

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
THE GREYMOUTH JOINT FLOODWALL COMMITTEE  
HELD ON 9 NOVEMBER 2015,  
AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL,  
388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 3.04 P.M.**

**PRESENT:**

A. Robb (Chairman), T. Kokshoorn, P. Ewen, M. Hay, A. Birchfield

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

C. Ingle (WCRC Chief Executive), M. Meehan (WCRC Planning and Environmental Manager),  
M. Sutherland (GDC Assets Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk), The Media.

**APOLOGIES:**

D. Truman

*T. Kokshoorn / P. Ewen - Carried*

**BUSINESS**

A. Robb welcomed all present to the meeting and introductions were made.

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

***Moved: That the minutes of the Joint Floodwall Committee meeting held 10 November 2014, as circulated, be confirmed as correct***

*T. Kokshoorn / A. Robb - Carried*

**MATTERS ARISING:**

There were no matters arising.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Rob Harrison, Convener of the Cobden Aromahana Sanctuary and Recreation Area Inc (CASRA) addressed the meeting. Mr Harrison stated that he has been asked to present the favoured flood mitigation options of the affected residents who attended a meeting of CASRA earlier this year. Mr Harrison stated that the affected residents at this meeting favoured a pump system. He explained in detail how this option would work and the area where the pump station could be placed. Mr Harrison stated that CASRA believe that a combination of a lowered cut, no culvert, between the Cobden lagoon and the sea, the natural buffering effect of the lagoon itself, and the incorporation of a pump station will provide flood mitigation support to Nelson Quay residents.

Cr Robb asked the meeting if they wished to ask any questions of Mr Harrison. T. Kokshoorn asked Mr Harrison if he felt disadvantaged with regard to flood mitigation in the lower end of Cobden when compared to the whole floodwall system that was put in several years ago. Mr Harrison stated that it is 25 years since the floodwall was established and there has still be nothing done to mitigate flooding in lower Cobden. Cr Birchfield stated that the costs of a pump station have come in at an estimated \$1.2M. Cr Robb asked Mr Harrison how many residents came to the CASRA meeting. Mr Harrison advised that six residents came to the meeting with about two dozen residents adversely affected. Cr Robb asked if these residents have had flooding in their houses. Mr Harrison said some had. M. Meehan advised that when M. Gardner from Land River Sea Consulting Ltd was doing the investigative work for his report

he talked to residents in this area and they commented that they are now better off following the floodwall being put in place. M. Gardner did not encounter anybody who had flooding through their house. T. Kokshoorn stated that houses have come close to be flooded a number of times.

Cr Robb thanked Mr Harrison for his presentation.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT GREYMOUTH RATING DISTRICT**

M. Meehan presented the financial statement for the financial period 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015. He reported that the closing balance in the loan account is \$50,752.92. The maturity date for the loan is 30 June 2030. M. Meehan provided details on the loan account and stated that interest rates over the years have been less than what was originally estimated and the loan didn't kick in until after the first lot of rates had been collected. He stated that if interest rates go up the loan account could be adversely affected.

M. Meehan advised that the costs in the maintenance account over the last two to three years are associated with the ongoing court case. The closing balance is negative \$363,188.98

### **FINANCIAL REPORT NEW RIVER / SALTWATER CREEK**

M. Meehan reported that \$715 was spent in staff time during the reporting period and the closing balance is \$4,459.34.

### **WORKS REPORT – GREYMOUTH RATING DISTRICT**

M. Meehan spoke to this report and stated that just under \$7,000 was spent on works this year. M. Meehan advised that \$50,000 has been allowed for proposed maintenance works for the 2015 / 2016 year, this includes \$10,000 for the spraying of vegetation on the floodwall, \$20,000 for rock placing on the main wall and \$20,000 for unforeseen maintenance.

### **WORKS REPORT – NEW RIVER / SALTWATER CREEK**

M. Meehan spoke to this report and advised that no works were carried out during the past financial year. He reported that \$1,500 has been allowed for the opening of the outlet and \$1,000 for unforeseen maintenance.

### **RATE STRIKE – GREYMOUTH FLOODWALL**

It was agreed that the rate strike would remain the same at \$50,000 for the 2016 / 2017 financial year.

### **RATE STRIKE – NEW RIVER / SALTWATER CREEK**

It was agreed that the rate strike would remain the same at \$2,500 for the 2016 / 2017 financial year.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **Matt Gardner Report:**

M. Meehan advised that M. Gardner from Land River Sea Consulting Ltd put together a report on flood mitigation options for Cobden. M. Meehan reminded everyone of the meeting held a couple years ago when M. Gardner attended and spoke of various options. M. Meehan advised that at this time M. Gardner did the initial work and looked at the various options and the most cost effective option was to excavate the area around the dog park. M. Meehan advised that since this report was done more work has been done on this option with an engineer from Canterbury looking into this as well. M. Meehan advised that the dog park idea has been put aside as it was felt that there is not enough to be gained. M. Meehan advised that the preferred option now is to build the bund but not to do the excavation work within the dog

park. M. Meehan stated he would like to progress with the building of the bund to a higher height but currently there is a negative balance in the rating district account. He stated that once the court case relating to the floodwall is resolved then this may resolve the rating district account. T. Kokshoorn stated that there are two options; one option is the pump station at a cost of \$1.2M. M. Meehan advised that the costs don't include the discharge follow up, ongoing maintenance, or service fees and this is for one pump station. M. Meehan advised the M. Gardner met with K. Perrin-Smith from GDC to see if there was an option to retrofit the infrastructure that is already in Cobden but the costs would still be \$1.2M. M. Meehan stated that M. Gardner's model with the raised bund and designed to a 10 - 20 year event has been investigated to see to what would be gained from a 5000 litre per second pump station. M. Meehan stated that the bund and the pump station seem to achieve about the same thing but the bund is well under one tenth of the price. T. Kokshoorn stated that something needs to be done now before the rate strike for next year can be set. M. Meehan advised that at last year's meeting it was agreed to progress with stage one, part of stage one was to lower the actual outlet, the Cobden Cut and this was done straight away. M. Meehan stated the issue is the account balance and whether or not to go into further deficit. M. Meehan explained the bund option in detail. Cr Robb stated that he has read the report and the bund is as effective as a pump station. Cr Robb stated if the bund is done then the pump station option should be put to bed. T. Kokshoorn stated that the bund is not a huge job. M. Meehan suggested that the bund job could be put out for tender. M. Sutherland asked what the service level for the bund would be. M. Meehan stated a 50 year level was being proposed. C. Ingle advised that the financial situation could be quite different in a few months' time once the legal matter with the floodwall is resolved. C. Ingle stated that at the moment committing to doing more capital works when a huge deficit is being carried is not a comfortable place to be. T. Kokshoorn stated that the Cobden flood issue has been going on for too long and it needs to be resolved. T. Kokshoorn stated that the people of Cobden have felt hard done by since the floodwall was built in 1990 and they are still threatened with flooding. Cr Robb stated that since the floodwall has been in place houses have not been flooded. Cr Robb stated that a decision about the bund should not be made until the cost estimates are to hand. It was agreed that costs would be sought for the costs of the bund.

**Moved:     *"That estimate costs for the bund at a 20 and 50 year flood return level sought"*.**

*T. Kokshoorn / R. Ewen - Carried*

C. Ingle stated that this work may be able to be done within existing budgets once the legal matter with the floodwall is resolved. He stated that this has taken a lot longer to get settled than was expected.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.30 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date