

## **THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 14 JULY 2009, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOOUTH, COMMENCING AT 12.03 P.M.**

#### **PRESENT:**

R. Scarlett (Chairman), P. Ewen, A. Robb, T. Archer, D. Davidson, B. Chinn, A. Birchfield

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), C. Dall (Consents and Compliance Manager), S. Moran (Planning and Environmental Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

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

There were no apologies.

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

There was no presentation.

#### **3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Cr Archer asked for an amendment to the minutes on page 5. He would like it to read "council will provide for the protection of areas of significant vegetation".

**Moved** (Archer / Robb) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting 9 June 2009, be confirmed as correct with the above amendment.*

*Carried*

#### **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

#### **3.1.2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Moved** (Davidson / Chinn) *that the minutes of the Special Council Meeting 23 June 2009, be confirmed as correct.*

*Carried*

#### **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

#### **REPORTS:**

#### **4.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER'S REPORT ON ENGINEERING OPERATIONS**

S. Moran spoke to his report advising that the stockpile of rock in the Wanganui Quarry was a less than what was previously estimated. S. Moran stated that the Inchbonnie Rating District would be pleased with the tender price for the stopbank upgrade.

S. Moran reported that Council has written to the Local Authority Protection Programme (LAPP) to advise them that we wish to withdraw, as Council is unhappy with the premium and cover from LAPP. S. Moran advised that a year's notice is required if Council wishes to get out of the programme but Council can retract the notice should the programme improve. C. Ingle stated that this is a good opportunity to put pressure on LAPP to provide a better deal. Cr Scarlett stated that

a catastrophic event is required before LAPP will pay out. S. Moran advised that LAPP state that they are a disaster fund and any claim needs to be significant. C. Ingle clarified that a lot of our schemes are not associated with townships therefore this makes it even harder to get a claim.

**Moved** (Robb / Davidson) *that the report be received.*

*Carried*

#### **4.1 CORPORATE SERVICE MANAGER'S REPORT**

R. Mallinson spoke to this report noting the apart from the investment income the rest of the budget is doing well. Cr Archer asked what are the advantages from moving away from leasing Council vehicles to purchasing vehicles. Cr Scarlett also expressed an interest in this matter. R. Mallinson agreed to provide an analysis report to councilors at the end of the meeting. R. Mallinson confirmed that there has been an increase in lease rates of between 14 and 28%. Discussion ensued around vehicle purchase / lease arrangements it was agreed that the cheapest option would be taken.

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

*Carried*

#### **5.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT (VERBAL)**

The Chairman reported that he attended the special council meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June for the purpose of adoption of the LTCCP. Cr Scarlett reported that he attended a meeting of the Regional Affairs Committee and Biosecurity group in Wellington. Cr Scarlett advised that Mr Al Morrison, Director General of the Department of Conservation also attended this meeting. Cr Scarlett reported that Councils are trying to get the government to recognize the principle of the "Good Neighbour Policy". This is an obligation that neighbours do not let pest plants invade neighbour's land. Cr Scarlett stated that government is receptive to this in principle.

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

*Carried*

#### **6.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT**

C. Ingle spoke to his report. He advised that he has been asked to coordinate the National Cycleway Project and is working with district council CEO's, DoC and Development West Coast. A letter has been written to the Tourism Minister Hon. John Key to put forward the cycleway proposal for the West Coast. C. Ingle advised that there is a group working on the Greymouth to Camerons leg then joining up with the Ross to Ruatapu leg that Westland District Council is working on.

C. Ingle advised that both the remits to Local Government New Zealand were unsuccessful. The first remit related to audit fees, the second remit was for total mobility.

**Moved** (Archer / Birchfield) *that the Chief Executive's Report be received.*

*Carried*

##### **5.1.1 REPORT ON ENERGY DEMAND AND SUPPLY**

C. Ingle spoke to this report. Cr Scarlett stated that this is a very good report, he drew attention suggested amendments to the Regional Plan rules requesting review of consent threshold for energy generation using renewable resources with a view to reducing thresholds where appropriate and also to consider adopting restricted discretionary or controlled activity rules for medium scale renewable energy projects and permitted rules for small domestic scale projects. Cr Scarlett stated these are all very valid points.

C. Ingle stated that gaining access agreements from DoC may be a stumbling block and also getting money to go ahead with these projects could also impact on energy for the future.

**Moved** (Davidson / Birchfield) *that the Chief Executive's Report be received.*

1. *That Council agrees to begin revising the Energy Chapter of the RPS to better enable Renewable Energy projects in the region.*
2. *That Council seek to meet with the Energy Minister and the Conservation Minister to discuss the concept of the West Coast as the location for hydropower generation in the future, and to discuss addressing barriers for new renewable energy projects.*

*Carried*

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 12.45 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date