McKenzie, Peter O'Callaghan, Scott Whyte, Hamish English, Annie English, Chris Senior, Duncan McGregor, Nicol Horrell, Tony Dunnage, John Ferris, Maurice Dodd, Tim Dawkins, Rebecca Dawkins, Nigel Gilkison and Roger Hamilton.

Carried

## 3 Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting of 23 May 2022

**Resolved:**

Moved Mr L McGregor, seconded Mr D Marshall, that the minutes of the Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee Annual General Meeting held on 23 May 2022 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Carried

## 4 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

## 5 Catchment Report

The Catchment team provided a detailed presentation to the meeting, a copy of which was retained on file.

Mr Pollard spoke to stopbank inspections and anticipated river and land drainage works, and highlighted the following:

- historical flood bank defects (how the bank defect priorities were applied and what each priority looked like);
- current fencing on the centre line should be relocated along the landward toe with the bank being lightly grazed with smaller animals during warmer months as current fencing and practices were not ideal for the structural integrity of the bank;
- Information and pictures had been sent to NZTA on the Mossburn Bridge gravel build-up at the end of 2022, however no response had been received at the time of the meeting;
- updates on the Ram Hill Quarry future, the Winton Bridge erosion issues and the Lochiel Bridge lignite and erosion issues.

Mr Beal presented on the effect of climate change and flood events. He elaborated on the meaning behind the data and how assets would need to be future-proofed to lessen the risk of flood event impacts. This was a potentially very expensive task but if planning was started early, the cost could be spread more evenly over generations. A discussion took place on what the committee would like to see happen with their assets and the following feedback was received:

- slash (forestry debris) blockages had been a major issue in previous flood events. Forestry practices needed to be improved;
- flood banks could be increased if there was capacity;
- gravel build-up and the Winton Bridge was a concern. Strategic gravel management needs to be included in planning;
- more information on possible options (including cost analysis) was required before a decision was made on the level of service the committee could agree to.

**Oreti/Branxholme Gravel extraction trial:** Mr Pollard provided an update on the Branxholme gravel extraction consent and explained the proposed methodology. As a result of feedback Fish and Game and the Department of Conservation (DOC) had given, a trial would be undertaken to prove the limited impacts that crossing the river in Moxy trucks would have. It was noted that KiwiRail had also raised concerns that their piles would be further undermined. Because of this, Catchment staff had engaged WSP to write an engineering report to address this concern.

Fish and Game representative, Mr Zane Moss, addressed the committee and explained that there had not been enough evidence given on implications which is why the trial had been requested. A fulsome discussion took place and the committee noted the following to Mr Moss:

- On-site meetings with Fish and Game would be beneficial to land owners to keep lines of communication open;
- providing land owners with rationale on decisions made may help understanding and improve the relationship with Fish and Game.

## 6 Financial Report – 2022/23 and proposed 2023/2024

Mr Pollard spoke to the financial report and advised that a considerable amount of work had been undertaken since the start of the previous financial year. Consequently, the structure maintenance budget was well over-spent, however, the other budgets were at acceptable levels for the time of year. He noted that there was still a lot of work to be done and to keep in line with rising contractor and machinery hire costs, there would need to be an increase to the 2022/23 budget. After a short discussion the committee decided it would be best to increase the 2023/24 budget by 4.5%.

**Resolved:**

**Moved Mr D Marshall, seconded Mr G Milligan that the Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee agrees to increase the 2023/24 budget by 4.5%.**

**Carried**



**Future Insurance cost and disputed 2023 flood claim outcome:** Mrs Hawkins noted the learnings from negotiations with AON over the 12 months following the flood event, and elaborated on the revised insurance amounts and what they would mean for the catchment. It was noted that the Oreti Catchment would receive \$32,000 from the claim.

## 7 Appointment of Committee and membership

Cr Peter McDonald assumed the role of Chair and called for nominations for the Chair of the Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee.

**Resolved:**

**Moved Mr G Milligan, seconded Mr L McGregor that Mr David Rose and Mr David Marshall be elected to the positions of Co-Chairman of the Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee.**

Carried

Mr Rose and Mr Marshall resumed their roles as co-chairs at this time.

**Resolved:**

**Moved Mr D Marshall, seconded Mr C Smith that Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee comprise of all members present, those with apologies recorded and those who are listed on the mailing list that was circulated with the agenda of the meeting.**

Carried

**Resolved:**

**Moved Mr D Rose, seconded Mr D Marshall that the Technical Group of the Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee comprise of Walter Currie, Hamish English, Roger Hamilton, Grant Hubber, John McDougall Snr, Dave Marshall, Peter O'Callaghan, David Rose, John Ferris, Tim Dawkins, Peter Thomson, Annie English, Lachlan McGregor, Scott Whyte and John McDougall.**

Carried

## 8 General

**Gravel Extraction Habitat Ponds:** Mr Marshall directed a question to Fish and Game as to the purpose and benefit of habitat ponds. Mr Moss explained that it was an off channel option started in the late 1990's to create habitat as well as providing opportunities for gravel extraction. He noted that the system was due to be revisited as there were opportunities for more modern and effective options.

**Lake Hawkins pumps (Invercargill Airport):** Staff advised that this project was going well. The groundwater construction phase had been the biggest uncertainty, however

since getting the project underway, there was now a high level of confidence that the project would be delivered on budget.

**Makarewa River erosion issue:** the meeting noted that erosion issues in the Largs Street area had been an ongoing issue. Design costings had been sought, however there was no outcome to report at the time of the meeting. It was noted that part of the difficulty was that Wallacetown was not part of a rating district.

**Catchment Committee Report:** Mr Colin Smith gave an update on the Greater Dipton Catchment Group which included a project called 'Carbon Free Dipton' that involved five farms looking at ways to reduce carbon. Thriving Southland was collaborating with the Catchment Group and he noted that there would be a Facebook page for those who were interested in following the project.

Mr Marshall read the Lower Oreti Catchment Group update which had been provided via email from Scott Whyte and Sarah Thorn and has been appended as appendix 2.

**Catchment Integration Team:** Mrs Whalley explained the role of the Catchment Integration team and introduced Rob Bird and Keith Finlayson as the staff member who cover the Oreti Catchment.

Mr Bird noted the positive result of recent Intensive Winter Grazing flights and also advised alternative ways for disposing of baylage wrap.

## 9 Termination

As there was no further business, the meeting was closed at 12:11 pm.

Willow clearing to improve the flood capacity between the Irthing Stream flood banks that were breached in the February event is continuing during the current year. This work is quite expensive and is being spread over a few years to ensure budgets are not overspent.

A trial to assess the effects of crossing the river with large Moxy type dump trucks was carried out in February at Ryal Bush Transport's yard at Branxholme. An independent ecologist from Ecological Solutions Ltd was engaged to determine the effects of the trial which was based around measuring the effects of 25 crossings in quick succession across the river bed at the site. We are waiting for the ecologist's report but anecdotal evidence on the day was that the initial discoloration cleared quite quickly and the trial was a success.

There has been a considerable amount of works undertaken on the scheme flood banks since the start of the 2023/24 financial year. Advice received from the Council's consulting engineers is that it is critical that serious defects (i.e. priority ones) are addressed to reduce the risk of flood bank failure in a flood event and there has been a major effort to remedy the most serious ones that could result in flood bank failures.

#### ***Effect of inflation on works***

Catchment rate increases had been kept to a minimum for some time. Last year we increased the budgets to recognise the costs affected by increasing machinery hire costs such as channel maintenance, tree planting and structure maintenance. Inflation is continuing, putting pressure on all costs, particularly the vegetation control budget. We are again recommending an increase to the works budgets to allow work to continue at the same level it has been, or allow for some building of reserves.

All sums exclude GST

<b>River Works</b>		<b>2022/23 Budget</b>	<b>2022/23 Actual</b>	<b>2023/24 Current Budget</b>	<b>2024/25 Draft Budget</b>
		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Revenue	Rates - General	320,366	306,150	345,393	-
	Rates - Separate	747,523	748,945	795,202	998,953
	Local Contributions Received	-	65,972	-	-
	Investment Income Allocated	1,500	4,275	-	(1,978)
	Insurance Recoveries	-	36,813	-	-
<b>Income total</b>		<b>1,069,389</b>	<b>1,153,605</b>	<b>1,140,595</b>	<b>996,975</b>
Expenditure	Cost of Works Insurance	60,000	58,604	60,000	64,355
	Fairway Spraying	182,980	194,045	194,000	211,000
	River Works	628,591	512,475	666,306	702,630
	Channel Maintenance	-	694	-	-
	Structure Maintenance	57,345	105,586	61,359	-
	Stopbank Inspections	-	18,038	18,000	18,990
	Cost of Works Miscellaneous	-	507	-	-
	Depreciation Expense	16,550	-	16,550	-
	Floodwarning	24,972	24,972	24,972	-
	Support Costs	130,745	171,551	133,932	-
<b>Expenditure total</b>		<b>1,101,183</b>	<b>1,086,472</b>	<b>1,175,119</b>	<b>996,975</b>
Transfer from Reserves		-	36,959	34,524	-
<b>Net Movement</b>		<b>31,794</b>	<b>104,092</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

<b>Land Drainage</b>		<b>2022/23 Budget</b>	<b>2022/23 Actual</b>	<b>2023/24 Current Budget</b>	<b>2024/25 Draft Budget</b>
		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Revenue	Rates - General	27,092	22,444	26,728	19,670
	Rates - Separate	243,829	244,293	240,547	177,027
	Investment Income Allocated	10,000	18,966	19,714	16,623
<b>Income total</b>		<b>280,921</b>	<b>285,703</b>	<b>286,989</b>	<b>213,320</b>
Expenditure	Channel Maintenance	159,111	181,869	168,658	189,500
	Structure Maintenance	20,000	337	21,200	23,820
	Support Costs	101,810	42,234	97,131	-
<b>Expenditure total</b>		<b>280,921</b>	<b>224,439</b>	<b>286,989</b>	<b>213,320</b>
<b>Net Movement</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>61,264</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

<b>Carry-Forwards</b>	
Opening Balance at 1 July 2022	\$322,810
Net movement as above	\$165,356
<b>Closing Balance 30 June 2023</b>	<b>\$488,167</b>
<b>2024/25 Funding</b>	
Income from Interest	\$14,645
Income from General Rates	\$19,670
Income from Separate Rates	\$1,175,980
<b>Total Budgeted Funding 24/25</b>	<b>\$1,210,295</b>
(2023/24 Separate Rates \$1,035,749)	
<b>Lease Area Reserves</b>	
Ferry Road Lease Area Balance	\$2,466,853
Oreti Lease Area Balance	\$881,766
Winton Dam Lease Area Balance	\$205,726
<b>Total Lease Area Balance as at 30 June 2023</b>	<b>\$3,554,345</b>
<b>Disaster Reserve</b>	
Balance Disaster Reserves at 30 June 2023	\$1,630,975
Estimated interest received	\$48,929
<b>Forecast Disaster Reserve at 30 June 2024</b>	<b>\$1,679,904</b>
LINZ biosecurity funding contribution to the Oreti River	\$TBC

**Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee List of Members  
at 1 September 2023**

<b>Name</b>
David Rose and Dave Marshall, <b>Co-chairs, Oreti Catchment Liaison Committee</b>
Johnny Adamson
W G Currie
Rebecca Dawkins
Tim Dawkins
Maurice Dodd
Tony Dunnage
Annie English
Hamish English
James English
Louis English
John Ferris
Lindsay Gerrard
Nigel Gilkison
Roger Hamilton
Clarrie & Tanea Hawkins
J W Hazlett
Grant Hubber
M & B Lawton
Alister Macdonald
David MacGregor
Lloyd McCallum
John McDougall (Snr)
John McDougall (Jnr)
Shannon McEwan
Duncan McGregor
Grant McGregor
Lachlan McGregor
Hunter McHugh
Jim McKenzie
Graham Milligan
P O'Callaghan
Lynden Prebble
Cr Maurice Rodway
John Scully
Chris Senior
Colin Smith
Sally-Anne Smith
W J Hamilton Swale
Peter Thomson
Scott Whyte