

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 8 FEBRUARY 2022 AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL,
388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11:15 AM.**

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

H. Mabin (Chief Executive) via zoom, C. Helem (Acting Consents & Compliance Manager) via Zoom, N. Costley (Strategy & Communications Manager) via Zoom, R. Beal (Operations Director), J. Armstrong (Te Tai o Poutini Project Manager) via Zoom.

1. WELCOME

Cr Challenger opened the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Moved (Birchfield/Magner)

That the apology from F Tumahai is received.

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.

J Douglas joined the meeting.

5. MINUTES

The Chairman asked the meeting if there were any changes to the minutes of the previous meeting. Cr Coll McLaughlin sought a number of corrections to the previous minutes.

Moved: (Magner/Ewen) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 14th December 2021 be confirmed as correct subject to the following amendments:*

1. *F Tumahai is recorded as being IN ATTENDANCE rather than PRESENT.*
2. *Item 6 Chairman's Report: "Cr Challenger reported that Environment Canterbury want two Ngāi Tahu representatives on Council, noting WCRC would like local Iwi instead" be amended by removing the phrase ' , noting WCRC would like local Iwi instead'.*
3. *Item 7.1.2 Update on Freshwater Implementation: – Add the words 'about Outstanding Waterbodies' as follows: "They are waiting on consultation with the community to see what locals value most about Outstanding Waterbodies."*
4. *Item 7.1.3 Te Tai o Poutini Plan Update: Replace the last sentence of this section with the following: "Cr Challenger said rules in the new district plan regarding coastal hazards are unlikely to prohibit new development that can happen at the moment. However, coastal hazards rules do add cost".*
5. *Item 7.1.5 Review of Stewardship Land: correct "WCTC" to "WCRC". Add "Panel" after "Mana Whenua".*
6. *Item 7.1.6 Tai Poutini West Coast 2050 Strategy: Amend "Destination West Coast" to "Development West Coast".*

Carried

Matters Arising

Cr Ewen requested that all submissions and external reports include the map overlay previously requested.

6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cr Challenger reported that he had attended the South Westland FMU field trip which was very worthwhile for all that attended.

REPORTS

7. PLANNING AND RESOURCE SCIENCE GROUP

7.1 PLANNING AND RESOURCE SCIENCE GROUP REPORT

R. Vaughan spoke to this report and took it as read. R. Vaughan highlighted the Lake Brunner Water Quality report in Appendix 2. R. Vaughan stated that new rainwater and river monitoring sites had been established by the Hydrology team and that the low river levels during the Christmas period had raised awareness of water allocation.

Cr Ewen congratulated Staff on the amount of work they had undertaken. Cr Hill stated that technology could be updated to assist, assuming there was cellphone coverage. R Vaughan said that staff may explore the option of satellite contact as staff were reliant on remote readings and the stations are powered by solar.

Cr Coll McLaughlin complimented R Vaughan on the graphics and stated that she had had positive feedback on the webpage and its accessibility.

R Vaughan talked to the draft Submission on National Environmental Standards on Sources for Drinking Water (NES) and the new Water Services Act that had been circulated to Council, and expressed concern about the proposed one methodology being applied across the entire region.

The Water Services Act covered water tanks and single source supplies that supplied more than one dwelling. The Act and the NES required all other sources to be mapped and monitored, protection mechanisms to be put in place, and the methodology did not take into account the varying geology and geography across the region.

Cr Coll McLaughlin asked what a protection mechanism would be and R Vaughan used the example of ECAN having mapped groundwater and activity exclusion areas. This could potentially limit land use.

Cr Coll McLaughlin requested that management connect with other regional councils facing the same issues. Cr Magner supported this initiative.

Moved (Douglas/ Magner):

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

7.2 TE TAI O POUTINI PLAN UPDATE

J Armstrong spoke to this report, with a brief update on the release of the 800 page Exposure Draft through Council's website, 18 hardcopies in venues across the region and the various planned face-to-face drop-in sessions with stakeholders.

Chair Birchfield commented that the long document was not easy to read and that a simplified version should be investigated. J Armstrong said that the document had to comply with National Planning Standards as to how it was written and reminded Council that this step of the process was purely for feedback.

Cr Ewen enquired whether the TTPP Committee has made a submission to central Government about the National Planning Standard?

Cr Coll McLaughlin stated that she had abstained from the vote to release the Natural Hazards draft as there were no pathways for recognising Council's future installation of flood protection infrastructure.

Moved (Birchfield / Coll McLaughlin) *That this report is noted.*

Carried

8. CONSENTS & COMPLIANCE GROUP

8.1 CONSENTS REPORT

C. Helem spoke to this report and took it as read. C Helem highlighted the release of the ruling from the Hearing on the Barrytown JV application, which the CEO had circulated to Council prior to the meeting.

Cr Ewen enquired about the pushback wall referred to on page 35 and C Helem responded that this was an increase in the extraction pit.

Moved (Birchfield / Magner) *That the February 2022 report of the Consents Group is received.*

Carried

8.2 COMPLIANCE REPORT

C. Helem spoke to this report and took it as read highlighting the Punakaiki River Infringement Notice. Cr Ewen enquired as to whether this was a dry bed or wet bed? C Helem responded that the Notice related to the diversion of the river and work within the wet bed. Applicants really need to align their applications with their intended work methods.

Cr Coll McLaughlin asked about potential flood mitigation for Granite Creek, Barrytown. C Helem said the option was to get a consent to remove gravel and build up the banks; however it is on private property. Council also queried complaints about stock in the Arahura River and C Helem commented that the stock were not in the riverbed itself in the photos provided. He stated that stock exclusion rules covering that area for drystock do not come into force until 2025.

Moved: (Magner / Cummings)

1. *That the February 2022 report of the Compliance Group be received.*
2. *That the Browns Gold Ltd bond of \$18,000 for RC-2016-0138 is released.*

Carried

8.3 FRESHWATER FARM PLANS UPDATE

C. Helem spoke to this report and took it as read. The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) were providing good opportunities for farmers and Council staff to upskill about Freshwater Farm Plans. The roll-out of the requirement to have Plans in place was timed for mid-2022.

Cr Magner asked if Councillors could attend the sessions? C Helem agreed to put this option forward to MPI and commented that MPI were strong on stakeholder engagement. Cr Coll McLaughlin supported this initiative and the promotion of it amongst farmer and asked if sessions could be provided on Zoom?

Cr Cummings asked who would be responsible for overseeing the Farm Management Plans. C Helem advised that MPI was driving this initiative. However for the regulatory farm plans required in the near future, Council would have a function in recording and roll-out. There will be a national accreditation entity that had certifiers for the farm plans required by the regulations; however this is still a work in progress.

Moved: (Magner / Coll McLaughlin) *That this report is received.*

Carried

9. REGIONAL TRANSPORT

9.1 REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT PLAN

N Costley spoke to this report that was for information only and took it as read. Chair Birchfield commented that there was not much public transport on the Coast. N Costley stated Council had the Total Mobility Services but there may be additional need in the future.

Cr Coll McLaughlin took this opportunity to thank N Costley for her hard work producing Media releases while under pressure and congratulated her on the quality of her work.

Moved (Douglas / Ewen) *That the Committee note the process for the upcoming review of the West Coast Regional Public Transport Plan.*

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Ewen stated that Kaiata residents had expressed concern about the gravel extraction in the Omoto area and had queried the consent in place. Cr Ewen stated that the Operator had destroyed 7 tributaries and the flood plain was diminished. Cr Ewen asked management if he could see the consent? C Helem was to action this.

Cr Cummings commented that Hawkes Bay Regional Council was pushing back on NZTA’s initiative to lower the speed limits. Cr Cummings commented that Regional Councils need a united response.

The meeting closed at 12:13 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date