

THE OHAU CONSERVATION TRUST - FOURTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
HELD AT THE LAKE OHAU LODGE, ON 27 JANUARY 2019 COMMENCING AT 11.00 AM

**PRESENT** – Grant Eames (Chairperson), Katrina Te Rito (Secretary/Treasurer), Viv Smith-Campbell, and Warren Baker.

**IN ATTENDANCE** – Pip Walter, Gary and Judy Stitchbury, Kay Lawson, Rachel Baker, Mary Eames and Rowan Sprague.

## 1. WELCOME

Grant Eames welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## 2. APOLOGIES

### 2.1 Trustees

Apologies were recorded for Stacey Burnett. (Viv Smith-Campbell / Warren Baker).

### 2.2 Supporters

Apologies were received and accepted from Wendy and Barry Biggs, David Stone, Mary Miller, Jan and Laura Solbak (Viv Smith-Campbell / Warren Baker).

## 3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held 21 January 2018 were taken as read and confirmed (Grant Eames / Warren Baker).

## 4. MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES

None

## 5. ANNUAL REPORT ON THE TRUST'S ACTIVITIES

Grant Eames presented the Trust's Annual Report. It was resolved to adopt the Annual Report on the Trust's Activities. (Grant Eames / Viv Smith-Campbell).

## 6. FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS – 1 OCTOBER 2016 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

Grant Eames spoke to the financial accounts that had been circulated. The Trust is in a sound financial position. The Trust's income for the year was \$88,634.00, with expenses of \$2,523.00, resulting in an operating surplus of \$86,111.00.

The Trust was very pleased to receive a donation from PureTrails cycle tours for \$5792.00. We appreciate the continuing support from PureTrails. Included in the income for the year is \$7,500.00 funding from Meridian Energy Ltd for the purchase and installation of a container for the Trust's gear, \$70,677.00 from ECAN for Preemptive weed control and \$10,284.00 from DOC for Cotoneaster Control. The Trust's main expenditure during the year was Administration at \$1,650.00. At the end of the financial year, the Trust's assets amounted to \$80,578.00.

It was resolved to adopt the Financial Accounts for the year ended 30 September 2018. (Grant Eames / Warren Baker)



## **7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES**

Recorded that Katrina Te Rito, Secretary and Treasurer took over chairing the meeting for the purposes of the election of the Chairperson.

Viv Smith-Campbell was nominated for the position of Chairperson. (Grant Eames / Warren Baker).

Viv Smith-Campbell was declared elected as Chairperson. Grant Eames remained chair for continuation of meeting.

Katrina Te Rito was nominated for the position of Secretary and Treasurer. (Grant Eames / Viv Smith-Campbell).

Katrina Te Rito was declared elected as Secretary and Treasurer.

The existing Trustees, Grant Eames, Stacey Burnet and Warren Baker were confirmed as Trustees. (Viv Smith-Campbell / Grant Eames).

## **8. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS (2018/19)**

It was resolved to appoint Paul Grigg as Independent Examiner of the Trust's Financial Accounts for the 2018/2019 financial year. (Grant Eames / Katrina Te Rito).

In appreciation of Paul's examination of the 2017/18 financial year accounts, it was resolved that a small gift be purchased for Paul and a letter of thanks sent to him. (Warren Baker / Katrina Te Rito).

## **9. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **9.1 Presentation from Rowan Sprague, NZ Wilding Conifer Group Coordinator –**

NZ Conifer Management Group helps connect all groups aiding management and research in wilding conifer control. NZCMG can support the OCT with information, contacts and in funding bids towards best ways in controlling wilding trees as they work through ECAN and MPI and can offer assistance through these channels. Rowan advised that the National Wilding Conifer Fund budget is proposed to be expanded into areas around Twizel and Ohau and requested that OCT submit a letter in support of the bid as the Government will decide the budget in 2-3 weeks. Rowan advised of current pine removal techniques which include drilling pines to inject chemicals, lopping and helicopter spraying. Rowan is working with DOC staff concerning soil health after the spray operations.

Current management is undertaken on both private and public land and funding includes offering land owners up to a 50% subsidy as an incentive so at least the prevention of spread can be achieved. Grant Eames spoke of his attendance at one of the focus groups by Peter Edwards, Political Scientist at Scion and the interest from overseas to use wilding pines as a future resource. Rowan said use whatever method works, and fund management as well as having clear plan of restoration of the land after pine removal is just as important.

There was discussion about dead pines standing after spraying as being an eyesore. Rowan is speaking with forestry companies/operators about their recommendations for spraying and planting. A survey is being undertaken as to whether and how Douglas Fir spread. Another solution for control of large areas of wilding trees is bulldozing, then planting. A more immediate solution is mulching and wood chipping as has happened in the Canterbury region with NZTA along SH8.



## 9.2 Draft work programme for 2018/19

The work sessions for 2019 are as follows;

- i. 9 February (after Waitangi Weekend)
- ii. 21 April (Easter Sunday) – Beech tree planting
- iii. 27 April (after ANZAC weekend) – Beech tree planting
- iv. 2 June (Queens Birthday weekend)
- v. 22 September (South Canterbury Anniversary weekend)
- vi. 27 October (Labour Day weekend)
- vii. 17 November (Canterbury Show weekend)

It was resolved to adopt the Trust's work programme and work sessions for 2018/19. (Grant Eames / Warren Baker)

9.3 **Cotoneaster Control – Progress Update** – Grant Eames commented on the obvious progress with Cotoneaster spraying and acknowledged that it will take a continued effort. Spraying along the lake margins from Freehold Creek along in from of the Lindis Burn property has been successful with cotoneaster gone and no visible re-sprouting. Kay inquired whether Rosehip could also be sprayed as you cannot walk through Rosehip shrub as you can with Cotoneaster. OCT to ask if contractors can spray both although its appreciated that DOC have their priorities and perhaps in the meantime lopping and painting on herbicide when possible may help. Broom and Lupins will still also need monitoring.

9.4 **Restorative Planting of Beech** – OCT have 150 Beech seedlings to transport from DOC Motukarara Nursery in April. Having areas cleared of wilding pines for replanting is ideal however this does not look possible in near future. It was suggested that the Trust should use the seedlings on the leaf litter edge of the A20 trail before they are sprayed as a source of beech seedling. OCT to ask DOC however it was queried whether difficulties digging out from the terrain will damage the roots and will therefore make it difficult to re-establish. Ideas for possible places to plant the beech seedlings were sought with suggestions including Aubrey Reserve, on the western side of Lake Middleton and the southern lakeside beyond Lake Middleton. Other areas suggested were augmenting existing small remnant beech areas from Poverty Point and the three areas past Parson's Creek (opposite the Lodge Cottages/airstrip) and along the lakeshore beyond the Killin driveway where there was a self-sown Willow.

9.5 **Container – Progress Update** – The Trust has finally received approval from DOC and WDC. A quote was obtained from Whitestones Contacting to clear site, fell tree and bring shingle for the base for container to sit on. Quote is being considered by Trustees.

9.6 **Thanks to resigning Chair** – Viv Smith-Campbell thanked and made a presentation to Grant Eames who has resigned from being the Chairperson.

9.7 **Thanks for the Venue** – Grant Eames thanked Mike and Louise Neilson for the use of the Lodge as a venue for this AGM.

**10. MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting closed at 12.15pm.

Signed by the Chairperson of the meeting as a true record of the meeting.

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date: 28-1-2020