

## THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 9 MAY 2017, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11.10 A.M.**

#### **PRESENT:**

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

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

M. Meehan (Chief Executive Officer) R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), N. Costley (Strategy & Communications Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

#### **1. APOLOGIES:**

There were no apologies.

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

There was no public forum.

#### **3.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Moved** (Archer / Challenger) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 11 April 2017, be confirmed as correct.*

*Carried*

#### **Matters arising**

Cr Archer asked for an update on Section 33 Transfer of Functions from Westland District Council. M. Meehan responded that he has gone back to WDC and advised them that Council will not be taking on any liability prior to when we take over this function. M. Meehan advised that he has also asked for more detailed information on the quantum of what is being taken over. It was confirmed that should the arrangement not work out then Council is not bound to this.

#### **REPORTS:**

#### **4.1 ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT**

M. Meehan took the report as read. He advised that the resource consent for the Whitehorse Quarry has been granted, staff will now arrange for the tender to be let and for prices for the seawall extension to be put to the community for consultation.

M. Meehan reported that staff are liaising with NZTA to progress work in the Granity / Ngakawau and Hector area and are working through costs for erosion protection work in this area.

M. Meehan reported that 203 submissions were received on the Buller River Flood Consultation. He advised that the community feedback has revealed that there is no definitive answer from the community on where to from here. He stated that Council has decided to reform the working group and to include key members from the community who have expressed opinions and have knowledge of the area. M. Meehan stated that this is a long consultation period but it is very important for Westport and it is important to get a definitive answer on what people want and what will work well for Westport.

M. Meehan advised that the Niwa report on Carters Beach is still awaited but he provided an interim update. He stated that Niwa have advised that the report has taken longer than anticipated due to circumstances beyond their control. The interim report confirms that the erosion rate at Carters Beach appears to be consistently slowing since 2003 and it is expected that it will stop before it reaches any Council assets and it will take over a decade to reach Marine Parade. M. Meehan advised that he expects to have a full report for the June meeting. Cr Archer stated that he does not agree with the conclusion reached regarding the Buller River consultation as 30% of those surveyed did not specify a preferred option but almost all said that something needs to be done.

Cr Archer feels that plus 75% of people want something done and only 24% said do nothing. Cr Archer agreed that Council does need to go back to the community and it is a positive step to consult with individuals. Cr Archer stated that the best possible outcome is needed for Westport and this may take longer. Cr Archer expressed his disappointment with the Niwa report on Carters Beach being late. He stated that he would prefer to wait until the report is to hand before arranging a community meeting.

**Moved** (Archer / Birchfield)

1. *That the report is received.*
2. *That a community meeting for Carters Beach is convened once the Niwa report has been received.*

*Carried*

**The meeting adjourned at 11.31 and reconvened at 11.32**

#### **4.1.2 PROPOSED REMEDIAL WORKS OF KANIERE RATING DISTRICT ROCKWALL**

M. Meehan spoke to this report. He stated that Council has been monitoring the erosion line in this rating district for several years and it has become worse over the last two years. M. Meehan stated that a survey has been sent out to the rating district along with the costs of the remedial work and the financial implications. He stated that the 13 out of 36 surveys were returned and of these just over half want to proceed with the proposed works. M. Meehan advised that Council Engineers spoke with those who were not in favour of proceeding with the works and explained the situation to them to enable better understanding. M. Meehan advised that the work will now be tendered out so that actual costs can then be included into the Annual Plan and to also allow the community to submit on the Annual Plan. Cr McDonnell commented that there are concerns that rock work on the other side of the river might be contributing to the problem and there are also concerns from residents as to whether or not this rock work has been consented. Discussion took place on costs; Cr Archer asked if it is likely that NZTA would contribute to the costs. M. Meehan advised that this is a district highway and not a main state highway but this option will be explored by staff. It was agreed that Council's Compliance staff will follow up on the rock work on the opposite side of the river.

**Moved** (Archer / Clementson)

1. *That Council instructs staff to tender the proposed works.*
2. *That Council include the proposed works in the upcoming 2017 / 18 Annual Plan for consultation.*

*Carried*

#### **4.2 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT**

R. Mallinson advised that he has circulated electronic copies of his report. He reported that the surplus for the nine months was \$1.56M; and this has improved substantially during February and March. R. Mallinson advised that the Investment Portfolio is performing well. He stated that VCS have now completed most of their contracts for the year. R. Mallinson confirmed that the presentations for the management of Council's investment portfolio will be held on 1 June. R. Mallinson answered various questions from Councillors. It was noted that the work that VCS does has a huge benefit for the West Coast and they are important asset for the region in helping the country to become predator free.

**Moved** (Archer / Clementson)

1. *That this report be received.*
2. *That Council agree that 1 June 2017 is the date that presentations regarding management of the Council Investment Portfolio will be received.*

*Carried*

#### **4.3 2017 LGNZ EXCELLENCE AWARDS NOMINATION**

N. Costley spoke to this report and advised that the project nominated is the West Coast Untamed Natural Wilderness branding which has been entered into the Excellence Award for the Best Practice Contribution to Local Economic Development. N. Costley stated the nomination covers the branding work carried out by Council's Economic Development Manager, K. Stratful in conjunction with Tourism West Coast. She advised that the winners will be announced at the LGNZ Conference dinner on 25 July. Cr Archer stated that the nomination is

excellent and very impressive. Congratulations were passed on to N. Costley for her work on the nomination. The Chairman stated that good progress is being made in this area.

**Moved** (Birchfield / Challenger) *That Council accept this report.*

*Carried*

## **5.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT**

The Chairman spoke to his report and advised that the recruitment process for the appointment of the Council appointee on DWC is progressing well.

The Chairman reported that the Governance Croup met with the consultants engaged to carrying out work on the economic development arrangements for the West Coast. He stated that a presentation to Councillors will be held tomorrow in Reefton to discuss progress to date.

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

*Carried*

## **6.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**

M. Meehan spoke to his report and took it as read. He stated that a further budget workshop will be held following this meeting. He reported that water and the debate around swimmability, RMA changes, natural hazards and civil defence were discussed at the recent Regional Sector Group meeting. M. Meehan advised that Hon Gerry Brownlee is leading a review of civil defence, which will be focused on response.

M. Meehan advised that the meeting scheduled with Westland Milk Products was cancelled. M. Meehan advised that he attended the CEG meeting yesterday and was elected as Chairperson.

**Moved** (Challenger / Ewen) *that this report is received.*

*Carried*

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

Cr Birchfield asked how the 45 submissions received on the wetlands (Plan Change 1 to the Regional Land and Water Plan) are progressing. M. Meehan advised that matters around the hydrological buffers have been raised. He stated that S. Jones (Planning Team Leader) has contacted the submitters and advised them that a small amount of work is required and Council will be in touch once this work has been completed.

The meeting closed at 11.53 a.m.

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Date