

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 10 MAY 2022 AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL,
388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10:32 AM.**

PRESENT:

S Challenger (Chair), A. Birchfield, P. Ewen, D. Magner, B. Cummings, J. Hill, L. Coll McLaughlin.

IN ATTENDANCE:

H Mabin (Chief Executive), via zoom), J Armstrong (TTPP Project Manager) (via zoom), C. Helem (Consents & Compliance Manager) (via zoom), Lillie Sadler (Planning Team Leader), R Vaughan (Acting Planning & Resource Science Manager) (via zoom), N Costley (Manager Strategy & Communications).

Also present: Brendon McMahon (Grey Star), member of the public

1. WELCOME

Cr Challenger opened the meeting and read the prayer.

2. APOLOGIES

F Tumahai and J Douglas were apologies for the meeting.

Moved: (Birchfield/Coll McLaughlin) *that the apologies be accepted.*

Carried

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. PUBLIC FORUM, PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

There was no public forum.

PRESENTATION

There was no presentation.

5. MINUTES

The Chairman asked the meeting if there were any changes to the minutes of the previous meeting. There were no corrections.

Moved: (Magner/Cummings) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 12 April 2022 be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

6. CHAIR'S REPORT (VERBAL UPDATE)

There was no report for this month.

REPORTS

7. PLANNING AND RESOURCE SCIENCE GROUP

7.1 TE TAI O POUTINI PLAN UPDATE

J Armstrong spoke to this report. She thanked the people of the West Coast for providing getting involved and providing feedback. She outlined the proposed process for the Plan prior to notification.

The Chair asked about the timeframe for the rest of the process following submissions. J Armstrong acknowledged that this was uncertain given the possibility of appeals, mediation etc, but the whole process would be likely to take a couple of years. The Chair noted the consultation that had been undertaken would hopefully reduce some of the matters requiring a hearing. J Armstrong confirmed that this might be the case on some matters.

Cr Cummings asked about whether there was any idea of what land would be left once the SNAs, hazard areas, etc had been taken out. J Armstrong said that staff were looking in to some of that, but in many cases these areas are layered on top of each other, so it is not an accumulation of land that is an ONL with a separate SNA, but are often over the same areas. She advised that work is being done to estimate the extent of private land is that is affected.

Cr Ewen advised that Iwi recently had an area of land excluded by a decision of the Court, which became caselaw and set a precedent. He asked whether it this would assist private landowners if they were of the same mind to do the same thing for their land, and asked if this would create problems. J Armstrong responded that she was under the impression that this was not under caselaw, but if that was the case then that was fine. People would need to get reports which outlined why it was not an SNA, for example.

Cr Ewen felt that the Plan Committee should be conscious that other parties had raised the same thing. Cr Coll McLaughlin clarified explained the process as she understood it, noting that a large number of areas that had now been excluded or refined. She said she thought there would be a number of submissions from people whose land was clearly developed, seeking their land be removed from those overlays.

Cr Cummings asked whether, if an ONL had an exotic tree on it, it could be defined as an outstanding Natural landscape. J Armstrong said that it could be, for example if it was identified because of its vista from the coast. The rock formation would be the natural element.

Moved (Cummings/Hill) *That the report is noted.*

Carried

7.2 PLANNING AND RESOURCE SCIENCE GROUP REPORT

L Sadler spoke to this report and took it as read. She advised the Committee of an update in a submission on the Parliamentary Commissioner's report 'Space Invaders' regarding weed issues. This submission had been circulated, and will be lodged shortly.

Cr Birchfield noted that there was a list of questions that the government was seeking responses to, in the climate change discussion document.

Cr Coll McLaughlin was pleased to see the reference to sphagnum moss.

Cr Coll McLaughlin noted that the formation of plans was prescribed in the national planning standards, and asked what was required for changes to existing planning documents. L Sadler responded that changes required to existing documents by the national planning standards are not required to go through the RMA Schedule 1 notification and submissions process as long as there are no more than minor or consequential amendments to plans. Staff are working to this requirement and do not anticipate a need to notify the changes to the RPS.

Cr Ewen provided a paper which included pictures of Coal Creek/Seven Mile Creek catchments and how much material had washed down the riverbed, following incredible rainfall intensity. He offered to provide his information paper for Council files. He said this is the sort of issue that will affect other creeks on the Coast. He also noted a typing error 'Franz Josef' in the report.

Regarding air quality, he noted the previous changes to standards where areas such as Reefton had done the right thing but the standards to meet were continually changing. He said he was sceptical about the changes and that they were designed to fail.

Moved (Coll McLaughlin/ Cummings):

1. *That the report is received; and*
2. *That the Committee agrees with the updated staff advice in Appendix 1 to the report about which national documents to submit on.*

Carried

8. CONSENTS & COMPLIANCE GROUP

8.1 CONSENTS REPORT

C. Helem spoke to this report and took it as read. He updated the Committee on consent activities in the District as per his report. He advised that the Westland Minerals Sands decision was due to be released tomorrow.

Cr Cummings asked whether a resource consent was needed to bury tyres. C Helem responded in the affirmative.

Moved (Cummings / Hill) *That the May 2022 report of the Consents Group is received.*

Carried

8.2 COMPLIANCE REPORT

C. Helem took the Committee through this report.

Cr Birchfield asked for information about the complaint regarding water takes in the Grey Valley catchment. C Helem advised that they had received an enquiry from Fish & Game, who had received some complaints from members about low flows and water takes. Staff have followed up and could not substantiate the

complaints so far but more follow-up was planned. There was also heavy rain after these complaints were received, which has alleviated the low flows for now.

Cr Birchfield asked about works under the Waimangaroa Bridge. C Helem advised that they met with a person downstream of the bridge who had some concerns about the works, to discuss any issues. Cr Birchfield noted he was receiving a number of calls from landowners concerned about being able to do repair works following the floods. C Helem confirmed that they had undertaken an educative approach, and could do further comms on this as to what is permitted. His team is happy to talk to anyone with questions. Cr Ewen noted that a common sense approach should be taken to complaints, as it is the nature of the events on the Coast that works are required following rainfall events in the wet bed of the river to fix banks etc. C Helem agreed, noting that this work was necessary following events.

Cr Cummings asked who was responsible for creeks through DoC land. C Helem explained that the Regional Council controlled activities in the bed of rivers, regardless of who owned the land.

Moved: (Ewen / Magner) *That the May 2022 report of the Compliance Group is received.*

Carried

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Ewen asked that a list of consents that have gone to private consultants for processing be provided to Council in writing, at future meetings. H Mabin agreed to provide this. C Helem confirmed that there were currently no consents out with consultants for processing, other than those applied for by the Regional Council itself.

The meeting closed at 11:19 a.m.

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Chair

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Date