

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PUNAKAIKI RATING DISTRICT HELD AT THE PUNAKAIKI TAVERN ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2013, COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM.

PRESENT

S. Casey, M & F. Keating, S. Griffin (Buller District Council), G & A. Beynon, I & L. Ryder, P. Volk, D & G. Freeman, J. Lightfoot, C. King, B & J. Gerard, N & D. Wilkins, C. Findlay, S. Gasson, T. Sullivan

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council
T. Archer (Councillor)
M. Meehan, W. Moen, T Jellyman (Staff)

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

BUSINESS

T. Archer opened the meeting and welcomed those present to the meeting. He introduced himself and the Council staff. He asked if all present are members of the Punakaiki Rating District. This was confirmed.

Moved: *"That the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting held on 17 October 2012, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."*

J. Lightfoot / F. Keating - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

FINANCIAL REPORT

M. Meehan presented the financial statements for the financial period ending 30 June 2013. M. Meehan advised that the balance in the loan account as at 30 June 2013 of \$1,826.08. He advised that the maturity date of this loan is November 2015.

M. Meehan presented the expenses and revenue in the maintenance account. He advised that the opening balance was close to \$35,000 in deficit. He advised that expenses during the reporting period amounted to just over \$26,000. The closing balance in this account as at 30 June 2013 is \$30,647.72 in deficit. M. Meehan stated that this financial situation is not ideal.

WORKS REPORT

W. Moen presented the 2012 / 2013 works report. He advised that the total cost of works was \$20,096, which included the survey costs. W. Moen advised that the repair work was carried out by MBD Contracting Ltd. W. Moen spoke to the cross section report and advised that overall there has been a buildup of just over 14,045^{m³}. He stated that there is currently no serious erosion happening. W. Moen reported that he carried out on 9 August 2013 and identified a total of \$34,500 worth of maintenance works, included in this is the cost to repair slumping of the wall between Mabel and Webb Streets and two other areas along the seawall. He stated that that estimated cost of this repair work is \$22,500 and this work was tendered out several weeks ago with Sicon Ferguson Contracting Ltd winning the contract at a cost of \$16,000. W. advised that the rock required for this

work was sourced from further up the Punakaiki River. He advised that he has allowed \$12,000 for unforeseen maintenance for the period from now until the end of June 2014. W. Moen advised that the proposed works cost of \$34,500 will be reduced in view of the cheaper contract price for the recent works.

M. Keating stated that he is concerned about the figure of \$7,500 for the cleanup along Dickinson Parade. W. Moen stated that he does not have the exact figure to hand for this work but he estimated that it was for eight hours digger hire at a cost of approximately \$140 per hour. He stated that the \$7,500 is just an estimate. F. Keating asked for further clarification of what work was involved in the Dickinson Parade area. W. Moen explained that rock was moved off the road by using a digger. F. Keating asked if Buller District Council has any obligation to fund this work. S. Griffin stated that this area is a road and Buller District Council is responsible for this area but the rock is coming from the seawall. S. Griffin stated that Buller District Council maintains the road area. A speaker noted that the top of the stopbank is not the road. It was noted that the sea pushes the rock work back up onto the road several times a year. F. Keating asked who is responsible for cleaning up the road. S. Griffin stated that this road has always been classified as a low maintenance road and it is not maintained to the same standard as the other roads in this area. S. Griffin stated that there if there is a lot of rock on the road then the road can be closed until it has been cleared. M. Meehan asked S. Griffin if there was a lot of rock on the road would Buller District Council clear it off the road or would it just be left. S. Griffin stated that Buller District Council does maintain the road but is not always immediate. Cr Archer advised that the issue is who should be paying for the cleanup as the estimate was \$7,500 for the cleanup but the price came in cheaper at \$5,000. It was noted that Dickinson Parade is the area is the whole road, the land between the stopbank and the front properties. W. Moen stated that this is a gray area and it has happened three or four times this year. It was agreed that S. Griffin and W. Moen would discuss this after tonight's meeting to look for a way forward and report back to the spokesperson for the rating district. P. Volk suggested that if the road is closed and it just becomes a walkway might be a way forward. P. Volk stated the only people making money out of this are the contractors who clear the road. He feels it would be easier just to wait for the council to clear this area and keep it as a walkway when there is rock on it. M. Meehan stated that it seems that the general view is to leave Dickinson Parade as a walkway and not to spend rating district money on clearing the road.

RATES 2014 / 2015

M. Meehan advised that in view of the lower tender price it is now looking like the rating district will be in deficit by \$15,000 at the beginning of the 2014 / 15 financial year. He stated that if there is no unforeseen maintenance required with the \$12,000 allowed for this the deficit may only be \$3,000 but this is dependent on what happens during the year. M. Meehan advised that the rate strike is \$45,000 in time the rating district account will get back into credit. Cr Archer advised the meeting that when it comes to the setting of the rate strike council becomes very nervous about the lack of funds and council likes to see rating districts having a positive account balance. M. Meehan reminded the meeting that the rating district's loan will be paid off by November 2015. He feels this will be quite a major thing for the rating district. M. Meehan confirmed that once the loan is paid off then a maintenance rate will be all that is required. M. Meehan advised that council is recommending a rate strike of \$45,000 for the coming financial year. Cr Archer confirmed that the \$45,000 is the same as last year. The meeting agreed with this figure.

POTENTIAL CAPITAL WORKS TO RAISE THE SEAWALL HEIGHT

W. Moen advised that over the past couple of years there has been a series of storm events that have overtopped the seawall and washed heavy material onto properties in this area. W. Moen stated that a few years ago when the seawall was designed there was an intention to raise it by about a metre in years to come. M. Meehan stated that Council is very conscious that the rating district has a loan in place at the moment and Council would not want the rating district to have another loan in place before the current loan is paid off. M. Meehan stated that this is just a point for discussion purposes and that the rating district might like to consider this. Cr Archer asked the

meeting if they wished to consider P. Volk's suggestion of covering the top of the seawall with something that it not going to move every time there is a storm event. Cr Archer stated that if the seawall was to be increased in height or to have a more permanent topping then this would need to be very heavy material. He stated that the rating district may also need to consider just living with the fact that during storm events there will be some material that needs to be put back to where it came from.

I. Ryder stated that the rating district is concerned about the corner of the wall and he feels that the problem is that NZTA caused this by the shape of the wall and this is impacting on the area by the motels. It is felt that this is what is taking out the toe at the end of the embankment. I. Ryder stated that the action of the waves is causing problems in this area. W. Moen advised that at the time the wall was built he tried to talk NZTA into continuing the wall to make it longer. J. Lightfoot stated that it would be good if both of the ends of the wall could be lined up to solve this problem. M. Meehan stated that he would speak to M. Piner from NZTA about this matter. M. Meehan suggested an Envirolink Grant could be applied for to look for a solution to this problem. I. Ryder stated that a metre high increase in wall would not work, it would need to be at least two metres high and this would be very expensive. S. Casey stated that the idea of turning Dickinson Parade into a walking track may not be a good idea as large machinery needs access to this area so that it can be tidied up after a storm event. S. Casey is stated that it would be cheaper to tidy the road up as it is because if it is a walking track it will become too hard to get to this area with big machinery. W. Moen explained how he intends for this job to be done. S. Griffin stated before consideration is given to increasing the height of the seawall, there needs to be some idea of costs to do this work and ongoing maintenance costs as well. Extensive discussion ensued. M. Meehan asked the meeting if it was there wish for staff to cost out the increasing of height for the seawall. It was agreed that an Envirolink Grant would be applied for and that M. Hicks (NIWA Coastal Engineer) would be asked to look at the swirling problem on the seawall corner. This information will be reported back to the committee. I. Ryder asked how many people are in the rating district. T. Jellyman advised that there are around 30 ratepayers in the rating district. W. Moen was asked for a ball park figure for the raising of the seawall. W. Moen advised that a rough figure for a metre high increase would be around \$120,000 to \$140,000 and assuming that the rock is reasonably cheap. Cr Archer stated that there are three classifications in this rating district and he feels that it would be unlikely that the rating district could be extended. W. Moen stated that there is no other rateable land that could be included in the rating district. It was stated that DoC do not pay rates.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Cr Archer read out the names of those on the committee. Cr Archer asked if anyone wishes to either come off or go on to the committee. J. Lightfoot asked if everyone would be happy if he made a mass nomination of all those on the current committee be re-elected. T. Sullivan seconded this motion

Moved: *"That the committee for 2013 / 2014 financial year consist of G. Beynon, N. Wilkins, S. Casey, M. Keating, A. Beynon, I. Ryder, L. Totzauer, and J. Lightfoot".*

J. Lightfoot / T. Sullivan – Carried

J. Lightfoot stated that he would be away from the away area each fortnight for a couple of days. I. Ryder stated that this could be worked around. It was agreed that a deputy Spokesperson would be appointed to deal with any matters in J. Lightfoot's absence.

Moved: *"J. Lightfoot be re-elected as Spokesperson and G. Beynon be elected for the 2012 / 2013 financial year."*

I. Ryder / N. Wilkins – Carried

Moved: *"That P. Volk, C. Findlay and T. Sullivan be elected to the rating district*

committee for the 2013 / 14 year".

J. Lightfoot / D. Wilkins – Carried

The rating district committee now consists of G. Beynon (Deputy Spokesperson), N. Wilkins, S. Casey, M. Keating, A. Beynon, I. Ryder, L. Totzauer, J. Lightfoot (Spokesperson), P. Volk, C. Findlay and T. Sullivan.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Archer advised that council has 22 rating districts spread across the region. He advised the during the year council was concerned about the costs of holding these annual meetings as in many of the rating districts there was not a lot achieved or a lot of outcomes. Cr Archer advised that some rating districts were therefore given the opportunity of having a biannual meeting or being contacted to determine whether or not the committee felt there was a need for a meeting. Cr Archer asked the meeting whether or not they prefer to continue with annual meetings or whether they would like to go to biannual meetings. Cr Archer advised that each rating district has to pay for the staff time for these meetings. M. Keating stated that he feels that there is two years to go with the rating district loan for the seawall. He feels that once this loan is paid off then consideration could be given to go to biannual meetings. J. Lightfoot stated that there are a lot of changes in some areas with people moving away.

Cr Archer thanked those present for their attendance and their contributions to tonight's meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.55 p.m.

Action Points:

- S. Griffin and W. Moen to find a way forward for the ongoing maintenance of Dickinson Parade.
- M. Meehan to investigate NZTA coastal works and report back to rating district.
- M. Meehan to apply for Envirolink Grant for seawall improvements.
- Analysis cross section data history.