

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 10 APRIL 2018, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11.35 A.M.

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

M. Meehan (Chief Executive Officer) R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), R. Beal (Operations Manager), H. Mills (Planning Science and Innovation Manager), N. Costley (Strategy & Communications Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk), The Media.

1. APOLOGY:

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

3.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved (McDonnell / Clementson) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 13 March 2018, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters arising

Cr Ewen requested that that he had asked that engagement with NZTA and KiwiRail is included in the minutes relating to Kiwi Quarry.

Moved (Ewen / Clementson) *That the above amendment is made to the minutes.*

Carried

Cr Challenger advised that he had a meeting with M. Meehan last Friday to discuss that issues he raised at the last Council meeting.

Cr Archer drew attention to page 2 of the minutes, under the Coastal Erosion report, recommendation 3, he requested that once process is evolved to consents granted, that Council engages with the communities and tells them what has actually been done. M. Meehan advised that engineering staff usually liaise with these communities especially those that are already in a rating district. He advised that these type of matters will be raised via the LTP process to ensure there is a resource in place to work through community liaison issues. Cr Archer stated that it is important that everyone is on the same page and gets the same message as communication is the secret to the whole issue.

Cr Ewen requested that the work "should" is changed to "is" on page 2 of the minutes under the heading "Draft Compliance and Enforcement Policy."

Moved (Ewen / Challenger) *That the above amendment is made to the minutes.*

Carried

REPORTS:

4.1 ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT

R. Beal spoke to this report and advised that work in the Punakaiki rating district has been completed with the tender being accepted at \$29,949.

R. Beal reported that the Franz Josef river training work was completed and the river is in the channel. He stated he will have a further report on this for the May Council meeting.

R. Beal advised that Council's River Engineer is working with BDC's Engineer on the bund design for Carters Beach. R. Beal advised that the funding application submitted last year for soft engineering design work has been declined. R. Beal advised that once costs are to hand a further meeting will be arranged with the Domain Board. R. Beal answered questions from Councillors.

Discussion took place on future options for Franz Josef.

Moved (Clementson / Challenger) *That the report is received.*

Carried

4.2 COST SHARING FOR SOUTH ISLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORT COMMITTEE CHAIRS GROUP PROJECTS

N. Costley spoke to this report and took it as read. She advised that Environment Canterbury is the primary contributor followed by Otago and other regions at a lesser level. N. Costley advised that a \$5,000 contribution from this Council is being sought in this current financial year to progress some of this work. N. Costley stated that K. Stratful has been very helpful in setting the framework for visitor numbers but there is more that could be done in this space.

Extensive discussion took place on funding. Cr Ewen feels that funding is not equitable and he is concerned that this is a way of funding tourism data and he is not in favour of this. Cr Archer stated that he understands the principle and he shares Cr Ewen's concern about population based funding formula. Cr Archer asked what Council would get in return for funding this. The Chairman advised that all information gathered would be available to Regional Transport Committees which follows through to regional councils. The Chairman advised that Freight Mode Shift is a work stream which is being worked through and includes resilience and access to markets. He stated that this is not just road transport but all types of transport. The Chairman spoke extensively of the benefits of working collaboratively together with South Island organisations. Cr Archer stated that the FAR rate has decreased over the years. Cr Birchfield agreed with Cr Archer's comments. N. Costley advised that the new government is not focussing on roads and is more interested in ports and rail. She advised that if there is scope to target funds in those areas then freight work will lead onto this. She agreed that population based funding is a disadvantage but noted that the West Coast roading network stretches from Karamea to Haast and is significantly longer than any of the other road networks throughout the country. N. Costley spoke of tourism work and advised that this will flow through and raise safety, mobile coverage and this is all part of this project. Extensive discussion took place. Cr Archer stated that he will support the motion, recognising that the \$10,000 funding is yet to be determined via the Long Term Plan process. It was agreed that a time limit would be put on the 3rd recommendation of three years and is subject to robust reporting outcomes.

Moved (Archer / McDonnell)

1. *That Council receives this report.*
2. *That Council contributes \$5,000 towards projects undertaken by the South Island RTC Chairs Group for the 2017/18 year.*
3. *That Council considers, through the Long Term Plan process, funding \$10,000 per year to future projects undertaken by the South Island RTC Chairs Group, for a period of three years and includes robust reporting outcomes.*

*Crs Birchfield and Ewen against
Carried*

4.3 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT

R. Mallinson spoke to this report and advised that this is the eight month financial report. He advised that the surplus is \$23,000 for this period and has dropped back from the just over \$0.5M reported in December. R. Mallinson outlined the reasons for the decline in the surplus. R. Mallinson reported that total investment income amounted to just under \$693,000. R. Beal advised that there is a reasonable chance that VCS will reach the financial target as per the Annual Plan. R. Mallinson explained the short term borrowing to the meeting.

Moved (Ewen / McDonnell) *That the report be received.*

Carried

5.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT

The Chairman spoke to his report. He stated that the One Coast One Voice Draft Strategy campaign has changed to One Coast One Message in order to align messaging for all organisations representing the West Coast.

The Chairman distributed copies of information from the Local Government Commission which is being released today.

The Chairman advised that were no big changes revealed during the recent Visiting Drivers conference call. He stated that training on aeroplanes and new apps were discussed. Cr Ewen commented that he has noticed a lot more direction arrows on roads recently. The Chairman stated that the number of slow vehicle bays are also increasing, as well as rest areas now being developed in better and safer places. He stated that 70% of visiting drivers plan their trips on line prior to departure.

The Chairman spoke of Friday's visit by Hon David Parker. He stated that the Chief Executive, Cr Birchfield and staff attended. RMA matters were discussed, and a further meeting was held with the Mayors and Chairs members. The Chairman stated that the Minister gave a clear message that all districts need to be singing from the same song sheet with regard to economic development to tap into the provincial growth fund and to work together. The Chairman stated that all present were in agreement. He stated that he is hopeful that everyone is now working in the right direction and that there will be some benefits taken from the provincial growth fund. The Chairman spoke of his disappointment with recent media interest lately.

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

Carried

6.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

M. Meehan spoke to his report and spoke of the recent meetings he attended. He stated that the TAG group for Civil Defence that was recently formed has also formed further reference groups.

M. Meehan advised that Minister Parker's primary reason for his visit was in his role as primary decision maker for the Waitaha Hydro Proposal. M. Meehan spoke of matters discussed during Minister Parker's visit, including natural hazards, Franz Josef, coast erosion and planning, appeals and decision making. Cr Archer agreed with M. Meehan's comments. Cr Birchfield stated he was quite happy with Minister Parker's visit apart from his comments relating to sea level rise.

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

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Ewen stated that it is important that the possibility of a tourism rate is put to bed now. He stated he is getting a lot of queries regarding this, as there has been no rebuttal from this Council on this matter. Cr Ewen stated that Council is stepping out of its boundaries as an environmental group. The Chairman stated that there is no proposal to discuss but should this matter go into the Annual Plan then any member of the community can ask for this to be considered. Cr Ewen asked where Development West Coast (DWC) got this idea from. The Chairman advised this came from the Third Bearing (consulting group) report, where it was recommended that economic development be moved into DWC along with Tourism West Coast (TWC). Third Bearing's suggestion was that if there was going to be a tourism rate collected it would be best to be collected by the regional council. The Chairman advised this was only a recommendation and does not mean that Council agrees to do it, as

it would still have to be put to the community. The Chairman stated that Third Bearing did some community consultation when they formed their report. M. Meehan advised explained that to avoid any issues DWC would pick up the funding of TWC for the next financial year, then have a conversation with the Councils to see if they need any other rate a conversation would be had and DWC would ask for this. M. Meehan stated that he is not sure where this is at as the district councils have committed to providing the \$100,000 per year to TWC. He stated that tourism is included in economic development, he stated there would be some savings with TWC going in with DWC but this would need to be talked about. M. Meehan stated that he feels the open letter from The Chairman went a long way to confirming what has been discussed. The Chairman stated that this matter has been discussed at Mayors and Chairs but as yet there is nothing to put to Council. Cr Archer stated that to him, it looks like everyone is on the same page. M. Meehan stated that community consultation needs to take place prior to any decisions being made.

The meeting closed at 12.36 pm.

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Chairman

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Date