

Confirmed Public minutes of the Environment Committee meeting on Thursday 19 June 2025

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington at 9.31am.

Members Present

Councillor Gaylor (Chair)
Councillor Duthie (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Bassett (until 11.14am, from 11.31am until 11.54am)
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Kirk-Burnand (until 11.14am, from 12.26pm)
Councillor Laban (until 10.20am)
Councillor Lee
Councillor Nash (until 11.14am, from 11.35am)
Councillor Ponter (until 11.14am, from 11.36am until 12.00pm)
Councillor Saw
Councillor Staples
Councillor Woolf

Councillor Laban participated at this meeting remotely via Microsoft Teams and counted for the purpose of quorum in accordance with clause 25A of Schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2002.

Karakia timatanga

The Committee Chair invited Councillor Duthie to open the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Bassett / Cr Kirk-Burnand

That the Committee accepts apologies for absence from Councillor Ropata and Barbie Barton.

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

Andre van Halderen, Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet spoke to the vision and work of the group.

Noted: The Committee requested that the issue of recreational water crafts speeding in the Pāuatahanui Inlet be referred to the Finance, Risk and Assurance Committee.

Jamie Stewart, Pareraho Forest Trust, spoke to item 5 Belmont Regional Park Long-Term Restoration Strategy – Report 25.140.

Anthony Davies, Friends of the Belmont Regional Park, spoke to item 5 Belmont Regional Park Long-Term Restoration Strategy – Report 25.140.

Councillor Andy Mitchell, Hutt City Council, spoke to item 5 Belmont Regional Park Long-Term Restoration Strategy – Report 25.140.

Councillor Laban left at 10.20am during Councillor Andy Mitchell's Public Participation and did not return.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Environment Committee meeting of 15 May 2025 – Report 25.210

Moved: Cr Bassett / Cr Saw

That the Committee confirms the Public minutes of the Environment Committee meeting of 15 May 2025 – Report 25.210.

The motion was **carried**.

5 Belmont Regional Park Long-Term Restoration Strategy – Report 25.140

David Boone, Manager Ecosystems and Community, and Jack Mace, Director Delivery, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Connelly / Cr Bassett

That the Committee:

- 1 Receives the report.
- 2 Notes the content of the report.
- 3 Approves the restoration strategy described in this report, that future restoration at Belmont Regional Park will involve:
 - a Ongoing mana whenua and community involvement,
 - b Intensive, staged restoration over an expected period of 10 years, followed by ongoing ecological maintenance alongside other park values,

- c Planned planting areas of an average 20 hectares per year designed to enhance the establishment of indigenous ecosystems and restore grazing land,
 - d Allowing for natural regeneration of indigenous vegetation to occur over progressive, annual areas of an average 80 hectares per year, in proximity to existing indigenous vegetation areas,
 - e Utilising grazing in areas, reducing over time to nil, until available resources can actively deliver on restoration objectives.
- 4 Agrees to explore opportunities to accelerate the rate of retirement of land in specific areas of Belmont Regional Park where grazing is not required and natural revegetation is considered feasible.
 - 5 Agrees that future grazing licences be assessed for consistency with Master planning documents and where no Master plan has been agreed, licences must be agreed/ approved by the Environment Committee.

The motion was **carried**.

The meeting adjourned at 11.14am and resumed at 11.28am. Councillors Bassett, Kirk-Burnnand, Nash and Ponter were not present when the meeting resumed.

6 Pinehaven Floodplain Management Plan Structural Works Implementation - Review – Report 25.270

Jack Mace, Director Delivery, and Jackie Cox, Manager Infrastructure Assets and Support, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Connelly / Cr Duthie

That the Committee:

- 1 Recommends that Council agrees the construction of Stages 3-5 of the Pinehaven FMP structural works remain on hold.
- 2 Recommends that Council requests officers to develop, over the next 12 months, alternative options for Stages 3, 4, and 5 of the Pinehaven FMP structural works, and report to Council and its relevant committees on the options.

The motion was **carried**.

Councillor Basset returned to the meeting at 11.31am during the above item.

Councillor Nash returned to the meeting at 11.35am during the above item.

Councillor Ponter returned to the meeting at 11.36am during the above item.

7 Waipoua River, Mangatāre Stream and Waiwhetū Stream Flood Hazard Maps – Report 25,248

Francie Morrow, Team Leader Knowledge – Water Resilience, and Ella Boam, Senior Project Manager – Investigations, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Saw

That the Committee:

- 1 Notes that the flood hazard maps have been developed in accordance with Greater Wellington's Flood Hazard Modelling Standard, which is the process carried out by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) to understand flood risk from significant water courses in the Wellington Region.
- 2 Endorses the Waipoua River, Mangatārere Stream and Waiwhetū Stream flood hazard maps.

The motion was **carried**.

Councillor Bassett left the meeting at 11.54am during the discussion of the above item and did not return.

8 Waipoua River Urban Reach – Preferred Flood Risk Management Option – Report 25.249

Francie Morrow, Team Leader Knowledge – Water Resilience, and Ella Boam, Senior Project Manager – Investigations, to the report.

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Duthie

That the Committee:

- 1 Endorses the preferred flood risk management option for the urban reach of the Waipoua River, subject to further discussions between Greater Wellington and Masterton District Council regarding implementation and the desired level of service for key assets, including Mawley Park.
- 2 Notes the robust process of community engagement and scientific analysis used to develop the preferred option.

The motion was **carried**.

Councillor Ponter left the meeting at 12.00pm during the discussion of the above item and did not return.

9 Farming Reference Group Chair's Report – Report 25.285 [For Information]

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Gaylor

That the Committee:

- 1 Agrees to the resolution of the Farming Reference Group that the Chair of the Environment Committee writes to MPI outlining the challenges Canada geese are causing locally including economic challenges, with an acknowledgement that these challenges extend nationally and seeks that MPI classifies Canada geese as a national pest animal.

The motion was carried.

10 WIP Implementation Reporting – Report 25.172 [For Information]

Nicola Patrick, Director Catchment, spoke to the report.

11 Whaitua Update – Wairarapa Coast – Report 25.180 [For Information]

Nicola Patrick, Director Catchment, and Tash Styles, Catchment Manager – Wairarapa Coast, spoke to the report.

12 Te Rōpu Taiao | Environment Update – June 2025 – Report 25.256 [For Information]

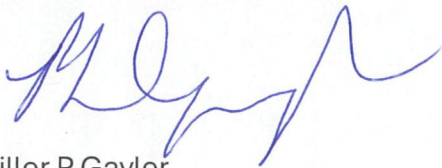
Lian Butcher, Group Manager Environment, spoke to the report.

Councillor Kirk-Burnnand returned to the meeting at 12.26pm during the discussion of the above item.

Karakia whakamutunga

The Committee Chair closed the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

The meeting closed at 12.31pm.



Councillor P Gaylor

Chair

Date: 28 August 2025

