

AGENDA

Downlands Water Supply Committee Meeting Monday, 19 February 2024

Date Monday, 19 February 2024

Time 9am

Location Meeting Room 1
District Council Building
King George Place
Timaru
1651520

Downlands Water Supply Committee

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Downlands Water Supply Committee will be held in the Meeting Room 1 , District Council Building, King George Place, Timaru, on Monday 19 February 2024, at 9am.

Downlands Water Supply Committee Members

Clr Scott Shannon (Chairperson), Clr Stacey Scott, Clr Rit Fisher, Clr Sandy McAlwee, Clr Sally Parker, Mayor Nigel Bowen, Bill Wright, Anna Lyon

Quorum for a Joint Committee meeting is:

- half of the Joint Committee members if there is an even number of members; or
- a majority of the Joint Committee members if there is an odd number of members.

However a quorum will not be present unless:

- the Joint Committee member that is an elected member of Waimate District Council and the Joint Committee member that is an elected member of Mackenzie District Council are both present; or
- the Joint Committee member that is jointly appointed by Waimate District Council and Mackenzie District Council is present.

Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968

Committee members are reminded that if you have a pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda, then they must declare this interest and refrain from discussing or voting on this item and are advised to withdraw from the meeting table.

Andrew Dixon

Group Manager Infrastructure

Order Of Business

1	Apologies	5
2	Identification of Items of Urgent Business.....	5
3	Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature	5
4	Declaration of Conflicts of Interest	5
5	Chairperson’s Report.....	5
6	Confirmation of Minutes	6
6.1	Minutes of the Downlands Water Supply Committee Meeting held on 20 February 2023	6
7	Reports	13
7.1	Downlands Water Supply Scheme Update	13
7.2	Additional Water Allocations	15
8	Consideration of Urgent Business Items.....	16
9	Consideration of Minor Nature Matters.....	16

- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Identification of Items of Urgent Business**
- 3 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature**
- 4 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**
- 5 Chairperson's Report**

6 Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Minutes of the Downlands Water Supply Committee Meeting held on 20 February 2023

Author: Jo Williams, Executive Assistant Infrastructure

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Downlands Water Supply Committee Meeting held on 20 February 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson's electronic signature be attached.

Attachments

- 1. Minutes of the Downlands Water Supply Committee Meeting held on 20 February 2023**

MINUTES

Downlands Water Supply Committee Meeting

Monday, 20 February 2023

**Minutes of Timaru District Council
Downlands Water Supply Committee Meeting
Held in the Meeting Room 1, District Council Building, King George Place, Timaru
on Monday, 20 February 2023 9am**

Present: Cr Scott Shannon, Mayor Nigel Bowen, Cr Stacey Scott, Cr Sally Parker, Cr Sandy McAlwee, Cr Rit Fisher, Anna Lyon, Bill Wright

In Attendance: Andrew Dixon, Group Manager Infrastructure, Grant Hall, Drainage and Water Unit Manager, Jo Williams, EA Infrastructure

1 Apologies

1.1 Cr Sally Parker

Resolution 2023/1

Moved: Mayor Nigel Bowen

Seconded: Anna Lyon

That the apology received from Cr Sally Parker be noted and accepted.

Carried

2 Identification of Items of Urgent Business

2.1 There were no items of urgent business

3 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature

3.1 The following items were identified as matters of a minor nature:

- St Andrews treatment upgrade
- Levels of Nitrate in the Pareora supply
- Opihi River crossing pipeline
- Additional connections to the Scheme
- Te Ana Wait pipeline update

4 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

4.1 Mr Wright declared a conflict by association to Report 6.1 – Cannington School.

5 Procedural matters

5.1 There was general discussion about procedural matters relating to the Committee. Following this discussion the following actions occurred:

(a) Election of Chair

Mr Bill Wright nominated Cr Scott Shannon as Chair of the Committee.

Moved: Member Bill Wright

Seconded: Mayor Nigel Bowen

Carried

(b) Election of Deputy Chair

Mr Bill Wright nominated Cr Sandy McAlwee as Deputy Chair of the Committee

Moved: Member Bill Wright

Seconded: Mayor Nigel Bowen

Carried

(c) Minutes of Meeting held 4th October 2022

Mr Bill Wright raised the matter of the Minutes of Meeting held 4th October 2022. It was noted that following legal advice, the Minutes were approved by the former Chair and the Chief Executive as the meeting occurred immediately prior to the end of Triennial. Following discussion it was determined that the Minutes should have been included in the Agenda for this meeting as an attachment for Committee information.

6 Reports**6.1 Cannington School - Water Supply**

The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the circumstances relating to Cannington School's recent correspondence regarding the supply of water for the school pool and to outline the available options.

Mr Wright having declared his conflict by association gave the Committee a brief background update on the school and the situation including:

- The School swimming pool had previously been filled with untreated water via a connection to the Pareora pipeline which has now been disconnected.
- The School, including the school house, is connected to the Downlands Water Supply.

- There is insufficient storage to fill the swimming pool over a day or two. Filling the pool currently impacts on water availability to the school and the school house.
- The school is looking for support for installing additional storage, either from the three Councils, a provincial funding agency, or some national body.
- A letter was tabled (and attached) from the Principal of the school setting out his concerns.

There was discussion on Option 1, installing additional storage. Mr Wright confirmed that that was the school's preferred option because of the size, height and lack of serviceability of the existing tank.

There was a general discussion on Option 2, a temporary increase in the water units to fill the pool, but which would still take over a week to fill the pool and could also impact on the water supply to the school.

Further discussion focused on how the Committee and the three Councils can support the school to fund the additional storage. It was noted that the school is located in the Mackenzie District.

Resolution 2023/2

Moved: Mayor Nigel Bowen

Seconded: Cr Stacey Scott

That the Downlands Water Supply Committee acknowledges and responds to correspondence from Cannington School:

- (a) advising of the available options as outlined in this report ;
- (b) offering to support the school with obtaining external funding for additional tank storage by identifying potential funding sources and organising letters of support.

Carried

6.2 Downlands Water Supply Scheme Proposed 2023-24 Budget Update

1 Draft Budget was distributed to Committee. Group Manager Infrastructure gave an introduction to this report. Drainage and Water Manager answered questions from the Committee. There was discussion including:

- Anticipated percent increase in rate
- Driver of the increase
- Proposed capital expenditure
- Depreciation of assets, whether fully funded or spread out over time
- The impact of deferring any capital works
- Consensus was that deferring or not funding the increase in the draft budget was just delaying the inevitable

Resolution 2023/3

Moved: Cr Stacey Scott

Seconded: Member Anna Lyon

That the Downlands Committee receives and notes the financial update and agrees to move forward with the draft.

Carried

7 Consideration of Urgent Business Items

No items of urgent business were received

8 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters

The Drainage and Water Manager gave an update on the following:

8.1 St Andrews Update

Waiting for installation of the new UV equipment, which has been delayed due to contractor resourcing. Expected to be complete within the next month.

8.2 Levels of Nitrate in the Pareora supply

Nitrates in the Pareora water supply have reduced to an acceptable level and continue to decrease. The Pareora supply was able to be augmented with other Downlands water to maintain an acceptable nitrate level, and will be able to do this again to a degree if needed.

The cause of the increase in nitrates was not able to be specifically identified, it is believed to be the general environmental conditions, and exacerbated by the heavy rain.

Cr McAlwee advised Waimate District Council are putting in provision to denitrify the water on one of their water supplies, but it would only be operated when needed as it was a high cost for that water supply.

8.3 Opihi River Crossing Pipeline

Consent approval has been obtained from Fish and Game and Arowhenua. Waiting on ECan consent approval, which should be granted within the next three weeks. All design tender, archaeological, bats and lizard management have all been completed. Landowner approvals and land agreement in terms of pipe storage and access are also completed.

Tenders will be advertised as soon as consents are granted.

The intention is to work when the river is at its lowest. Work will take 2-3 months. Hopeful to start construction in April / May.

8.4 Additional Connections to the Scheme

75 applications for water have been received

53 applications are for new water connections

22 applications are for additional water to existing connections

23 applications have been approved and issued. Hydraulic assessments are being completed in terms of determining whether the scheme has the capacity in the small mains to deliver the water for the other applications received. A total of about 90 additional units have been applied for to date.

Cr Fisher sought clarification about the ability and capacity to extend the scheme into the likes of Albury.

Mr Wright confirmed that it was not part of Downlands policy to go into new areas and until this upgrade, there was no availability. Parts of Albury are outside of the scheme.

The Group Manager Infrastructure advised that there was provision in the agreement to extend the scheme. However it was noted that the scheme has been upgraded in the first instance for existing consumers and if the scheme boundaries are extended then this will use some of the scheme capacity. The Committee would have to make the decision to extend the scheme significantly into areas such as Albury and Arowhenua.

The Drainage and Water Manager gave the example of the Albury church that was adjacent to a property connected to the Downlands scheme and therefore strictly speaking outside of the scheme boundary. However, in this particular case there were other considerations that Committee generally agreed with, such as the property previously had a connection (possibly unauthorised) from the neighbouring property and there was some historical documentation that referenced a connection to the Downlands scheme.

8.5 Te Ana Wai Pipeline Update

The Drainage and Water Manager advised the pipeline installation was getting very close to Cave and should be completed within the next few weeks.

8.6 Tour of Downlands Scheme

A tour of the scheme was discussed. Some possible dates would be circulated to members.

The Meeting closed at 10.15am.

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Chairperson

7 Reports

7.1 Downlands Water Supply Scheme Update

Author: Andrew Lester, Drainage and Water Manager

Authoriser: Andrew Dixon, Group Manager Infrastructure

Recommendation

That the Committee receive and note the update.

Purpose of Report

- 1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Downlands Water Supply Committee with an update on project progress.

Assessment of Significance

- 2 This matter is of low significance in terms of Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. It is a regular progress report on the progress of key infrastructure projects approved in the Long Term Plan 2021-31.

Discussion

- 3 There will be a number of Downlands projects progressing and being completed in the 2023-24 financial year: -
 - **Contract 2613 - Te Ana Wai Raw Water Reservoir Cover**

This contract was for the supply and installation of floatable polypropylene disc covers (Hexa-Cover) on the two raw water ponds at the water Treatment Plant. Both ponds now have these covers installed, which will help improve the water quality, therefore ensuring a more efficient operating water treatment plan with minimal waste produced from the membrane filtration units.
 - **Contract 2634 – Davison / Cleland Road PRV**

The contract will be tendered in early 2024 due to the long lead time of 24 weeks for the PN25 pipework, fittings and flow meter required due to the high-pressure requirements. The material will be principal supplied and at this stage construction will start mid-May 2024.
 - **Contract 2594 – Opihi River Watermain Renewal**

The renewal of the pipeline under the Opihi River is now complete. Water from the Downlands scheme is now being supplied to the Waitohi area and the boil water notice has been lifted. The scheme has been running a couple of months already with the new crossing installed successfully. Vegetation is growing well and overall; it was a great success.

- **Contract 2531 – Downlands Water Reticulation Upgrade**

Multiple watermain pipe upgrade has already been completed in the Downlands Scheme and are as below:

1. Gould Road – 1002.38m
2. Winchester Hanging Rock – 982m
3. Monument Road – 1608m
4. Levels Valley Road – 6239.22m
5. McLeod Road – 2318.18m
6. Esler road – 2388.66m
7. Driscoll Road – 2290.91m.

- 4 In addition to the above projects, we have recently installed two 30,000 litre tanks at Albury Fire Station, giving them a combined stored volume of 60,000 litres that can be used for fire fighting purposes. This was required as the filling point hydrants in Albury were decommissioned with the Downlands scheme upgrade.

Attachments

Nil

7.2 Additional Water Allocations

Author: Andrew Lester, Drainage and Water Manager

Authoriser: Andrew Dixon, Group Manager Infrastructure

Recommendation

That the Committee receive and note this water allocations update.

Purpose of Report

- 1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Downlands Water Supply Committee with an update on the status of new connections and additional water allocations.

Assessment of Significance

- 2 This matter is considered of low significance in terms of the Timaru District Council Significance and Engagement Policy as there are few people affected, is consistent with existing policies and minor impact on level of service delivery.

Discussion

- 3 Following recent upgrades to the Te Ana Wai Water Treatment and other infrastructure upgrades, the Downlands Scheme was able to be reopened for new connections. These new applications were subject to hydraulic assessments, that may require a number of hydraulic upgrades to support these new connections.
- 4 At the meeting on 4 October 2023 the Downlands Committee adopted an updated Downlands Water Supply scheme policy. This updated policy provided additional water allocations.
- 5 It was noted by the Committee that the key to providing the additional water allocations is the capacity of the small watermains to ensure that we can deliver to each of those properties. Not everyone will be able to get their allocation on day one. Some areas will need upgrades and that will require funding and time to implement.
- 6 Due to Timaru District Council's current debt level and the associated debt cap, Council is unable to continue to fund additional hydraulic capacity upgrades of the Downlands scheme until such time that current debt is reduced. Current planning would suggest that upgrade may be able to be funded from 2028/29. The Draft Timaru District Council Long Term Plan budget for Downlands Water Supply Scheme will be tabled at the meeting.
- 7 Council will continue to accept applications for new connections where there is not the need for hydraulic upgrades, with no impact on existing connections. However, Council will decline applications that require upgrades until such time that it is able to resume hydraulic upgrades of the Downlands network. It should be noted that this is consistent with Council's public messaging on the Downlands Scheme re-opening, and the Downlands Water Supply Policy.

Attachments

Nil

8 Consideration of Urgent Business Items

9 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters