

Biodiversity Advisory Group

8 June 2021



Biodiversity Advisory Group

Minutes of the Biodiversity Advisory Group held on Tuesday 8 June, commencing at 1.00pm in the Mayors Reception, 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton.

Present: Councillors Lynette Lovett (Chair) and Diane Rawlinson, Bert Hofmans (ADC); Steve Fabish (ADC); Barry Austin (Mt Somers Walkway Soc. & Lake Heron Conservation Soc.); Marcelo Wibmer (Fonterra), Mary Ralston (Forest & Bird and Awa Awa Rata Reserve) and Edith Smith (Forest & Bird).

In attendance: Aisling O'Reilly (Governance Support - minutes); Donna Lil (Environment Canterbury), Ian Soper (Open Spaces Manager)

Apologies

Donna Field, Alice Shanks, Val Clemens, Angela Cushnie, Ian Fraser, Jayde Couper and Janine Holland

Ralston/Austin

Carried

Extraordinary Business

Nil

Declarations of Interest

Nil

Confirmation of Minutes – 2/02/21

That the minutes of the Biodiversity Advisory Group meeting held on 2 February 2021 be taken as read and confirmed.

Rawlinson/Austin

Carried

Reports and Presentations

Canterbury Biodiversity Champions

The group discussed the answers that were prepared by staff and agreed these could go back to the Canterbury Biodiversity Champions Group.

Agency Updates

Edith Smith (Forest & Bird) presented on:

- A work plan to demonstrate the work involved in biodiversity planting.
- Some images to highlight the opportunities for the Ashburton Domain and for some of the road side reserves.

Ian Soper acknowledged the opportunity for native plants to be planted in the Domain and there are plans for natives to be planted in the Domain. Can look

into the possibility of dryland areas to be created. Officers to bring a report back to next Biodiversity Advisory group meeting on this.

Bert Hofmans (ADC)

- DOC have advised that they are likely to decline ADCs application for a wildlife permit at Ashton Beach. Will have to bring a report back to Council to advise of the way forward and the options for this.
- Planting Natives 101 – date of 2 July likely to change due to the recent weather event. Group discussed a potential alternative date for a time in late September/early October.

Other agencies gave verbal updates

Donna Lill (Ecan)

- Some changes to come in biodiversity funding through the LTP.

Marcelo Wibmer (Fonterra)

- 46 Fonterra farms affected by the recent floods. Some are not so bad but others have experienced a lot of damage.

Mary Ralston (Awa Awa Rata Reserve)

- Hoping to apply for funding for restoration works and trapping

There was discussion on what work is being done regionally or locally in order to become predator free by 2050.

Group agreed to get a speaker in to talk about trapping.

Action	Person Responsible
Open Spaces provide report to Biodiversity Advisory Group on opportunity for native plants to be planted in Ashburton Domain.	Ian Soper
Invite speaker to future meeting to speak about trapping.	?

Next Meeting

Tuesday 3 August 2021 at 1pm.

The meeting concluded at 2:46pm