

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE GREYMOUTH JOINT FLOODWALL COMMITTEE
HELD ON 23 OCTOBER 2012,
AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL,
388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 3.00 P.M.**

PRESENT:

T. Kokshoorn (Chairman), A. Robb, I. Cummings, A. Birchfield, P. Berry, D. Truman (late),

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

BUSINESS

T. Kokshoorn welcomed all present to the meeting and introductions were made.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved: That the minutes of the Joint Floodwall Committee meeting held 11 October 2011, as circulated, be confirmed as correct

A. Robb / I. Cummings - Carried

MATTERS ARISING:

Action Points were updated.

M. Sutherland advised that the seating on the floodwall will be installed shortly.

W. Moen will speak to the Hall report later in the meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM TIME – SPEAKING RIGHTS

There was no request for public speaking rights.

FINANCIAL REPORT

M. Meehan presented the financial statement for the financial period 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012. He reported that the opening balance was \$109,640.26, \$50,000 coming into the account from rates and \$3,603.20 worth of interest was earned. M. Meehan reported that the costs of survey work are included in the report and consultancy work for the floodwall. The closing balance in the maintenance account as at the 30th of June is \$113,160.03

M. Meehan reported that the closing balance in the loan account is \$18,155.27.

Moved: "That the financial report for the Maintenance Account for the 2011 / 2012 financial year be adopted."

A. Robb / A. Birchfield - Carried

Moved: "That the financial report for the Loan Account for the 2011 / 2012 financial year be adopted."

P. Berry / I. Cummings - Carried

P. Berry asked if the interest rates on the loan account are still at a good rate. C. Ingle stated that he would check this with R. Mallinson and report back to Cr Berry on this.

WORKS REPORT

W. Moen presented the 2011 / 2012 works report. He reported that \$16,711.01 was spent in total for works during the 2011 / 2012 year. This included survey work (cross sections) and a photo survey of the Cobden Lagoon area.

W. Moen reported that projected works for the period 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013 amount to \$50,000 which includes \$10,000 for the spraying of Cobden Island, \$10,000 for rock for the stopbank, \$10,000 for unforeseen maintenance and \$20,000 for consultant costs.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the Works Report covering the 2011 / 2012 financial year be adopted.*
- 2. That the 2012 / 2013 works proposals be approved.*

T. Kokshoorn / A. Birchfield – Carried

P. Berry asked what did the cross section report reveal. W. Moen advised that this work was done to give a precise contour of the Cobden Lagoon so that any future design work can be based on a firm footing and this survey will be used for the further floodwall development in the Cobden Lagoon area.

T. Kokshoorn asked W. Moen about the allowance that should be made for Stage 2 of the Floodwall Upgrade (stopbank raising) in the future. W. Moen advised that no allowance has been made for next stage of the upgrade. T. Kokshoorn stated that the meeting needs to be mindful that this work needs to be completed. T. Kokshoorn asked W. Moen to put a cost estimate together for the costs of Stage 2 upgrade before the next meeting. P. Pretorius reminded the meeting that the rate strike is WCRC's call and they make the decision on this.

2013 / 2014 RATE STRIKE

W. Moen reported that the recommended rate strike is \$100,000. He stated that the rate strike has nothing to do with Stage 2 of the floodwall upgrade and this figure is for maintenance of the floodwall. T. Kokshoorn asked what was the rate strike last year. W. Moen stated that it was \$50,000. P. Pretorius stated that the regional council strikes this rate and it is important that the rate strike is sufficient to maintain the floodwall.

M. Meehan advised that meeting that as far as maintenance goes the account would still be in credit if the rate strike is left at \$50,000. I. Cummings is against a rate strike of \$100,000 because he feels that at the moment this is too much for people. T. Kokshoorn asked if the rating district could get by on a \$50,000 rate strike.

Moved: *That the recommended rate strike for the 2013 / 2014 financial year be \$50,000 (G.S.T. Excl).*

I. Cummings / P. Berry - Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

Saltwater Creek / New River Rating District

P. Pretorius stated that his council does not have authority to discuss this matter at this meeting. He stated that he has delegation from his council to only discuss the floodwall. P. Pretorius stated they could have a general discussion but they cannot vote on anything. T. Kokshoorn stated that Saltwater Creek / New River is a rating district set up by the regional council. Cr Cummings stated that he would have thought that because GDC had put up most of the money for the works that they would be interested. C. Ingle stated that this matter was put on the agenda for administrative convenience and that while the Saltwater Creek / New River

rating district is the regional council's rating district, so is the Greymouth Floodwall and in the same way that the Joint Floodwall is governed by both councils the Saltwater Creek works could be as well. He stated that GDC initiated the Saltwater Creek works and are continuing to look after the bund and the regional council has taken over the opening of the mouth. C. Ingle stated that even if this meeting just receives this as what the regional council is doing, it does not worry him if it is nothing more than that. T. Kokshoorn stated that GDC initiated the works but it was never intended that GDC would be involved any further as it is a regional council rating district. T. Kokshoorn stated that from this committee's view, they cannot receive the report because it is not GDC's business. P. Pretorius asked that if this meeting was of the opinion that it would be good for this meeting to also attend to the Saltwater Creek / New River area then he could ask his council for a validation to extend the delegations for the Joint Floodwall Committee to also attend to matters relating to Saltwater Creek / New River. T. Kokshoorn suggested that C. Ingle writes to GDC and puts it through the council proper but not through this forum. T. Kokshoorn stated that GDC wants to be involved but it is up to C. Ingle to write to GDC to get this underway. C. Ingle advised that there have been talks, before his time, about urban flooding and who is responsible for what, and as this is the only meeting that both councils have together, then this is the most sensible place to discuss these matters. Cr Birchfield stated that both councils are involved so there should be at least some cooperation and discussion on this. Cr Berry stated it is going very well at the moment, \$400 has been spent and there is \$1,600 in reserve so it could carry on for a few years like this. M. Meehan advised that WCRC operates under GDC's consent to open up the mouth and this is discussed with M. Sutherland. C. Ingle advised that he would draft a letter to GDC to extend the scope of this committee to include Saltwater Creek mouth.

Bob Hall Report – Cobden Lagoon – Range Creek Flood Protection

W. Moen advised that Mr Hall was contracted to provide a solution to the flooding in this area. W. Moen advised that the report shows that Cobden is unable to cope with a one in 100 year flood event. Mr Hall recommends that part of the water is taken down into Lake Ryan. W. Moen stated that direction is needed from this committee on where to from here regarding this issue. T. Kokshoorn stated that he has been under the impression that by opening up the Cobden cut out to the sea from the lagoon this would alleviate any excess water from Range Creek. T. Kokshoorn stated that when the Grey River is running high and the sea is high then puts a damming situation on the lagoon and Range Creek flows into this which then affects the whole bottom end of Cobden which becomes inundated with water. T. Kokshoorn stated that he has been told that pumps won't cope either. T. Kokshoorn stated that the houses in the Nelson Quay area have been very close to being under water. He feels this lower end of Cobden has missed out on flood protection and they are part of the Greymouth Rating District and it is only fair that this area is protected when they are paying into the rating district. M. Meehan advised that the next step in the process is to get costings for both the options and take them back to a special meeting. He stated that the landowners in this area have not been approached as yet.

Cr Birchfield asked how many houses are involved. W. Moen responded there are between 6 – 12 houses affected. Cr Cummings stated that when flooding was a problem at Kaiata people raised the height of their houses themselves. Cr Robb asked if these houses have been flooded since the floodwall was built and are they receiving protection from the floodwall. T. Kokshoorn said that they have had protection. Cr Robb stated that the floodwall is built to a 1 in 50 year flood event but if there was a flood at the 1 in 75 year level then everyone would be at risk. Cr Robb stated that it comes back to risk and if it is going to increase the rates for everyone in Greymouth then it is not worth putting this rate increase on everyone. T. Kokshoorn asked why hasn't a pumping station been put in at Cobden. He stated that a pumping station has been put in for Greymouth and one should be put in for Cobden. T. Kokshoorn stated that a pumping station was built in Nelson Quay but there is still a problem in this area that needs to be addressed.

Cr Birchfield stated that to put a pumping station in to handle the amount of water in this area could cost around \$1M. He asked T. Kokshoorn if these costs are going to be put onto the ratepayers in the Greymouth rating district, and expect them to pay for something that affects about a dozen properties. Cr Birchfield stated it would be much cheaper for these properties to

be lifted and would be much more cost effective. Cr Birchfield stated that the ratepayers will not be happy with this idea.

T. Kokshoorn stated that a further meeting will be called once the costs are to hand. Cr Robb stated that the ratepayers would need to be consulted with, like they were for the floodwall upgrade. Cr Robb agrees with Cr Birchfield and feels that it may not be fair on all the ratepayers of Greymouth when only around a dozen properties are affected.

Moved: *“That costings are sought for extension of the floodwall around the Cobden Lagoon area, the diversion of Range Creek into Lake Ryan area and a pump station for Lower Cobden”.*

P. Berry / T. Kokshoorn - Carried

Cr Truman asked where is the money coming from for the costings as last year all the money was used on administration. C. Ingle advised that the costings for the Bob Hall report have been budgeted for.

Cr Cummings raised an issue with the plug in the Cobden Cut.

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

Action Point:

- T. Kokshoorn asked W. Moen to put a cost estimate together for the costs of Stage 2 upgrade before the next meeting.
- M. Meehan to prepare a paper developing affordable options for lower Cobden.
- C. Ingle to write to GDC to enable the scope of the Joint Floodwall Committee to cover matters relating to Saltwater Creek / New River and any other joint flooding issues in the district that both councils are dealing with.

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Chairman

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Date