

# Biodiversity Advisory Group

## AGENDA

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### **Notice of Meeting:**

A meeting of the Biodiversity Advisory Group will be held on:

**Date:** Thursday 5 March 2020  
**Time:** 1.00pm  
**Venue:** Council Chamber, 137 Havelock Street  
Ashburton

### **Membership**

Ashburton District Council:	Cr Lynette Lovett (Chair) Cr Diane Rawlinson David Askin (Open Spaces Manager) Bert Hofmans (Open Spaces Planner)
Environment Canterbury:	Donna Field (also Whitcombe Landcare Group rep) Janine Holland
Federated Farmers:	Bill Hood
Fish & Game :	Jayde Couper and Mark Webb
Fonterra:	Mat Cullen
Foothills Landcare Group:	Gen de Spar
Forest & Bird, ACCT:	Val Clemens and Edith Smith
Forest & Bird Society:	Mary Ralston (also Awa Rata reserve rep)
QEII Trust:	Alice Shanks
Zone Water Committee :	Cargill Henderson (also Anzco rep)

## Biodiversity Advisory Group

Timetable	
Time	Item
1.00pm	Meeting commences

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 1 Apologies**
  - Val Clemens
- 2 Extraordinary Business**
- 3 Declarations of Interest**
- 4 Previous Minutes & Actions** **3**
  - Receipt of minutes 20/08/19
- 5 Biodiversity Advisory Group Terms of Reference** **7**
  - Draft terms of reference for consideration
- 6 Reports and Presentations**
  - 6.1 Glenys Carr – Restoration project (presentation)
  - 6.2 Edith Smith – Ashton Beach, ADC Biodiversity Officer, SNAs and the benefit to biodiversity
  - 6.3 Mary Ralston - Lows Cutting – update on proposal to protect the area and its values
  - 6.4 Agency Updates
- 7 Next Meeting**

2 March 2020

## Ashburton District Biodiversity Working Group Meeting Minutes

**20 August 2019, 1:00pm –4:30pm Council Chambers, Ashburton District Council**

**Attendees:** Cr Selwyn Price (ADC Chair), Cr Mark Malcolm (ADC), Edith Smith and Val Clemens (Forest and Bird), Gen de Spa (Staveley Camp), Barry Austin (Mt Somers Walkway Society and Lake Heron Trapping), Bert Hofmans (ADC), Jayde Couper (Fish and Game), Mary Ralston (Forest and Bird Society, Awa Awa Rata Reserve), Donna Field (ECan and Whitcombe Landcare Group), Bill Hood (Federated Farmers), Mayor Donna Favel (until 1.35pm), Toni Durham and Emily Watson (from 1:35pm to 3:10pm)

**Apologies:** Neil McCann (ADC), Ian Fraser (DoC), David Askin (ADC), Alice Shanks (QEII Trust), Cargill Henderson (Ashburton Water Zone Committee and Anzco).

### Previous Minutes

No changes to the minutes. Minutes confirmed.

### Action Items from Previous Meeting

Action	Responsibility	Progress
ADC Biodiversity Grants – organise and undertake remaining site visits.	Bert	No further progress.
Roadside Vegetation - identify which roadsides sites should be fenced so that this option can be costed.	Alice/Bert	No further progress.
Roadside fencing at Racecourse Rd – onsite meeting with ADC staff required.	Bert	
Roadside Vegetation – publicise impact of spraying on roadsides and emphasise the importance of these sites.		Request has been lodged with Communication Manager.
Billion Trees Project - important to make people aware of Rural C rules in District Plan regarding certain species not suitable for planting. Bert to discuss options with ADC Communication Manager.	Bert	Request has been lodged with Communication Manager.
Biodiversity Seminar – identify topics and outcomes that you see would be helpful to conservation in the Ashburton District.	All	

## Agency Updates

### **Fish and Game (Jayde Couper)**

- Talking to Mid-Canterbury Anglers regarding possible improvements to the fish barrier area/inlet at Lake Hood.

### **Forest and Bird and Ashburton Community Conservation Trust (Val Clemens and Edith Smith)**

- Meeting with students at Lincoln University about World Heritage status for the Braided Rivers and Upper Basins.
- Formal sign for Harris Reserve to be unveiled on Sunday 8 September 2019 2pm.
- Planning for seed bombing day at Wakanui Beach 3 September 2019.
- Winter bird count held last month (July) – 30 grebes counted.
- Forest and Bird meeting 7:30pm tonight at Sinclair Centre re: Black Robin by Eاون Kennedy
- John Waugh attended the first meeting of the ADC Surface Water Advisory Group.
- Forest and Bird are undertaking a field trip 29 September 2019 at the Ashley River.
- Banded dotterel spotted at Wakanui Beach.
- Meeting with Trees for Canterbury 21 August 2019 as Safer Ashburton are looking to set up a native plant nursery at the Hakatere Marae.
- Andy Cox has taken over trapping around Maori Lakes from Alan Sinclair.

### **Mt Somers Walkway Society and Lake Heron Conservation Society (Barry Austin)**

- Nothing to report.

### **Environment Canterbury (Donna Field)**

- Ashburton River water take consents are being reviewed.
- Ashburton High Country Lakes pollution - work ongoing (internal meetings).
- Working on fish passage projects in the Hinds drains – creating fish habitat and weirs
- Limestone Creek in the Hinds River has an excellent population of indigenous fish.
- Planning further work on improving bird habitat in Ashburton River.
- Looking for advice on spending \$40,000 of enhancement of the Ashburton River mouth, particularly on the Ashton Beach side.
- \$134k (\$90k ECan, \$30k LINZ, \$10k DOC) spent in headwaters of Rakaia on weed control. Similar amount spent on weed control in Rangitata River.

### **Forest and Bird and Awa Awa Rata Reserve (Mary Ralston)**

- Written articles for Courier and Guardian.

### **Federated Farmers (Bill Hood)**

- Nothing to report.

### **Staveley Campsite (Gen de Spa)**

- Mini bioblitz at the Staveley Camp on the 23 and 24 September 2019 involving the Ferndale School and Mt Somers/Springburn School. Colin Muerk will be attending. It will involve data logging of species present.

### **Ashburton District Council (Crs Malcolm and Price, Bert Hofmans and David Askin)**

- Attended Trees for Canterbury AGM.
- Attended draft water races bylaw hearings (Cr Malcolm).
- Attended Ecan Biosecurity Meeting 18 June 2019.
- Other – met with Leaderbrand about further funding for biodiversity plantings at their farm in Chertsey.
- Wakanui Beach: met World Travellers and Kanuka Trust representatives regarding possible involvement in Wakanui Beach project.
- Met with Wakanui Beach Restoration Crew to review planting day and plan next steps.
- Lake Camp: hutholders have cleaned up the remaining wilding conifers at the south western corner of the lake. Contractor no longer required for this work.
- Ground truthing of potential insurance reserves by Mike Harding 26 August 2019.
- Ashburton River Mouth Strategy – attended meeting 24 June 2019. (Bert)

### **New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy – Submission on Discussion Document (Toni Durham and Emily Watson)**

- The group were asked for their views on the NZ Biodiversity Strategy draft document. These views were incorporated into ADC draft submission.

### **Appreciation of Nature in Our District (Gen de Spa)**

As described in her email (2 August 2019), Gen discussed her proposal to use Facebook or other social media to promote the values of roadside remnants or favourite trees in our district and to make people aware and proud of them. Discussion centred on which trees, use of photos, and social media. The group supported the idea which Gen is prepared to initiate.

### **General Matters**

Chilean Mayten tree – Ecan is offering \$500 spot prize for new sitings of Chilean Maytan tree.

Alford Forest Monitoring Survey – Alan Totty requested that the survey work is repeated. The request has been forwarded to the Planning Team as it is part of the District Plan monitoring.

### **Upcoming Events**

- 22 September 2019 – closing date for submissions on NZ Biodiversity Strategy
- 23-24 September 2019 – Mini Bioblitz at Staveley Camp
- 29 September 2019 - Forest and Bird field trip at the Ashley River.

Meeting closed 4:20pm

## ACTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING

Action	Responsibility	Progress
ADC Biodiversity Grants – organise and undertake remaining site visits.	Bert	
Roadside Vegetation - identify which roadsides sites should be fenced so that this option can be costed.	Alice/Bert	
Roadside fencing at Racecourse Rd – onsite meeting with ADC staff required.	Bert	
Roadside Vegetation – publicise impact of spraying on roadsides and emphasise the importance of these sites.	Bert	

# Ashburton District Biodiversity Advisory Group

## Terms of Reference

DRAFT

February 2020

### Purpose and Scope

The purpose of the advisory group is to:

- Coordinate the implementation of the Ashburton District Biodiversity Action Plan.
- Maintain partnerships between local and regional organisations with an interest in the management of indigenous biodiversity.
- Provide a forum for discussion and community-wide promotion of biodiversity.

### Membership

Representatives on the working group were invited based on their organisation's participation in developing the Canterbury Regional Biodiversity Strategy, and/or their ability to contribute to the implementation of the Ashburton District Biodiversity Action Plan.

Membership of the Advisory Group is:

Mayor, Neil Brown (ex officio)	ADC
Cr Lynette Lovett (Chair)	ADC
Cr Diane Rawlinson	ADC
Gen de Spa	Foothills Landcare Group,
Alice Shanks	QE II
Edith Smith/Mary Ralston/ Val Clemens	Forest and Bird, ACCT
Bill Hood	Federated Farmers
Mark Webb/Jayde Couper	Fish and Game
Donna Field	Whitcombe Landcare Group
Donna Field/Janine Holland	ECAN
– Ian Fraser/Brad Edwards	DOC
Michael Edmundson	Synlait
Mat Cullen	Fonterra
Angela Cushnie	Kanuka Trust
David Askin	Open Spaces Manager, ADC
Bert Hofmans	Open Spaces Planner ADC

Membership of the group may be amended to include representatives from other organisations. This will be at the discretion of the Ashburton District Council.

To form a quorum, the attendance of representatives from at least 6 of the advisory group member organisations, in addition to at least two ADC local representatives, is required.

Representatives from other organisations may be invited to attend advisory group meetings as the need arises.

### Meeting Frequency

Meet as required but at a minimum, quarterly.

## **Delegations**

### **The representatives on the working group are expected to:**

- Meet to coordinate the implementation of the Ashburton District Biodiversity Action Plan.
- Form project groups where appropriate to work towards specific actions in the Biodiversity Action Plan.
- Share information, both on organisational initiatives and collaborative initiatives, to support better decisions and knowledge of biodiversity.
- Communicate and consult with one another in a flexible and open way.
- Maintain confidentiality where appropriate.
- Represent their organisations' policies.
- Respect other organisations governance and policy approaches and priorities in the district / region, and seek a consensus approach to work with these.

## **Reporting**

The Ashburton District Biodiversity Advisory Group will report to the Community Services Committee.

## **Costs & Expenses**

It is acknowledged that being a member of the advisory group will involve a commitment of members' time and energy, and will involve travel to Ashburton District Council to attend meetings. These costs will be met by the organisation(s) or group(s) that members represent. Costs of meetings and associated catering will be met by Ashburton District Council.

Meetings will generally be held in the Council meeting rooms, and may be held in other venues throughout the district as appropriate.