

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 10 MAY 2016, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.31 A.M.

PRESENT:

P. Ewen (Chairman), A. Robb, A. Birchfield, P. McDonnell, T. Archer, N. Clementson, S. Challenger (arrived 10.33), J. Douglas.

IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), M. Meehan (Planning & Environmental Manager), G. McCormack (Consents & Compliance Manager), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), N. Costley (Communications Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

The Chairman welcomed G. McCormack to his first Council meeting. He also welcomed S. Jones to the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

(Ewen / Archer) *That the apology from F. Tumahai be accepted.*

Carried

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

3. MINUTES

Moved (Robb / Birchfield) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 12 April 2016, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters Arising

C. Ingle stated that contact recreation for bathing beaches was raised at last week's Regional Chief Executive's meeting. He advised that the standards that are used to determine whether or not a bathing beach is safe or not are quite stringent compared to European standards. C. Ingle advised that European standards use a figure of faecal coliforms at 1000 whereas we use 500. He stated that if we are comparing against Europe's standards, our results are even better than thought. C. Ingle stated that a conversation will need to be had with the Government to ascertain why New Zealand has such stringent standards.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cr Ewen reported that he and Cr Archer had intended to attend the Local Government Risk Agency workshop last week but the presenters were unable to land at Hokitika airport. He stated that Local Government NZ is looking to change the rules with the 60 / 40 split in the event of a disaster or catastrophe. Cr Ewen stated that it may fall on local bodies to take the whole 100%. C. Ingle advised that R. Mallinson attended the Christchurch workshop on this matter.

Moved (Ewen / Archer)

Carried

5. REPORTS

5.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

5.1.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT MANAGER'S REPORT

M. Meehan spoke to this report and advised that Council has made a joint submission on behalf of the four councils on the Resource Legislation Amendment Bill. He stated that Rachel Townrow from Buller District Council attended the hearing on 4 May.

M. Meehan reported that Council has made a further submission on the proposed Buller District Plan Changes. M. Meehan advised that Buller District Council is seeking alignment with this council's planning work. He advised that with this Council's further submissions, we are concentrating on providing support to Buller District Council with some of the submitters that they are dealing with.

M. Meehan reported that MfE is looking for feedback on a proposal to implement a national regulation on vertebrate pest control. He advised that Council has made a submission on this matter and MfE are looking at reducing duplication and reducing that amount of agencies who take similar interests in this work. M. Meehan reported that comments included seeking clarification on the compliance monitoring role for Councils.

Moved (Archer / McDonnell)

1. *That this report be received.*
2. *That Council approves the submission on a proposed national regulation as outlined in the "Streamlining the regulatory regime for pest control" consultation document.*

Carried

5.1.2 SUBMISSION ON FURTHER AMENDMENTS TO THE NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR FRESHWATER MANAGEMENT 2014

M. Meehan spoke to this report and reminded Councillors that in 2011 MfE initially released the NPS for freshwater. He stated this included quite a few requirements for councils to adjust their plans in response to water quality issues. He stated that National Objectives Framework was introduced in 2014 which introduced parameters that give national bottom lines and national guidance on water quality. M. Meehan stated that council is achieving the broad objective of that NPS which is maintaining or enhancing waterways. M. Meehan stated that one of the main things Council has submitted on is the exclusion of dairy cattle on milking platforms from water bodies through national regulation. He stated that Council's submission makes the point that on the West Coast this could be very problematic with the definition that MfE has come up with on what a waterway is. They have used the Fonterra Dairy Accord definition of a waterway which is anything more than one metre wide and more than 30 cms deep. M. Meehan stated that this potentially includes a lot of drains in humped and hollowed paddocks which if these had to be fenced would make farming unworkable on the West Coast. He advised that he has invited MfE to the West Coast to see these issues for themselves to help them make good decisions.

Moved (Robb / Birchfield) *That this report be received.*

Carried

5.2.1 CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT

G. McCormack spoke to this report and advised that ten non notified resource consents were granted during the reporting period. He reported that six changes to consent conditions were granted and one limited notified resource consent was granted during the reporting period.

Moved (Archer / Challenger) *that the May 2016 report of the Consents Group be received.*

Carried

5.2.2 COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT

G. McCormack spoke to this report and advised that 42 site visits were made during the reporting period. He stated that eleven complaints were received during the reporting period, seven of which were

investigated or remedial work has been undertaken without any significant harm. G. McCormack reported that one Infringement Notice was issued and four mining work programmes were received.

Moved (Birchfield / Archer)

1. *That the May 2016 report of the Compliance Group be received.*
2. *That the bond for RC11054 Hopper is released.*

Carried

6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

J. Douglas stated that she is part of the Freshwater Forum on behalf of Ngai Tahu and they have long had aspirations of having a full seat at full table representation. Cr Archer asked J. Douglas if she means that Iwi should have full representation on Council. J. Douglas confirmed this. Cr Archer responded that this is not a matter for Council to debate as the community would determine this and the Local Government Commission would also have a say in this. Cr Archer stated that following the last Local Government review of this council they increased the number of Councillors to seven, with three representatives for Grey, two for Buller and two for Westland. Cr Archer advised that Iwi would need to put their case forward. Cr Ewen stated that this is an evolving issue and this council is the only one that has Iwi representation.

Cr Challenger apologised for his lateness.

The meeting closed at 10.52 a.m.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date