

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 9 AUGUST 2011 AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.30 A.M.

PRESENT:

B. Chinn (Chairman), R. Scarlett, T. Archer, D. Davidson, A. Robb, A. Birchfield, I. Cummings, T. Scott, F. Tumahai (arrived 10.32)

IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), M. Meehan (Planning & Environmental Manager), C. Dall (Consents & Compliance Manager), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

3. MINUTES

Moved (Archer / Cummings) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 14 July 2011, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cr Chinn stated he has nothing to report this month.

5. REPORTS

5.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

5.1.1 PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT

M. Meehan spoke to his report. He stated that he attended a meeting at Grey District Council to discuss the Northern Breakwater development that they are planning in the Cobden Lagoon area. M. Meehan reported that the draft State of Environment Report has now been sent out to councillors. He advised that Jonny Horrox, Council's Resource Scientist, would hold a workshop for councillors following today's meeting.

M. Meehan reported that there have been six exceedences of the National Environmental Standard for PM₁₀ in Reefton so far this winter. M. Meehan he reported that he has had a look at the exceedence over the last five years. He reported that there were 23 exceedences in 2010, 16 in 2009, 17 in 2008, 24 in 2007 and 15 in 2006. He stated that this is very unpredictable and this year's figures seem quite low to date.

Moved (Archer / Davidson) *that this report is received.*

Carried

5.1.2 CIVIL DEFENCE & REGIONAL TRANSPORT REPORT

C. Ingle spoke to this report advising that Resilience Fund funding of \$24,500 has been received from the Ministry of Civil Defence to carry out a public education information baseline survey of West Coast residents to establish the preparedness of families on the West Coast in hazard situations.

C. Ingle reported that Total Mobility scheme use is slightly down on use compared to last year.

C. Ingle reported that Government recently passed the Government Policy Statement on Land Transport Funding. C. Ingle advised that government's goal for transport is *"an effective, efficient, safe, secure, accessible and resilient transport system that supports the growth of our country's economy in order to deliver greater prosperity, security and opportunities for all New Zealanders."* C. Ingle advised that for the Regional Council, this is something we have to have regard to when we are preparing the Land Transport Strategy, and the Regional Land Transport Programme. C. Ingle advised that this may affect how district councils get funding for local roads but this is yet to be confirmed as further information is awaited from NZTA. C. Ingle stated that this policy statement sets out the government's intention to optimise the use of the transport system for freight and other economic income generation activities. C. Ingle drew attention to the diagram on page 15 of the agenda, which shows how all the policy documents fit together and influence each other.

Cr Archer asked if there has been any response on the funding application submitted by this council. C. Ingle responded that N. Costley attended a meeting in Wellington where regional council representatives met with NZTA. C. Ingle advised that it was felt that NZTA had not fully realised the implications of what they were suggesting. C. Ingle suspects that there will still be a push with road safety to tighten this up. He thinks that NZTA will have a rethink about the overall F.A.R. rates and how they would be changed. C. Ingle advised that funding assistance is currently based on the size of the region's programme and if there are a lot of projects happening on the West Coast then we get more funding. Cr Archer stated that the funding cut was around \$50,000. C. Ingle confirmed this and stated that he would continue to advocate for the region.

Moved (Scarlett / Archer) *that this report be received.*

Carried

5.2 CONSENTS AND COMPLIANCE GROUP

5.2.1 CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT

C. Dall spoke to his report. He advised that there were an unusually large number of applications to change consent conditions during the reporting period. C. Dall reported that the hearing for the consent applications for Buller Coal Limited's proposed Escarpment Mine on the Stockton Plateau closed on the 5th of August and a decision is expected to be released by the end of August.

Cr Birchfield commented that there is another small power scheme going ahead in the Kawhaka Creek area. C. Dall responded that this is a very small scheme and technology has now improved for these small micro hydro schemes and they are now becoming more popular.

Moved (Archer / Davidson) *that the August 2011 report of the Consents Group be received.*

Carried

5.2.2 COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT

C. Dall spoke to this report advising that Compliance staff have completed the annual aerial flyover over much of the region. C. Dall advised that this is a valuable monitoring tool that allows for a large area to be covered fairly quickly and it a good way of identifying obvious and potential non-compliances. C. Dall stated that stand off pads and wintering pads are the main things being

looked at with staff following up on those that are potentially not meeting the relevant regional rules.

C. Dall reported that the whitebait season is fast approaching and monitoring of whitebait stands is underway. C. Dall advised that monitoring of gravel extraction sites is ongoing especially in the more popular locations. He stated that gravel extractors in the Taramakau River have been recently reminded of the requirements of their consent conditions.

C. Dall reported that five infringement notices were issued to a single farmer for ongoing offences relating to the unauthorised discharges of dairy effluent on his land.

C. Dall reported that staff are monitoring the road works on State Highway 6 which are causing concern to local residents in this area.

Moved (Scarlett / Davidson) *That the August 2011 report for the Compliance Group be received.*
Carried

6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 10.47 a.m.

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Chairman

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Date