

PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting Public, held in the Conference & Function Centre, 354 Main Street, Palmerston North on 15 September 2021, commencing at 9.15am.

Members Present: Grant Smith (The Mayor) (in the Chair) and Councillors Brent Barrett, Susan Baty, Rachel Bowen, Zulfiqar Butt, Vaughan Dennison, Renee Dingwall, Lew Findlay QSM, Patrick Handcock ONZM, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, Bruno Petrenas and Aleisha Rutherford.

Councillor Rachel Bowen left the meeting at 12.36pm during consideration of clause 108-21. She was not present for part of clause 108-21 to 109-21 inclusive.

106-21 **Suspension of Standing Orders**

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Karen Naylor.

RESOLVED

That Standing Order 2.1.4 Member's right to speak (specifically the requirement for members to stand to address Council) be suspended for the duration of the Council meeting.

Clause 106-21 above was carried 16 votes to 0.

107-21 **Presentation - Peter Wells, Chair of the Food and Fibre Group**

Presentation, by Peter, Wells, Chair of the Food and Fibre Group.

Mr Wells, Chair of the Food and Fibre Group spoke on item 5 Approval of Best Practicable Option for Palmerston North Wastewater Solution (clause 108-21)

He said that the group supported option 2 (from the officer's recommendation in the report item 5) but urged Council to cap the land used for wastewater discharge to 760 hectares.

He expressed doubt with the proposal to use irrigation as a way to dispose of wastewater as most of the land area around the city has poor draining soil. He acknowledged that the proposal could work on imperfectly drained soil but this would require more land which he opposed.

He questioned the viability of wastewater irrigation as dairy farms cannot use human wastewater irrigation because of consumer perceptions overseas. This perception is likely to prohibit it being used

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on beef and lamb farms as well.

He was concerned with the impact of the proposal on the rural community and asked for certainty. He did not want people to be pressured into selling their land and did not want to see productive Class 1 and II horticultural soil being used for wastewater irrigation.

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Aleisha Rutherford.

RESOLVED

That the Council receive the presentation from Peter Wells, Chair of the Food and Fibre Group for information.

Clause 107-21 above was carried 16 votes to 0.

REPORT

108-21

Approval of Best Practicable Option for Palmerston North Wastewater Solution

Memorandum, presented by Sarah Sinclair, Chief Infrastructure Officer, David Warburton, Chair, BPO Project Steering Group, Robert van Bentum, Chief Engineer, Melania Voss, Wastewater BPO Project Manager and Jim Bradley, Stantec.

Councillor Lew Findlay QSM left the meeting at 10.30am.

The meeting adjourned at 10.50am

The meeting resumed at 11.08am

Councillor Lew Findlay QSM returned to the meeting at 11.13am.

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Patrick Handcock ONZM.

RESOLVED

1. That Council adopts as the Best Practicable Option for managing wastewater from Palmerston North for the next 50 years Option 2 with the highest practicable treatment level (Level 4) and a minimum 75% diversion of wastewater from the river when the river flow is below half median, and that land acquisition is restricted to 760 hectares, including buffer zones, for the purpose of this wastewater consent.

Clause 108-21-1 above was carried 10 votes to 6, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Susan Baty, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay QSM, Patrick Handcock ONZM, Leonie Hapeta, Billy

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Meehan, Orphée Mickalad and Bruno Petrenas.

Against:

Councillors Brent Barrett, Zulfiqar Butt, Renee Dingwall, Lorna Johnson, Karen Naylor and Aleisha Rutherford.

Councillor Bowen left the meeting 12.36pm.

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Bruno Petrenas.

RESOLVED

2. That Council confirms support to continue exploring other practicable options to increase the diversion of wastewater from the river during the period of the consent through the adoption of an Adaptive Management approach.

Clause 108-21-2 above was carried 15 votes to 0.

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Bruno Petrenas.

RESOLVED

3. That an Adaptive Management Strategy (AMS), be developed by Council with the involvement of Rangitāne and Iwi in the region who continue to be involved in the BPO consent. This may be developed under an agreed Project partnership or Governance group, to be determined upon deciding the BPO. That this group establish the AMS in order to define the resource consent and may continue to be established as part of the consent delivery over time, subject to a terms of reference being agreed by Council.
This group needs to be formed in consultation with Rangitāne and Iwi in the first instance.

Clause 108-21-3 above was carried 14 votes to 1.

Note:

On an amendment that the words "including a staged approach within the first 35 years to achieving the 53% level of diversion indicated in Option 6." be added to the end of the officer's recommendation 1.

Moved Brent Barrett, seconded Aleisha Rutherford

The amendment was lost 6 votes to 10, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Zulfiqar Butt, Renee Dingwall, Lorna Johnson and Aleisha Rutherford.

Against:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Susan Baty, Vaughan Dennison, Lew

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Findlay QSM, Patrick Handcock ONZM, Leonie Hapeta, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor and Bruno Petrenas.

EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

109-21 Recommendation to Exclude Public

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Aleisha Rutherford.

RESOLVED

“That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting listed in the table below.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for passing this resolution
7.	Request for support for Manawatū Jets	Third Party Commercial
s7(2)(b)(ii)		

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public as stated in the above table.

Clause 109-21 above was carried 15 votes to 0.

The public part of the meeting finished at 12.55pm

Confirmed 6 October 2021.

Mayor