

**MINUTES OF CARTERTON DISTRICT COUNCIL  
WATER RACE COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT THE CARTERTON EVENTS CENTRE, 50 HOLLOWAY ST, CARTERTON  
ON WEDNESDAY, 6 MAY 2026 AT 1:30 PM**

**PRESENT:** Cr Brian Deller (Chair), John Booth (Member-Deputy Chair), Mayor Steve Cretney, Cr Rachel Round, Cr Steve Gallon

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Members

Grant Smith, John Booth, John McFadzean,

Staff

Geoff Hamilton (Chief Executive), Lawrence Stephenson (Group Manager Infrastructure), Jeet Kiran (Waters Compliance and Monitoring Officer), Melvin Pike (Water Race Overseer), Sara Renall (Senior Communications and Engagement Advisor), Serah Pettigrew (Democratic Services Officer)

**1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA**

The meeting opened with a karakia by all members.

**2 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received by Neil Wadham.

**3 CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARATION**

There were no conflicts on interest declared.

**4 PUBLIC FORUM**

There was no public forum.

**5 DISCUSSION OF THE PUBLIC FORUM**

Not applicable.

**6 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES**

**6.1 MINUTES OF THE WATER RACE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 11 FEBRUARY 2026**

**MOVED**

1. That the Minutes of the Water Race Committee Meeting held on 11 February 2026 are true and correct.

**CARRIED**

Mayor S Cretney / G Smith

## 7 REPORTS

### 7.1 WATER RACE REPORT

#### 1. PURPOSE

To provide the Water Race Committee with an update on the management of the Water Races.

#### NOTED

- **Water Race Maintenance** – Council Officers highlighted the impact of the recent heavy rain and flooding challenges and the need for ongoing repairs and cleaning. The heavy rain also caused a few slips which filled up the some sections, exacerbating flooding issues.
- **Carrington Intake Valve** – The intake was flooded with Mangatāre River breaching the banks and flowing overland. This caused the valve to pull away from the concrete wall. The remedial concrete work was completed in the week after the event.
- **Fencing, Planting, and Access Issues** – There has been an ongoing maintenance access challenge for fencing and planting along the water races where access is restricted for Council Officers. The current understanding is that GW's funding is for planting and doesn't support maintenance. There may be occasions where officers are not allowed to enter private property. All agreed to invite GW (Greater Wellington Regional Council) representative to provide advise/discuss on what GW's alignment on what are their practices.
- **Transition to New Water Entity and Staffing Changes** – Council officers informed the committee that several council staff, Jeet and Glenn Bellham will transition to the new water entity. For future water sampling and technical work, this may be contracted externally which may add additional costs to council.
- **Cobden Road Water Race Upgrade** – The Cobden Road Water Race upgrade is near completion with the progress on the pipe installation, ground preparation and the flow management.
- **Targeted Rate for Non-Access Properties:** - Council Officers to Investigate the feasibility of implementing a targeted rate for water race users who do not provide access for maintenance.
- **Draft Code of Practice Finalisation:** - Council Officers to finalise the draft code of practice and ensure it is presented at the next Water Race meeting (12 August 2026). It was noted the Code of Practice is voluntary and there is no enforcement capability if landowner's choose not to follow the code.
- **Water Sampling Site Review:** - Council Officers to review current water quality monitoring sites to identify and remove those providing limited value, and ensuring compliance with consent conditions.

- **Communication to Ratepayers:** - Council Officers to prepare and send a newsletter to ratepayers explaining how the water race rates system works, including examples of rate changes over recent years.
- **Water Sampling Cost Assessment:** - Council Officers to provide an estimate of additional costs for water sampling and monitoring after staff transition to the new water entity, for discussion at the next Water Race meeting (12 August 2026).

**MOVED**

That the Committee:

1. **Receives** the report.
2. **Recommends** Council approve \$30,000 additional water race maintenance budget to be funded from an additional targeted water race rate in 2026/27.
3. **Requests** officers investigate methods to manage the water races, particularly where access is difficult.
- 4 **Requests** an invite to GW officers to attend the next meeting.

J Booth / J McFadzean

**CARRIED**

**7.2 WATER RACE WATER QUALITY REPORT**

**1. PURPOSE**

For the Committee to be informed about water quality in the water races and water race consent applications.

**MOVED**

That the Committee:

1. **Receives** the report.

J McFadzean / Cr S Gallon

**CARRIED**

**8 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA**

The meeting closed with a karakia by all members.

**The Meeting closed at: 2:45pm.**

**Minutes confirmed: .....**

**Date: .....**