

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 9 SEPTEMBER 2014, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 1.08 P.M.

PRESENT:

A. Robb (Chairman), P. Ewen, A. Birchfield, P. McDonnell, T. Archer, S. Challenger. N. Clementson

IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), M. Meehan (Planning & Environmental Manager), J. Adams (Consents and Compliance Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved (Archer / McDonnell) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 12 August 2014, be confirmed as correct, with the correction made as below.*

Carried

Cr Archer drew attention to page 3 of the minutes. The word "put" is missing from a sentence on page 3. The sentence should read "Cr Archer asked when Council has to put the 30 year Infrastructure Strategy in place".

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

REPORTS:

4.1 ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT

M. Meehan spoke to this report and advised that work has been completed in the Wanganui, Taramakau and Karamea rating districts. M. Meehan advised that the work completed in Karamea relates to the new bylaw which will be discussed in today's workshop. M. Meehan stated that trees have been cleared from along the stopbank which were going to impact on the stopbank.

M. Meehan reported that the outcome from the Buller River Flooding workshop held in Westport recently, has resulted in the formation of a group of elected members from both councils, staff from both councils and Matt Gardner, the engineer consultant. M. Meehan advised that Crs Archer and Clementson and Chairman Robb will represent our council. M. Meehan advised that the working group has until June 2015 to report back on options for Westport. He stated that there will be quite a lot of work done on this project over the next 8 -9 months.

M. Meehan reported that there are good supplies of rock in council quarries at the moment and Kiwi Quarry has more rock stock since the writing of this report.

Cr McDonnell asked M. Meehan how much he would envisage the costs for the consultant's flood modelling work. M. Meehan said that to date the costs have been between \$20,000 - \$30,000. He stated that there will not be huge ongoing costs as the model has already been built. M. Meehan confirmed that until a rating district is formed, any costs will be absorbed via the natural hazards costs centre, but once the rating district is formed then all the costs go to the rating district.

Moved (McDonnell / Challenger) *that this report be received.*

Carried

5.1 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT

R. Mallinson spoke to his report and advised that there is no separate financial report for July, which is the first month of the financial year. R. Mallinson advised that he has pre-circulated the Draft Annual Report at the end of last week. He advised that the annual audit is currently in its second week. R. Mallinson reported that the Investment Portfolio earned just under \$95,000 during July and increased by \$150,000 during August. R. Mallinson reported that the first rates instalment will be going out on time in mid September. Cr Clementson asked what mining licences do Council hold; these were mentioned in the Draft Annual Report. C. Ingle advised that the mining licences are for the council quarries.

Moved (Archer / Clementson)

1. *That this report is received.*
2. *That Council receives the Draft Annual Report.*

Carried

6.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT

Cr Robb spoke to his report and advised that the meeting he and C. Ingle had with Tai Poutini Polytech was very good. The Chairman advised that Tai Poutini are keen to work with local businesses to make sure that they are delivering the type of education that will help with economic development for the region.

Cr Robb stated that presentation for the Buller River flood protection was very good. Cr Robb reported that the Royalties for Regions meeting in Wellington which was run by LGNZ was very informative. He stated that the Mayor from Waihi was the Master of Ceremonies. A presenter from Australia where royalties for regions is already in place spoke to the meeting and explained how this system works and the benefits to the community. Cr Robb stated that MP's then spoke of how their parties viewed royalties.

Cr Robb reported that at the recent Regional Sector Group meeting, Mr Bruce Robertson from the Office of the Auditor General spoke and gave three key messages in relation to the legislative changes relating to the audit process for the Long Term Plan. Mr Robertson's key messages were that the LTP is going to take more time of high level staff, and that the LTP process should not cost more money at this stage. C. Ingle stated that the costs involved come down to how much time Audit staff have to spend and how much preparation goes into the documents prior to audit. Cr Robb advised that Audit NZ is auditing the quality of information that Council gives to the community via their LTP. He stated that Audit NZ want to ensure that the LTP is a document that the community can understand and give good feedback on. C. Ingle stated that Audit NZ's test is, is it a fair representation of the facts of council's finances.

Cr Robb wished C. Ingle well for his visit to the USA to attend the SOLGM manager's exchange study award. Cr Robb stated that this is a very prestigious opportunity that C. Ingle has been selected for. Cr Robb stated that usually a manager applies for this award but in C. Ingle's case he was approached by SOLGM and given this opportunity in recognition for the work that he has done for SOLGM over the last year. C. Ingle advised that Cindy Steinhouser is his host in Dubuque, Iowa. Ms Steinhouser is the Assistant City Manager. C. Ingle advised that he will report back to council on his visit. He stated that his main focus will be looking at economic development opportunities, what has been done in the USA and can this be applied here. C. Ingle stated that C. Steinhouser will attend our SOLGM conference in Dunedin in November 2015.

6.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

C. Ingle reported that regional economic development meetings have taken up quite a bit of his time recently. He stated that this is a collaborative effort from all four councils and Development West Coast. C. Ingle stated that Tai Poutini Polytechnic, West Power and DoC are all regional bodies that are now included in the economic development work. He stated that they are keen to be part of this and working together and supporting each other to make progress in this area. C. Ingle stated that DoC has invited us to their conservation management strategy workshops. He feels that it is now time to get strategy alignment. C. Ingle that the Regional Policy Statement has been a good start in this area.

C. Ingle stated that he felt the Royalties for Regions meeting was a particularly good meeting. C. Ingle advised that LGNZ have pulled together several councils and tried to give this topic a national profile. C. Ingle stated that there was a lot of media at the meeting; it was a very well run session and was promoted well. C. Ingle advised that the Regional Sector Group now wants to push this forward also.

C. Ingle advised that good progress is being made at the Regional Sector Group meetings. He stated that extra resources are being considered to manage the information flow between, RSG, CEO's and RMG as those involved with these groups have heavy workloads with their own day to day work.

C. Ingle drew attention to the three main new requirements for the Long Term Plan process which are Significance and Engagement Policy, 30 Year Infrastructure Strategy and a more detailed Consultation Document. He stated that the management team is working through these requirements. He drew attention to the project plan for the LTP process which is attached to his report.

Cr Birchfield stated that DoC seem to be processing resource consents much quicker at the moment.

Cr Archer stated that the draft Project Plan for the LTP looks very comprehensive and will require a lot of input. Cr Archer asked C. Ingle if he is satisfied that he is going to be able to achieve the targets. C. Ingle advised that he and R. Mallinson are yet to discuss whether or not they will need to get someone in to assist with the LTP. C. Ingle stated that council does have an existing LTP, which will be a good starting point.

Moved (Archer / Birchfield) *that this report be received.*

Carried

7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business

The meeting closed at 1.42 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date