

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE KARAMEA RATING DISTRICT HELD AT THE KARAMEA FIRE STATION ON 11 NOVEMBER 2016, COMMENCING AT 1.00 PM.

PRESENT

B. Langford, H. Macbeth, W. Alber, B. Jones, D. Simkin, B. Chalmers, P. Moynihan, T. Hawley, R. Lowe, R. Horrell, G. Johnson, A. Bruning, P. Langford, G. Richardson, M. Watt, S. Gibson, D. Rhind, P. McClintock, P. Gibson, T. Chalmers, J. Gibbons, K. Blumm, J. Martin, P. Drake, W. Schmidt, T. Tinomana, L. Monteith, G. Nue?

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council
T. Archer, N. Clementson (Councillors)
R. Beal, P. Birchfield, T. Jellyman (Staff)

APOLOGIES

M. Macbeth, B. Johnson

R. Langford / H. Macbeth - Carried

BUSINESS

Cr Archer opened the meeting and welcomed those present. He introduced himself and the Council staff.

Moved: *"That the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting held on 28 October 2015, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting.*

B. Jones / D. Rhind - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

Action points were updated.

P. Birchfield advised that one of the action points was to arrange a meeting in six months' time to discuss engineering advice on the Karamea River. She stated that there was difficulty in getting funding but funding has now been approved to enable two coastal experts from NIWA to visit this area. She stated that the visit is scheduled for two weeks' time and she hopes to that their report will be completed early in the New Year. It was agreed that a meeting would be held in around six months' time to discuss the report.

P. Birchfield advised that she had inspected parts of the stopbank but she stated that it is important that landowners also keep an eye on the stopbank and contact the Spokesperson (B. Langford) if there are concerns. Grazing on stopbanks was discussed, P. Birchfield encouraged the meeting to contact her if they have any concerns should they have any concerns regarding stock grazing and stopbanks, and she will follow up with the landowner concerned.

FINANCIAL REPORT

R. Beal spoke to this report. He reported that the opening balance was \$171,209.07 and the closing balance is \$205,523.30.

WORKS REPORT

P. Birchfield spoke to this report. She advised that a total of \$16,400.70 worth of work was carried out during the reporting period. P. Birchfield reported that these works included stopbank repairs, topping up of spurs on the Little Wanganui River, weed spraying, channel excavation at the Karamea River mouth, and clearing of the Granite Creek channel in the lower Otumahana Estuary. P. Birchfield advised that the costs for the Granite Creek clearance works were split between this rating district and the Kongahu rating district.

An inspection was carried out in August and \$120,000 worth of works were identified. P. Birchfield advised this includes the stopbank upgrade near the Karamea School and Domain area and vegetation clearance work. She advised that this work would be carried out in April after the tourist season. P. Birchfield advised that this work would be put out to tender and it is likely that the tender price will come in under \$100,000. P. Birchfield advised that the planting that was done the stopbank has now stopped and the plantings have been removed and the area repaired. H. Macbeth stated that this work was the result of a lack of communication between the parties concerned. Cr Archer suggested that it might be worthwhile putting an advert in The Chronicle to remind people that there is a bylaw in place prohibiting the planting on stopbanks.

P. Birchfield has also allowed for \$10,000 for vegetation removal, \$10,000 for unforeseen maintenance.

RATES 2017 / 2018

Cr Archer advised that the proposed rate strike is \$50,000. It was noted that the balance in the rating district account at the beginning of the 2017 / 2018 financial year is likely to be \$142,344.23.

Moved: "That the rate strike for the Karamea Rating District remains at \$50,000 for the 2017/ 2018 financial year."

D. Simkin / P. McClintock - Carried

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Cr Archer read out the names of the current committee. B. Langford stated that M. Macbeth has advised him that she wishes to stand down from the committee. B. Langford nominated A. Bruning, D. Simkin seconded the nomination. A. Bruning replaces M. Macbeth.

**Moved: "That the present committee:
Paul McClintock, Peter Langford, Darryl Simkin, Brian Jones,
Andrew Bruning, and Bevan Langford be the committee for the
2016 / 2017 financial year."**

P. Langford / H. Macbeth - Carried

Cr Archer stated that the current spokesperson for the committee is B. Langford. P. Langford nominated B. Langford, the nomination was seconded by P. McClintock.

**Moved: "That B. Langford is appointed as the spokesperson for the
2016 / 2017 financial year."**

B. Chalmers / P. McClintock - Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

Granite Creek

P. Birchfield advised that Council is currently going through a review of the coastal plan. She stated that the cleaning out of Granite Creek channel and Blackwater Creek channel is proposed to become a permitted activity. She stated that there is a resource consent in place to clean out from 300 metres below the main road bridge to just upstream of the Contour Channel. P. Birchfield advised that in view of what is currently happening in the estuary, she would like to wait until the two coastal experts have viewed the area. Cr Archer advised that the Coastal Plan has now gone out for public consultation, submissions have been made, and these submitters have been given the opportunity to resubmit on the submissions which have now been received, staff is currently preparing a Section 42A report. Cr Archer advised that the Section 42A report will be part of the process in initiating a hearing and the submitters will then have the opportunity to present their views at a hearing. Cr Archer advised that one of the submissions is to make it a permitted activity to open up the waterway. Cr Archer stated that he is aware that there are also submissions opposed to this. Cr Archer advised that if the permitted activity is approved in the Coastal Plan and it gets through this process then the decision on the Coastal Plan is then open to appeal by the parties who have made a submission. The appeal is then heard by the Environment Court, the Environment Court will make a decision and it is then up Council to either appeal or accept the outcome. B. Jones advised the meeting that he is aware of one party who is against any work being done on the Blackwater Channel but they are happy for anything to be done on the Granite Creek channel to 300 metres below the bridge. It was noted that the spoil from this area is put to the side and then it flattens out over time. B. Jones stated that the channel is maintainable once it has been cleaned out. P. Birchfield confirmed that resource consent is in place to clean out above the Contour Channel in about five different areas but DoC would not allow for the whole area to be cleaned out. P. Birchfield stated that one affected party is yet to sign off on the resource consent. She advised that the rating district could set a limit on how much they are prepared to spend on this work. It was agreed that the Karamea River is the cause of the problems in this area and that once the information from the NIWA coastal experts is to hand, then a decision on where to from here can be made. A speaker asked if the rock wall at Flagstaff is going to be included in the rating district. Cr Archer advised that this rock wall is not currently in the asset management plan. P. Birchfield advised that one of the original proposals was to extend the rock wall on the Karamea River.

A speaker spoke of historic information he has on the area. He agreed to speak to P. Birchfield after the meeting.

A speaker stated that there has been very little maintenance done on the stopbank since the trees were cut two years ago. He stated that there is now a lot of secondary growth in this area. He asked that when the stopbank is upgraded, would the area be maintained. P. Birchfield stated that she would like to see this area in grass. Cr Archer advised that it would be up to the rating district to decide what they would like to do but if it was grassed then it would be up to the rating district, and not the Domain Board to pay for this. P. Birchfield stated that once the plantings are removed then a full spray of the area could be done.

H. Macbeth asked what is happening with the experimental cuttings. B. Langford stated that an attempt was made to insert a cutting at the previous location of the river mouth but it did not work so this will be left alone for the time being. P. Birchfield advised that the NIWA experts might find a suitable location for this. She stated that further Envirolink Funding will be applied for to run the Graeme Smart model again but this requires

significantly more funding as his original recommendations were made when the mouth of the Karamea River was in a different position.

H. Macbeth drew attention to the section in the works report on the Karamea River mouth; he asked that the word "recent" is changed to "previous". This was agreed.

Cr Archer thanked the meeting for their attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1.38 p.m.

Action Points

- P. Birchfield to arrange a meeting in six months' time to discuss the NIWA report which is expected early in the New Year.
- P. Birchfield to arrange for the placing of an advert in The Chronicle to remind people that there is a bylaw in place prohibiting planting on stopbanks.