

## **THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 18 MARCH 2014 AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.30 A.M.**

#### **PRESENT:**

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

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

#### **2. PUBLIC FORUM**

There was no public forum.

#### **3. MINUTES**

**Moved** (Robb / Clementson) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 11 February 2014, be confirmed as correct.*

*Carried*

#### **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

#### **4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cr Ewen reported that on the 17<sup>th</sup> of February he attended a presentation by the Chief Executive of the NZ Motor Home Assn. Cr Ewen stated that one of the topics of discussion was waste disposal and he advised that any member or prospective member must have a self-contained effluent system in their motor home.

Cr Ewen reported that he attended a Grey District Council Economic Forum presentation last week. He stated that the objective was to promote the district and the region. Cr Ewen advised there was a good stakeholder attendance from DoC, Tai Poutini and other councils. Cr Ewen stated that he dealt with various ratepayer enquiries relating to 1080 and consenting issues.

**Moved** (Ewen / Robb)

*Carried*

#### **5. REPORTS**

##### **5.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP**

##### **5.1.1 REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT REVIEW – DISCUSSION DOCUMENT FEEDBACK**

M. Meehan spoke to this report. He advised that 233 written responses were received. He stated that 75% of respondents are in support of the ideas put forward in the discussion document and they support the direction that Council wants to go in. M. Meehan stated that some respondents saw a perception of a promotion of mining. M. Meehan advised that there is now enough

information to be able to move forward and formally review the RPS. M. Meehan stated that it was clear from the feedback forms received that there does not seem to be any other significant resource management issues identified by any parties. M. Meehan advised that the next step is to workshop through the changes in the coming months. He stated that the summary of feedback will be placed on the Council's website for people to review.

Cr Birchfield asked if all councillors are in agreement with this move. Cr Birchfield stated that he is in favour of the RPS review. All councillors expressed their agreement with the RPS review and voiced their comments to the meeting. Cr Birchfield stated that there were comments from respondents about economic diversification but they do not tell us what they are. Cr Birchfield stated that there are very few other opportunities for development apart from what is already being done. Cr Robb stated that if the wording in the updated RPS is correct then this would allow for economic diversification. M. Meehan advised that the RPS is about encouraging sustainable industry.

**Moved** (Birchfield / McDonnell) *that this report is received.*

*Carried*

### **5.1.2 UPDATE ON REEFTON AIRSHED COMMITTEE WORK**

M. Meehan spoke to this report and advised that the OekoTube trial was held in January using different types of coal and wood, and at different burn stages. M. Meehan advised that the trial results are now to hand and the report says that the OekoTube is effective on reducing emissions of PM<sub>10</sub>. The OekoTube seems to work best on sub bituminous coal. M. Meehan advised that the results also revealed that during start up, which is the most important time, the OekoTube can reduce emission by 90 – 97% and overall it can reduce emissions by 58%. The report uses the information from the trial and incorporates that into the model for Reefton. M. Meehan reported that the Reefton Airshed Committee (RAC) met last night to go through the report. They wish to think about the report for a week, meet again next week and then provide the recommendations to the April council meeting on how Reefton wishes to meet the NES and what changes they want in the Air Plan. M. Meehan stated that the RAC are positive about the trial / results.

Cr Archer stated that last night's meeting was a very positive meeting and based on the report there are some achievable solutions to Reefton's air quality problem. Cr Archer feels that everyone is on the same page. He stated that community consultation will be required to establish what the recommendations will actually be.

**Moved** (Archer / Clementson)

1. *That the report is received.*
2. *That Council amend Objective 3 from the Reefton Airshed Committee's Terms of Reference to read:*

*"To present the recommendations to the West Coast Regional Council, by April 2014"*

*Carried*

### **5.1.3 CIVIL DEFENCE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE**

C. Ingle spoke to this report and took it as read.

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

*Carried*

### **5.1.4 BATHING BEACH WATER QUALITY SAMPLING UPDATE**

M. Meehan spoke to this report and took it as read. He stated that staff are investigating the higher reading at Hokitika Beach in February which was not attributed to a heavy rainfall. M. Meehan advised that an additional report on the contact recreation sites in the Buller area will be brought to the April Council meeting. M. Meehan answered various questions for councillors. J. Douglas stated that the Hokitika Beach is a very popular area for swimming and fishing and she has concerns regarding the high readings. M. Meehan advised that he has asked his staff to look into this. He stated that a couple of years ago there were high results recorded in the Hokitika River. A lot of

work was done at the time and it was thought that there could have been a link to a flock of birds that were frequenting the river mouth at this time.

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

*Carried*

### **5.1.5 MOKIHINUI RIVER FLOOD WARNING SERVICE**

M. Meehan spoke to this report and stated that Seddonville was badly affected during the December 2010 flood event with flooding to the pub and houses. He stated there was further flooding the following year and council was asked what could be done to offer the community a level of flood warning. Staff have visited the area and have identified a potential flood warning site. M. Meehan outlined the equipment required for the flood warning service. He advised that if council does go ahead with the flood warning service then there would need to be engagement with Buller District Council civil defence staff so that they can liaise with the Seddonville community to work out how they would use the flood warning service.

Cr Archer stated that the Mokihinui River is a flashy river, which rises and falls quickly and for this reason Seddonville is under greater threat than most other towns in the region.

**Moved** (Clementson / Archer)

1. *That the report is received.*
2. *That Council allocate \$30,000 towards the installation of the flow recorder and rain gauge in the 2014/15 Annual Plan budget.*
3. *That staff liaise with Buller District Council civil defence staff regarding the implementation of a flood warning service for Seddonville.*

*Carried*

### **5.2.1 CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT**

J. Adams spoke to this report and advised that two site visits were made during the reporting period. 21 non-notified resource consents were granted with nine changes to consent conditions and there were no notified resource consents granted during the reporting period. J. Adams advised that he attended an Environment Court hearing with Forest and Bird and Solid Energy Ltd in relation to the Mt William North resource consent appeal. He advised this has been adjourned for two weeks to allow both sides to seek further information. Cr Birchfield asked for further information regarding the Mt William resource consent. J. Adams advised that the consent has been issued but Forest and Bird have appealed the consent and this has been ongoing for the last two years. J. Adams stated that there are issues around Condition 23 and if the two parties have not come to a decision after the two weeks then the appeal will go to a hearing.

**Moved** (Archer / McDonnell) *that the March 2014 report of the Consents Group be received.*

*Carried*

### **5.2.2 COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT**

J. Adams spoke to this report and advised that 115 site visits were carried out during the reporting period. Of these 18 were recorded as non-compliant. J. Adams reported that 11 infringement notices and four abatement notices were issued during the reporting period. J. Douglas asked J. Adams what is the nature of the activities of a gold miner at Blue Spur, who has had three abatement notices. J. Adams advised that the company has changed hands and he has abated everyone involved as they do not have a resource consent. J. Adams answered various questions from Councillors.

**Moved** (Robb / Birchfield)

1. *That the March 2014 report of the Compliance Group be received.*
2. *That the bonds for RC07195, RC12209 and RC12033 be released.*

*Carried*

**6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS**

J. Douglas stated that she feels that the Hokitika Gorge would benefit from a similar flood warning system to what is being proposed at Mokihinui, in view of the population, the dairy farms and the historical flooding in this area. M. Meehan advised that there is already a flood warning system in place for the Hokitika River. Cr Robb stated that he uses this service on the Council website and it is a very good system. Cr Archer agreed that these types of systems work very well.

The meeting closed at 11.35 a.m.

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Chairman

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Date