

## THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 9 MARCH 2021, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.32 A.M.**

#### **PRESENT:**

S. Challenger (Chairman), A. Birchfield, P. Ewen, D. Magner, B. Cummings, J. Hill, L. Coll McLaughlin, J. Douglas, F. Tumahai

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Vin Smith (Chief Executive), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), H. Mabin (Acting Corporate Services Manager), H. Mills (Planning, Science & Innovation Manager), C. Helem (Acting Consents & Compliance Manager), J. Armstrong (TTPP Project Manager) via Zoom, R. Beal (Operations Director), N. Costley (Strategy & Communications Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk), The Media.

**Cr Birchfield read the prayer.**

#### **WELCOME**

Cr Challenger opened the meeting with a karakia.

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

#### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

#### **PUBLIC FORUM, PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS**

Mr Cedric Trounson addressed the meeting and spoke of his concerns regarding coastal marine environment and coastal erosion. A copy of his presentation had been circulated to members earlier in the week. Mr Trounson covered issues such as changes to the Grey River, gravel takes, the floodwalls surrounding the Grey River, the river bar, Cobden Beach and the replenishment of gravel in this area. He that Council does not renew or issue any new consents for gravel extraction as he would like this to be stopped. Mr Trounson answered questions and spoke of the significance of West Coast rivers and beaches.

Mr Trounson thanked Councillors for the opportunity to address them.

#### **PRESENTATION**

There was no presentation.

#### **2. MINUTES**

The Chairman asked the meeting if there were any changes to the minutes of the previous meeting.

**Moved** (Birchfield / Cummings) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 9 February 2021, be confirmed as correct.*

*Carried*

#### **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

### 3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported that he attended the first meeting of the South Westland FMU. He stated that they made good progress at this meeting.

The Chairman reported that he and Cr Birchfield met with Chair and Deputy Chair of Environment Canterbury yesterday.

**Moved** (Coll McLaughlin / Cummings) *That the verbal report is received.*

*Carried*

### 5. REPORTS

#### 5.1 PLANNING AND OPERATIONS GROUP

##### 5.1.1 PLANNING REPORT & HYDROLOGY REPORT

H. Mills spoke to his report. He advised that pre hearing caucusing is taking place at the moment between Council and Makaawhio relating to Plan Change 1. H. Mills advised that DoC has now pulled out of the appeal process and are no longer a s274 party.

H. Mills advised that work is progressing as planned with all FMU groups.

H. Mills clarified matters relating to the Anticipated Submissions and advised that the table in appendix 1 makes it very clear on what Council should be submitting on. He advised this will give Councillors a reasonable timeframe to feedback to staff. H. Mills advised that this will be a dynamic table and every RMC meeting the recommendations in the table will change slightly as information flows back from central government.

H. Mills and L. Sadler answered questions from Councillors.

Cr Challenger stated he likes the idea of the Anticipated Submissions table as it lets Councillors know what is coming up. He noted that this is a living document and is happy for this to continue to be included in the report.

**Moved** (Ewen /Douglas)

1. *That the report is received.*

2. *That Council agrees with the staff advice in Appendix 1 about which national documents to submit on.*

*Carried*

##### 5.1.2 CONTACT RECREATION MONITORING UPDATE

H. Mills spoke to this report and took it as read. He advised that some samples have returned as moderate to high risk levels, but all were associated with high rainfall events.

H. Mills requested feedback from the meeting as to no longer including this report in the agenda, but having a link on Council's website where data is shown. He stated that this report does not usually contain any recommendations. Discussion took place and it was agreed that should the science team raise any concerns, they would then be reported on as required.

**Moved** (Coll McLaughlin / Hill) *That the report is received.*

*Carried*

##### 5.1.3 TE TAI O POUTINI PLAN UPDATE

J. Armstrong spoke to her report. She advised that standard research and development is underway at the moment. She outlined the topics that are being worked on at the moment.

J. Armstrong stated that the biggest issue currently is the proposed RMA reforms and the implications that these could have for TTPP delivery. J. Armstrong advised that she met with MfE last week and learnt how long the transition period would be until all the provisions in our current plans would need to be under the new Act once they come into play at the end of 2022. She stated it is likely there would be a 10 year transition period with regard to the RMA reforms.

J. Armstrong offered to answer questions. The Chairman stated that he has found the link to J. Armstrong's monthly report on the TTPP website very helpful and a good way to keep up with progress on TTPP.

**Moved** (Coll McLaughlin / Cummings) *That the report is received.*

*Carried*

### 5.2.1 CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT

C. Helem spoke to this report and highlighted various consenting matters. He advised that Westland Milk Products Ltd had a short term resource consent granted to allow for them to continue discharging treated factory wastewater to the Hokitika River. C. Helem advised that the company has encountered delays with completion of the ocean outfall project due to weather and being unable to get divers back into the country due to Covid 19 travel restrictions.

C. Helem answered questions from Councillors.

**Moved** (Magner / Coll McLaughlin) *That the February 2021 report of the Consents Group be received.*  
*Carried*

### 5.2.2 COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT

C. Helem spoke to this report and outlined compliance activity during the reporting period. C. Helem offered to answer questions.

Cr Cummings queried how a photo of his mine site came to be published in the Greymouth Star. V. Smith agreed to look into this matter to ascertain whether or not the photograph was supplied by Council.

Cr Ewen noted that there has been another complaint from the Stafford area. C. Helem advised that a pragmatic approach is taken with these type of complaints, especially following a heavy rainfall event.

**Moved** (Cummings / Ewen)

1. *That the February 2021 report of the Compliance Group be received.*

2. *That the \$5,000 bond for RC04290 G Hobbs and the \$60,000 bond for RC-2015-0060 Butlers Mining Ltd are released.*

*Carried*

### GENERAL BUSINESS

The Chairman stated that the information from Mr Trounson is worth considering as Mr Trounson has a lot of experience and has previously worked at the port. Cr Ewen commented that Council cannot cancel a mining permit.

Cr Coll McLaughlin advised that she attended a community meeting at Hector, several years ago, with the Buller River discussed. She stated there was a conversation about the tip head affecting this area.

Discussion took place regarding gravel extraction, beach replenishment, dredging of the river, and storm events. Cr Cummings stated that a lot of the gravel that comes down the river is from natural events and this increases gravel on the beaches. Cr Coll McLaughlin advised that NIWA had mentioned this and advised that the big earthquakes have an impact on this. H. Mills advised that Council has a NIWA report on the effects of river gravel extraction on coastal erosion. It was agreed that the report would be circulated to Councillors and passed onto Mr Trounson. Cr Ewen agreed the discussion and stated that West Coast rivers are dynamic and the amount of gravel extraction undertaken is miniscule in view of how much gravel goes down the river.

The meeting closed at 11. 12 a.m.

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Chairman

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Date