

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE GREYMOUTH JOINT FLOODWALL COMMITTEE
HELD ON 13 OCTOBER 2009, AT THE OFFICES OF
THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH,
COMMENCING AT 3.02 P.M.**

PRESENT:

P. Ewen (Chairman), D. Truman, A. Robb, A. Birchfield, T. Kokshoorn

IN ATTENDANCE:

P. Pretorius (GDC Chief Executive), C. Ingle (WCRC Chief Executive), W. Moen (WCRC River Engineer), S. Moran (WCRC Planning and Environmental Manager) K. Perrin-Smith (GDC Engineering Officer), M. Sutherland (GDC Assets Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk).

APOLOGIES:

M. Osborne

T. Kokshoorn / A. Birchfield - Carried

BUSINESS

P. Ewen welcomed all present to this meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved: That the minutes of the Joint Floodwall Committee meeting held 14 October 2008, as circulated, be confirmed as correct

T. Kokshoorn / A. Robb - Carried

MATTERS ARISING:

It was noted that P. Pretorius is not able to second or move motions therefore his name is to be replaced with D. Truman's for seconding of the two motions from the previous minutes.

T. Kokshoorn raised the matter of the recent flood when the floodgates in Cobden had not been closed. W. Moen advised that the opening of the floodgates had been left to GDC contractors to do. It was noted that there was a king tide at the time. A consultant is looking at the Cobden Cut. W. Moen advised that if the floodgates had closed then there would not have been a problem. It was agreed that M. Sutherland would amend the flood action plan to ensure this does not happen again.

PUBLIC FORUM TIME – SPEAKING RIGHTS

There was no request for public speaking rights.

FINANCIAL REPORT

W. Moen presented the financial statement for the financial period 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 noting that the current balance is \$1,020,142.10. W. Moen reported that close to \$30,000 was spent on survey work during the reporting period.

Moved: *"That the financial report for the 2008/ 2009 financial year be adopted."*

D. Truman / A. Robb - Carried

WORKS REPORT

W. Moen presented the 2008 / 2009 works report. He reported that \$117,616.23 was spent in total for works during the 2008 / 2009 year. W. Moen advised that the projected works of \$16,000 for the period 1 July 2009 to 20 June 2010 are to be incorporated with the upgrade to the floodwall.

S. Moran advised that the contract for the upgrade of the floodwall will be let by the end of January, if not sooner. Expression of interest for contractors is scheduled for mid November. T. Kokshoorn asked if the duration of the project would be six months. S. Moran responded that this depends on quite a few different factors. C. Ingle stated that he is hopeful of avoiding the whitebait season.

T. Kokshoorn commended W. Moen and S. Moran on the work done on Cobden Island. He stated that the clearance of all the vegetation has made a huge improvement to this area.

C. Ingle asked W. Moen for an update on the cross section report. W. Moen responded that there is a general build up of gravel from the mouth of the Grey River to Fisherman's Lagoon. T. Kokshoorn asked if the build up could be blown out in a decent fresh in the river. W. Moen replied that it could.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the Works Report covering the 2008 / 2009 financial year be adopted.*
- 2. That the 2009 / 2010 works proposals be approved.*

T. Kokshoorn / A. Birchfield – Carried

2010 / 2011 RATE STRIKE

There was no discussion on the recommended rate strike.

Moved: *That the recommended rate strike for the 2010 / 2011 financial year be \$275,000 (G.S.T. Excl).*

A. Robb / A. Birchfield - Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

Signal Box

T. Kokshoorn advised that the Greymouth Heritage Trust want to have the signal box raised. P. Pretorius clarified that the Greymouth Heritage Trust have argued that the cost is the same regardless of whether the signal box is moved or lifted up from its current position. C. Ingle advised that the Greymouth Heritage Trust want councils to fund the lifting up of the signal box. Cr Ewen stated it is easy to spend other peoples money and that the Greymouth Heritage Trust wants ratepayers to fund this project.

S. Moran advised that a substantial retaining wall would be required; Greymouth Heritage Trust has secured \$10,000 worth of funding from the Lotteries Grants Board. Cr Ewen stated that this amount would hardly pay for the paint and if the signal box is to be moved then resource consent maybe required. T. Kokshoorn stated that we should not turn our backs on this project as \$4M is being spent on the floodwall upgrade so a further \$20 – 30,000 for the moving of the signal box is not a big ask.

S. Moran stated that the Historic Places Trust do not recognise the signal box and advised that the signal box would look strange if it were to be lifted up higher. Cr Ewen stated that

the moving of the signal box is outside of the focus of what we are here for and the cost of this project would fall on the floodwall ratepayer. Cr Ewen feels if the Greymouth Heritage Trust wants the signal box moved then they should pay for it.

Cr Robb stated he does not feel comfortable about asking ratepayers to fund this project. Cr Birchfield agrees with Cr Robb. Cr Birchfield stated that it could cost up to \$100,000 and he does not want ratepayers having to come up with this sort of money. Cr Truman stated that signal box comes under the GDC amenity and beautification responsibilities and middle ground needs to be found to sort this matter out. Cr Ewen reminded the meeting of a previous resolution made a number of years ago that nothing further is to be placed on the floodwall. Cr Truman stated that this is Grey District Council's responsibility and not the West Coast Regional Council's responsibility. Cr Birchfield agreed with this comment and advised that the Regional Council role is with the floodwall's function for flood protection.

It was agreed that a letter would be written to the Greymouth Heritage Trust advising them that the matter of the signal box was discussed at today's meeting and there is no funding available to assist with the restoration of the signal box.

Consultants

Geotech are currently carrying out work in between the bridges. A preliminary report has shown that contractors are happy with this work to date. It has been reported that the concrete structures on Mawhera Quay are working well where they are.

It was noted that people affiliated with the stock car track are requesting that a realignment of the existing stopbank around the outside northern edge of the stock car track be investigated. A comparison design for this purpose is being sought.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 3.40 pm.

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Chairman

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Date