

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL HELD ON 23 APRIL 2015, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.30 A.M.

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), J. Adams (Consents & Compliance Manager) T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk), The Media.

1. APOLOGIES:

Moved (Robb / Clementson) *that the apology from T. Archer be accepted.*

Carried

2. WHITEBAIT COMPLIANCE ANNUAL FEE

J. Adams spoke to this report. He drew attention to a minor mistake on the first page of this report and advised that Council is responsible for 657 white stands and not 675.

MOVED (Clementson / Challenger)

That Council adopts the new proposed whitebait annual compliance monitoring charge \$150 per consent holder, as set out in the Long Term Plan page 121, (C) fourth bullet point.

Carried

3. WHITEBAIT CONSENTS ADMINISTRATION FIXED FEES

J. Adams spoke to this report and took it as read.

MOVED (Clementson / Ewen)

1. *That the Council deletes the fixed fee for consent renewal from the Long Term Plan on page 121 (C) bullet 1; and instead relies on actual and reasonable costs being charged for the consent renewals, under part A of the fixed fee schedule on page 120.*

2. *That the Council endorse the new annual consent file administration fee of \$55, to apply across all consent types, including whitebait stand consent holders*

Carried

Cr Ewen stated that this is a fair way of doing things over the gambit of consents. Cr Clementson stated that in comparison to other councils this is a mid-range option; it is not excessive or too cheap. He stated that it is important that costs are covered.

4. ADOPTING THE LONG TERM PLAN

C. Ingle spoke to this report and noted that Councillors had already seen the draft LTP at the council meeting last week. He advised that at that time the Audit NZ work was incomplete. C. Ingle advised that this report covers changes since the Audit work has been completed. C. Ingle handed out a copy of the unqualified audit report to councillors. C. Ingle advised that there are no major changes to the LTP and all requirements have now been met. C. Ingle stated that under 121 Fees and Charges, he has changed the format of this section in order to get the decisions that Council has just made into the plans. C. Ingle advised that the \$200 fixed fee for consents has been deleted

and ensuring the compliance and consents are separated from each other. He circulated the amended LTP pages. C. Ingle explained various other changes to the LTP document and the Consultation Document.

MOVED (McDonnell / Challenger)

1. *That Council formally adopts the proposed amendments to the Revenue and Financing Policy, as it appears on page 103 – 106 of the Long Term Plan 2015 – 2025.*

Carried

C. Ingle confirmed that Council does have to have an Annual Plan next year but if there are no material changes made, then a submissions process is not required.

C. Ingle advised that people are to make submissions on the Consultation Document, but at the end of the submissions and hearings process all amendments will be wound into the Long Term Plan.

MOVED (Birchfield / Ewen)

2. *That Council formally adopts all the remaining information that is contained in the Long Term Plan 2015 – 2025, including;*
 - *The Financial Strategy (page 7–11).*
 - *The 30 year Infrastructure Structure Strategy (page 12-15).*
 - *The summaries of Groups of Council Activities (pages 26-44).*
 - *Significant forecasting assumptions (pages 56-58).*
 - *Accounting Policies (page 59).*
 - *Funding Impact Statements (page 82).*
3. *That Council adopts the Consultation Document including Attachment 1, and release that for consultation for the period of at least one month.*
4. *That Council notes the dates for consultation and decision-making are:*
 - *Submissions open Friday 24 April;*
 - *Submissions close 1pm Monday 25 May;*
 - *Hearing of submissions on 8 June;*
 - *Deliberations Tuesday 9 June, following ordinary Council meeting;*
 - *Special Council Meeting Tuesday 23 June to adopt final Long Term Plan.*

Carried

C. Ingle confirmed to Cr Birchfield that the target for cost recovery in the consents processing area is 70% - 80%. C. Ingle advised that gravel extraction is in the LTP for consultation but does not take effect until July 2016 but this is dependent on how the submissions and hearing process goes. C. Ingle explained in detail various changes to the document and the rationale behind these changes. Extensive discussion ensued regarding gravel takes and rules around this. Cr Robb advised that the basis of the LTP is to ensure that the general ratepayer isn't subsidising costs. He stated that Council has a responsibility to make sure that it runs a financially viable Council. Cr Robb said that the LTP will generate submissions and decisions will need to be made. Discussion took place on the gravel extraction charges, monitoring and compliance relating to gravel extraction. C. Ingle advised that the Consultation Document will be on the council website straight after today's meeting. He advised a media release will be made regarding Council's decision to part fund the new economic development agency that the Mayors and Chairs forum is promoting. This is a joint communication from the four councils and Development West Coast.

The meeting closed at 10.52 a.m.

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Chairman

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Date