

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 8 APRIL 2014, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11.45 A.M.

PRESENT:

A. Robb (Chairman), A. Birchfield, P. Ewen, P. McDonnell, S. Challenger, N. Clementson, T. Archer.

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

1. APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved (Birchfield / Ewen) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 18 March 2014, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters arising

Cr Archer asked if development of the concept plan for the Westport flooding issue remains on target for July. M. Meehan confirmed this.

REPORTS:

4.1 ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT

M. Meehan spoke to this report and took it as read.

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

Carried

4.2 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT

R. Mallinson spoke to his report advising that he has had a busy month working on the Annual Plan to ensure it is ready for adoption at this meeting. R. Mallinson reported that the investment portfolio shows an income for the year to date of just under \$648,000. He advised that the Westpac Fund Managers will be making a presentation to councillors after lunch today.

R. Mallinson advised that Westpac are considering council's request for an increase in the Multi Option Credit Line. R. Mallinson reported that he has also asked Westpac to review Council's lending margin. R. Mallinson reported that a further deposit of \$50,000 has been made to the Catastrophe Fund during March.

R. Mallinson reported that the Draft Annual Plan was circulated to Councillors last week. He drew attention to a minor change on page 15. He circulated a replacement page 48. R. Mallinson advised that a feature in the West Coast Messenger will be placed on the 23rd of April.

Cr Archer stated that he only received his copy of the draft Annual Report yesterday as it was delivered by courier. Cr Clementson stated that he only received his copy this morning. Cr Robb asked if the tight timeframe is just due to timing of notifying the Annual Plan or is there some other reason. R. Mallinson advised that the regulation requirements are becoming more and more complex as to what has to be included in the Plan. He stated that it is now becoming increasingly challenging to deliver the Annual Plan on a timely basis. It was agreed that in future the draft Annual Plan will be emailed as well as couriered to councillors. At Cr McDonnell's request, R. Mallinson gave an update on the history of the LAPP Fund which has now been replaced by the Catastrophe Fund.

Moved (Clementson / Challenger)

1. *That this report be received.*
2. *To formally adopt the Draft Annual Plan for 2014/15 for public consultation.*
3. *The formal consultation period to be notified no later than 15 April 2014, with a closing date for public submissions of Friday 16 May 2014.*
4. *Special meeting to hear submissions to be held at 10.30 on the 27th of May 2014.*

Carried

6.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT

Cr Robb spoke to his report and noted the various meetings he attended. He stated that the Haast Hollyford Road meeting was a run down from the potential investors with Mr Bruce Smith and Mr Durham Havill speaking on where they are currently at with this.

Cr Robb stated that the meeting that Council hosted with Hon Amy Adams was a very successful meeting. Cr Archer stated that he read in a newspaper that there is a possible legal challenge being mounted on the legality of physically closing the road. Cr Archer stated that exactly the same thing happened with the Karamea to Collingwood Road where there was a legal road mapped out on LINZ maps but Helen Clarke closed the road, took the road off the council and invested it in the conservation state. Cr Robb advised that the Mayors and Chairs Forum has indicated that local councils do not have any funding for this project but they support this project in principle.

Cr Robb reported that he and C. Ingle attended the Zone 5 and 6 meeting in Invercargill. He stated that it is good to be able to build relationships with other Councils that attend this meeting.

Cr Robb advised that he and Cr Ewen attended the RTC meeting on the 1st of April. He advised that the upgrade on the State Highway 73 upgrade at Mingha Bluff is gaining support.

Cr Robb reported that he spoke about the Reefton Airshed at the recent New Zealand Planning Institute conference. He stated this was an interesting and worthwhile conference. Cr Robb stated that the Chairs of Environment Southland and the Otago Regional Council are keen to see how the Reefton Airshed work progresses as these regions both burn coal.

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

Carried

7.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

C. Ingle reported that council is seeking to lift up from level two (secondary accreditation) to level three (tertiary accreditation) for the ACC Workplace Safety Management Practices Programme. He advised that the Health & Safety Committee is working towards accreditation and is working closely with the management team to achieve this especially in the area of accident / incident reporting and hazard management. C. Ingle advised that management has recently undergone health and safety training.

C. Ingle advised that a representative from the Department of Internal Affairs recently visited. He advised that the department has set up a parallel system to what Audit does of trying to avoid the next Kaipara and trying to build good relationships with councils.

C. Ingle reported that the visit from MfE staff which occurred the day before the Minister visited was a very fruitful meeting. He advised that some funding could be sourced as a result of this meeting. C. Ingle advised that the Minister seemed to be quite positive about the possibility of government contributing funding to the Reefton Airshed. The Minister advised that this would have to be a partnership and money would have to be raised locally.

C. Ingle reported that he attended a very productive meeting with the Chief Executives of the West Coast Councils on the 31st of March. He advised that this forum puts together the agenda for the Mayors and Chairs meeting, he stated that the main item on this agenda is the Economic Action Plan which fell out of the Economic Summit that was held just before Christmas.

C. Ingle stated that RTC workshop that discussed R Funding was very good. He stated that the main area of discussion was where to put the R Funding and the Mingha Bluff was number one priority with passing opportunities within the region also considered. C. Ingle advised that the RTC does not have total control over what is spent as NZTA has the purse strings but council does have some influence in making recommendations on how the money is spent.

C. Ingle advised that he has now met the new Audit Director Scott Tobin. He feels that Mr Tobin has a good grasp of how we operate here.

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

Carried

7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 12.27 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date