


## 4. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT

### 4.1 Ms Shirley Hayward - Environment Canterbury



Ms Hayward attended the meeting to report on the testing regime that Environment Canterbury has for monitoring the algal bloom in Lake Forsyth. She reported on the monitoring programme that was in place and the locations around the lake where samples were taken. She explained that there were no specific guidelines for when the toxin, produced by the algal bloom, was at a sufficiently high enough risk to pose a problem on contact (rather than ingestion). The existing protocol therefore was that Environment Canterbury notified Community & Public Health when the toxin was present and it was then the health authority's decision as to whether warning signs should be posted.

Ms Hayward explained that the impediment to using a "fire hazard" type sign (which the Board had indicated it would favour) was, that it was difficult to determine the extent of the risk the toxin was posing, particularly when it was at a medium or low level. On the other hand it was easy to gauge when the risk was high.

Ms Hayward clarified for members that it was Environment Canterbury's responsibility to monitor the water quality in the lake and notify Community & Public Health of the results. It was then Community & Public Health's responsibility to advise people if there was a risk. She added that the existing protocols for dealing with the lake monitoring were currently being reviewed.

In reply to questions Ms Hayward said it was probably a shared responsibility for which authority was responsible for the water quality in the lake, but that ultimately the community needed to take ownership of the problem. She also stressed that the technology was not available to be able to give a definitive reading of the toxin levels in the lake. If the algal bloom was present the toxin was probably going to be present.

The Board **decided** to urgently request that a representative from Community & Public Health attend a Board meeting to update the Board on the existing protocol for assessing the health risk of the lake and advising the public of that risk.

It was noted that the Board could support extra funding for this issue by way of a submission to Environment Canterbury. The Board also indicated it would be interested to see Environment Canterbury's protocol for dealing with this issue and in particular who in Council was supposed to be advised when the bloom and toxin were present.

### 4.2 Bi-Monthly Police Report

Apologies had been received from the two local policemen as they were unable to attend the meeting, however Senior Constable Ditmer had supplied a written report for members information. The report covered recent incidents in the Akaroa-Wairewa area, including:

- Stabbing in Akaroa with car sliding off the Akaroa wharf as a related incident
- Theft of firearms from a Little River property
- Six sheep shot
- Complaints regarding state of Pigeon Bay Road owing to dairy stock usage
- Akaroa skatepark area being littered – request for additional rubbish bin
- Stock Control – Police still being called to incidents
- Parking issues in Akaroa

It was pointed out, in regard to the issue of stock on Pigeon Bay Road, that the Banks Peninsula Stock Control Bylaw was still valid and the provisions in that bylaw should be used by staff to address the issue.

The Board agreed with the Police that it was not the Police's responsibility to deal with stock control incidents. Members asked that staff update them on what was being done regarding the suggestion to set up a network of local farmers to deal with these incidents. They also asked that staff inform the Board what measures were being taken to enforce the Banks Peninsula Stock Control Bylaw.

In response to the request by the Police for an additional rubbish bin at the skatepark, the Board asked that staff work with Mr Ryder to investigate a suitable solution.