

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
THE HOKITIKA JOINT SEA WALL COMMITTEE  
HELD ON 16 FEBRUARY 2015,  
AT WESTLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL CHAMBERS,  
WELD STREET, HOKITIKA, COMMENCING AT 4.18 P.M.**

**PRESENT:**

A. Robb (Chairman), S. Challenger, P. McDonnell, K. van Beek, M. Dawson, J. Butzbach

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

C. Ingle (WCRC Chief Executive), V. Goel (WDC Engineer), G. Borg (Corporate Services Manager),  
T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk).

**APOLOGIES:**

T. Winter

**WELCOME**

A. Robb welcomed all present to the meeting and introductions were made.

**Moved:**            ***"That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 17 November 2014, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."***

*S. Challenger / M. Dawson – Carried*

**MATTERS ARISING**

M. Dawson asked C. Ingle if he had brought a range of rating models to the meeting. C. Ingle confirmed that he looked at a range of rating options, but ended up modelling only one option.

**ADOPTION OF HOKITIKA SEAWALL AGREEMENT**

C. Ingle advised that following the November meeting he made some amendments to the agreement to reflect what the committee wanted the Regional Council to do. He stated that the groynes will be managed by the Regional Council. The agreement states that if new erosion occurs between the river mouth and the seawall then a joint arrangement between the two councils would be made. C. Ingle advised that he has put the agreement past the Regional Council, informally, and they are comfortable with it. Discussion took place on what joint responsibility means. M. Dawson asked if this means that each council pays 50 / 50. C. Ingle confirmed this would be the default setting. He stated that agreement needs to be had on what is the nature of the protection that each council is prepared to fund is but he suspects both councils would be in agreement anyway. V. Goel stated that erosion has not affected this area but it is a recreational area and should erosion occur then this can be discussed at the time.

Discussion took place on the history of the groynes, what materials were used etc. C. Ingle stated that the Weld Lane groyne is now redundant. Cr Robb suggested that the groynes are transferred to the Regional Council. V. Goel stated that one authority needs to look after the seawall and groynes. C. Ingle suggested that a change is made to point G of the agreement to say that *"the groynes north of the seawall are being transferred by the District Council to the Regional Council. Their ongoing maintenance from 2015 will be managed by the Regional Council."* C. Ingle advised that this agreement needs to be approved by the parent councils. He will re-circulate the agreement without the yellow highlights and with the changes made, to T. Winter. The agreement

will then go onto the district council and the regional council's meeting agenda for their next council meetings.

**Moved: *That the Hokitika Seawall Agreement is placed on the Council's agendas for adoption with the above amendments made***".

*M. Dawson / J. Butzbach – Carried*

## **EXTENDING THE RATING DISTRICT**

C. Ingle spoke to this report and advised that at the last meeting a new class of ratepayers was discussed. C. Ingle advised that his Corporate Services Manager advised that the new class of ratepayers (E Class) should contribute to both the loan repayment rate, and this new maintenance rate, which will maintain the groynes and the seawall. C. Ingle advised that he is recommending a maintenance rate of \$30,000 per year. He stated that this amount of money would not need to be spent every year but if each groyne is going to cost \$60,000 to get upgraded, we need more than \$10,000 per year. C. Ingle is now recommending a new E class which is a large area around Hokitika made up of over 1100 ratepayers, who would pay \$25 per year each.

C. Ingle stated that although this is a small amount of money, cumulatively this adds up. He spoke extensively on how the E class would work. QV assisted with working out how best to implement this new class. The cost is \$25 is per dwelling - not based on capital value. Council's lawyers advised that the new classification has to be classified as a uniform annual charge, not a rate, and it will be set on each SUIP (separately used or inhabited part) of a rating unit.

K. van Beek stated that he is not in favour of this as he feels that Hokitika people don't pay rates to other rating districts, like Southside. P. McDonnell stated that all people in the wider area use the town. K. van Beek feels that this system is not equitable. Extensive discussion ensued. A spreadsheet was circulated to the meeting illustrating the financial information. C. Ingle explained the spreadsheet to the meeting and answered various questions. M. Dawson, J. Butzbach, P. McDonnell and S. Challenger confirmed that they are happy with the proposed extension of the rating district. K. van Beek does not agree with the concept but was happy with the methodology. C. Ingle asked that meeting if there were any other options that had not been thought about. K. van Beek stated that he believes in user pays and that is why he is not happy with the concept.

**Moved: *"That the Hokitika Joint Seawall Committee recommends to the Regional Council that they take this rating proposal to the community via the LTP process***".

*J. Butzbach / M. Dawson – Carried  
K. van Beek - against*

## **MEDIA LIAISON**

C. Ingle suggested that the media is now informed of what the committee is proposing to do. He tabled a draft press release to the meeting for discussion. Minor changes were made to the press release.

## **WDC DESIGNS FOR ACCESS AND AMENITY**

V. Goel advised that there are two or three community groups working on this. He stated that there is not any funding for this but he feels that a simple grassed area is the best option. V. Goel advised that various suggestions have been made from community groups. V. Goel stated that WDC is in the process of working through this and are about to take these ideas to a meeting in the next day or so. A. Robb encouraged V. Goel to talk to regional council engineering staff to ensure that the suitability of any structures intended for the seawall. C. Ingle stated that he doesn't think there will be any conflict provided the three metre strip next to the rock work remains open as a

walkway / cycle way, leaving it accessible for maintenance work as and when needed. C. Ingle stated that it is fine for seats, trees and art to be placed in the adjacent grassy area. It was agreed that V. Goel would pass on any suggestions or information to C. Ingle regarding the access and amenities.

**NEXT MEETING**

C. Ingle stated that the next meeting of the Hokitika Joint Seawall committee would be scheduled for around October when the usual round of annual rating district meetings are held. C. Ingle stated that if a new plan is put forward to WDC from the arts group and WDC accepts it then a meeting might need to be held.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.20 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date