

# Confirmed Public minutes of the Environment Committee meeting on Thursday 17 February 2022

All members participating remotely at 9.32am.

---

## Members Present

Councillor Gaylor (Chair)  
Councillor Connelly (Deputy Chair)  
Councillor Blakeley  
Councillor Brash  
Councillor Hughes  
Councillor Laban  
Councillor Lamason  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Nash  
Councillor Ponter  
Councillor Staples  
Councillor van Lier  
Barbie Barton (until 11.20am)

All members participated at this meeting remotely, and counted for the purpose of quorum, as per clause 25B of Schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2002.

## Karakia timatanga

The Committee Chair opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

## Public Business

### 1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Ponter / Cr Lamason

That the Committee accepts the apology for absence from Councillor Kirk-Burnnand and early departure from Barbie Barton.

The motion was **carried**.

### 2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

**3 Public participation**

There was no public participation.

**4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Environment Committee meeting on 2 December 2022 - Report 21.570**

Moved: Cr Blakeley / Cr Brash

That the Committee confirms the Public minutes of the Environment Committee meeting on 2 December 2021 – Report 21.570.

The motion was **carried**.

**5 Update on Progress of Action Items from Previous Environment Committee meetings – February 2022 – Report 22.4 [For Information]**

Al Cross, General Manager, Environment Management, and Wayne O'Donnell, General Manager, Catchment Management, spoke to the report.

**6 Environment/Catchment update – Report 22.5 [For Information]**

Al Cross, General Manager, Environment Management, and Wayne O'Donnell, General Manager, Catchment Management, spoke to the report.

The Committee Chair advised that discussion on agenda item 6 – Environment/Catchment Update (Report 22.5) would be adjourned, so that the next item could be dealt with.

Pursuant to Standing Order 3.5.6, the Committee Chair advised that an oral report was to be provided on the Ex-cyclone Dovi weather event.

**7 Ex-Cyclone Dovi weather event – Oral Report**

Andy Brown, Team Leader, Investigations, Strategy and Planning, and Graeme Campbell, Manager, Flood Protection, provided an update on the significant weather event caused by Ex-Cyclone Dovi, and tabled a presentation.

The Committee Chair advised that discussion on agenda item 6 – Environment/Catchment Update (Report 22.5) would resume.

**6 Environment/Catchment update – Report 22.5 [For Information]**

Al Cross, General Manager, Environment Management, and Wayne O'Donnell, General Manager, Catchment Management, spoke to the report.

**8 Farming Reference Group update – Oral Report**

Barbie Barton, Farming Reference Group Chair, updated the Committee on the farming sector.

Ms Barton advised that there has been no Farming Reference Group meeting since the last Environment Committee meeting in December 2021, but Ms Barton contacted members if there were any issues that needed to be raised with the Committee.

There was significant rainfall with thunder showers over Waitangi Weekend. Some farmers had streams overflow and fences needing repairs. Other farmers had crops under water, which will affect the harvest due to mould development and germination. For sheep and beef farmers the rainfall meant an end to drought, with grass growth and choices for feed.

Rapid antigen tests (RATs) are readily available from a farm shop in Masterton. There are COVID-19 infection outbreaks in local schools, so COVID-19 is circulating in the community.

**9 Crown Funded Projects and Programmes update – Report 22.54 [For Information]**

Wayne O'Donnell, General Manager, Catchment Management, spoke to the report.

Barbie Barton left the meeting at 11.20am during the above item and did not return.

## **Karakia whakamutunga**

The Committee Chair invited Councillor Connolly to close the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

The public meeting closed at 11.25am.

Councillor P Gaylor

Chair



Date: 12 May 2022.

