

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 14 JUNE 2022,
AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH,
COMMENCING AT 11:05 A.M**

PRESENT:

A Birchfield (Chair), S Challenger, J Hill, P Ewen, D Magner, B Cummings, L Coll McLaughlin

IN ATTENDANCE:

H Mabin (Chief Executive), A Drnasin (Minute taker)

Via Zoom - M Schumacher (IT Support), N Costley (Manager Strategy & Communications), R. Vaughan (Planning and Science Manager)

Also present: Frank Dooley, Richard Kempthorne Chair Buller Flood Recovery Steering Group, Mike Mendonca, John Hutchings, Lois Williams (Grey Star Times), Member of the public.

1. WELCOME

Cr Birchfield read the prayer.

2. APOLOGIES

The Chair called for apologies. There were no apologies.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Chair called for declarations of interest. No declarations were made.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

The Chair called for any speakers for the public forum.

Richard Kempthorne: Brought forward through Chair Challenger of West Coast Regional Council Resource Management Committee Meeting and spoke at 10:34am. Defaulting by consent of RMC Chair Challenger and WCRC Chair Birchfield from agenda of West Coast Regional Council Resource Management Committee Meeting. Mr Kempthorne spoke as Chair of Buller Recovery Steering Group, commending the West coast Regional Council for the work that has been undertaken. Specifically thanked the Council mentioning Allan Birchfield and Brett Cummings for being members of the steering group. Emphasised the importance of ensuring the Westport Business Case is put forward to parliament by June 30 2022

Recording ceased: 10:36:09AM

West Coast Regional Council suffered a power surge which cut video and recording to the Council Chambers.

Recording resumes: 10:39:40 AM

Resource Management Committee meeting resumes 10:40am – Refer to Minutes of Resource Management Committee 14 June 2022.

Frank Dooley (*refer to 12:02pm of the official recording*)

Attended in capacity as chairman of Buller Electricity and in the capacity as a professional trustee representing over 50 ratepayers in the Westport District. F Dooley congratulated Council and advisors for bringing the Westport District Flood Protection Scheme to this point and fully endorsed the paper from Henley Hutchings. F Dooley referred to the Gary Williams and John Hutchings reports. F Dooley asked Council to reconsider the figures put forward in the flood mitigation option cost summary and sought clarification on the economic analysis referred to in sections of the reports. He implored Council to reconsider the business case to be put forward to Central Government to maximise funding and protection. F Dooley specifically requested an additional \$2.15 million be included to obtain the RCP6 flood protection as well sufficient funding for further investigations around Snodgrass be considered.

12:10pm Cr Cummings leaves council chambers to get Mr Frank Dooley a drink of water, Cr Cummings returned at 12:11pm

12:14 pm Cr Coll McLaughlin leaves chambers to get a drink of water, Cr Coll McLaughlin returned 12:14pm

Questions Arising:

Chair Birchfield sought clarification regarding the amount Mr Dooley quoted for Snodgrass. F Dooley responded referring to figure 7 of the business case.

Cr Coll McLaughlin commented on the Joint Committee meeting, noting she watched after the fact, and the robust discussions about the left bank of the Orowaiti and whether it should be 100ARI or RCP6. She noted that had she been present she would have probably voted for RCP6. Cr Coll McLaughlin asked F Dooley to consider how the asset management plan would allow for upgrades to RCP6 as and when climate change effects occur.

Cr Hill sought clarification from F Dooley regarding RCP6 and that it would not be \$650,000 but \$2.5million. F Dooley referred to Figure 9 of the business case and confirmed the \$2.5million was correct.

Chair Birchfield thanked F Dooley for attending and advised the vote for the business case would be deferred to later in the meeting.

PRESENTATION

There was no presentation.

Resource Management Committee meeting resumes 10:40am – Refer to Minutes of Resource Management Committee 14 June 2022 .

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 Extraordinary Council Meeting 3 May 2022

The Chair asked the meeting if there were any changes to the public minutes of the previous Extraordinary Council meeting held on 3 May 2022.

Moved (Challenger/Magner) *that the minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting dated 3 May 2022 be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters arising

Cr Coll McLaughlin requested an update as to when tender documents would be ready. Chair Birchfield advised there was a report on this subject later in the meeting. H Mabin confirmed R Vaughan would speak to this later in the meeting.

Cr Coll McLaughlin reiterated how urgent this piece of work was. However, Cr Coll McLaughlin noted that for the size of the council, and the constrained budget she was profoundly grateful for the amount of work being undertaken by council staff. H Mabin thanked Cr Coll McLaughlin. Cr Hill supported Cr Coll McLaughlin's comments and acknowledged the work that had been undertaken in such a short space of time.

5.2 Council Meeting 10 May 2022

The Chair asked the meeting if there were any changes to the public minutes of the previous Council meeting held on 10 May 2022.

Moved (Hill /Magner) *that the minutes of the Council meeting dated 10 May 2022 be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5.3 Extraordinary Council Meeting 30 May 2022

The Chair asked the meeting if there were any changes to the public minutes of the previous Extraordinary Council meeting held on 30 May 2022.

Moved (Coll McLaughlin/Challenger) *that the minutes of the Council meeting dated 30 May 2022 be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters arising

Referring to the minutes of Extraordinary Meeting 30 May 2022, Cr Ewen through the Chair asked of Cr Coll McLaughlin whether there had been further discussions with Kiwi Rail during the intervening month. Cr Coll McLaughlin advised there had not been. However, the Technical Advisory Group, who presented a paper to the Joint Committee had not recommended progressing the Stevens Road culvert as part of the business case and there needed to be another set of conversations between KiwiRail and the Regional Council.

Cr Ewen referred to page 11 of the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting on 30 May 2022 and asked H Mabin if there had been a breakdown in costs prepared for the Franz Josef project. H Mabin responded that Mike Beagle and Hemi Kanji will be onsite for the next two days. They will be working on all the cost breakdowns. H Mabin advised the report will be brought to the Infrastructure Governance Committee. Cr Ewen questioned if the budget would now exceed the original forecast under the new contractors WSP. H Mabin advised she had had a preliminary discussion with Mike Beagle regarding the potential to rescope the project to work within budget. Mike Beagle will be reviewing this, and it will be taken to the Infrastructure Governance Committee.

REPORTS

6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chair took his report as read.

Moved (Cummings/Magner) *That this report is received.*

Carried

7. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORTS

7.1 Monthly Report

H Mabin spoke to her report and took it as read.

Moved (Cummings/Challenger) *That this report is received.*

Carried

Chair Birchfield requested a default from the Agenda order due to delayed connection issues with Guest Speakers from LGNZ.

Next Agenda item discussed was 7.3 Te Tai Poutini Plan Funding (*refer to 11:17am on the official recording*)

7.2 LGNZ Membership (*Refer to 11:31am of the official recording*)

Stuart Crosby, President of LGNZ attended via Zoom and presented verbally.

S Crosby acknowledged the Council's hospitality when Stuart and Susan met with Chair Birchfield and H Mabin in person. S Crosby acknowledged the dissatisfaction of the three waters issue. The position of LGNZ has been grossly misrepresented externally and by some of the LGNZ Members. LGNZ took a position of trying to influence of what was seen as a bad model. While LGNZ agreed with the process and principles they have not and do not agree with the model, and have spent the last 9 months pushing back with Government in terms of what they are proposing. They have been successful and been able to make change and will continue through the bill process to address other areas of concern.

S Crosby acknowledged the Council for the work undertaken with the District Councils on the combined district plan (Te Tai o Poutini Plan), and stated that the Council is leading New Zealand in this space. S Crosby believed LGNZ could assist the Council regarding funding for Te Tai o Poutini Plan. S Crosby noted that the West Coast Regional Council is a very important part of the regional sector, is part of LGNZ and does not sit in isolation. Chair Birchfield and H Mabin have made valuable contributions to LGNZ meetings.

Being a member of LGNZ provides access to their policy and advocacy team. LGNZ undertakes an enormous amount of communications that are accessible by all members including webinars on relevant changes to legislation for example the Resource Management Act reforms. Their fundamental role is to support Council's, taking the sector voice to Wellington. LGNZ has direct links with Ministers where council challenges can be taken directly to them.

S Crosby mentioned he does not take for granted the West Coast Regional Council's membership and does value it very strongly.

Susan Freeman Green, Chief Executive LGNZ attended via ZOOM and presented verbally.

S Freeman-Green confirmed S Crosby had covered the topics she wanted to address. She reiterated LGNZ valuing the membership of the Council and its input, giving the perspective of what is occurring in the region. S Freeman-Green acknowledged the collaborative work underway regarding TTPP as well as noting that covid-19 has presented frustrations restricting the ability to meet council and communities in person. This is a really challenging time for council's and West Coast Regional council are no exception. With the reforms weather events, covid recovery and SNA's there will be more impact if the sector can work together. S Freeman-Green

acknowledged LGNZ did not get everything right in the last year and they have learnt from that. She confirmed LGNZ is determined to keep pushing, testing and challenging the government. LGNZ is non-partisan and will push and challenge whomever is in government as much as they can.

Cr Coll McLaughlin commented she very strongly agreed with S Crosby's comments that the LGNZ position and actions had been misrepresented. LGNZ provides councils with a service and it is a very good service including training, education and key information about policy changes. Council is about to go through unprecedented change and LGNZ's ability to make a council understand and digest this information could not be underestimated. Cr Coll McLaughlin declared she had been on a policy advisory group for LGNZ which had since been dissolved. Cr Coll McLaughlin mentioned the values of localism, recognising councils are part of that and being non-partisan is at the heart of every conversation about localism and being connected to our communities. It is a great way the council can stay connected to other councils. Cr Coll McLaughlin referred to the robust conversation held regarding Te Tai Poutini Plan funding. To leave an organisation, whose sole purpose is to amplify local government voices, is not wise. She notes the admittance by LGNZ that learnings had come. The most pressing issue is to have Central Government understand the Council's challenges. Walking away from the group where this is their key role is not a good idea. Cr Coll McLaughlin noted her concern about leaving the membership given changes are not far away.

Cr John Hill thanked S Crosby and commented that it is not just three waters but the volume of new legislation Central Government is imposing before the end of their present term. Cr Hill expressed his opinion that LGNZ is the Council's advocate and Council expects LGNZ to advocate to government. However it currently feels the reverse with LGNZ advocating for Central Government.

S Crosby responded appreciating the open communication. S Crosby affirmed LGNZ are not communicating with members as well as they could be. He acknowledged that they are struggling to reach all 1605 Councillors across New Zealand in terms of what LGNZ do and how it is implemented. S Crosby gave assurance to council that after several team restructures, they now have the capability, resources and skills.

Cr Magner appreciated the President and CE of LGNZ attending the Council meeting to speak to councillors. Cr Magner asked how Council could more effectively communicate issues and needs.

S Freeman-Green thanked Cr Magner and confirmed any concerns and needs can be directed to herself. She would ensure the correct person within the LGNZ team would be assigned to assist.

S Crosby added Council could seek support through LGNZ to fund TTPP.

Cr Ewen commented that the membership cost of \$34,000, is one dollar for each local rate payer. He asked S if the Auckland super city of 1.6million people pay \$1.6 million dollars in membership fees?

S Crosby responded that they do not. The way LGNZ operates is that the larger councils subsidise the smaller councils. The decision to be made is if the Council does not use LGNZ, the Council does not participate or hires consultants to give advice which would cost more than \$1 per rate payer.

Cr Cummings asked if LGNZ feels like they are double dipping because they are charging Regional Council and District Councils. This is a charge for each rate payer on the coast of around \$3 per head?

S Crosby confirmed this was correct. It is a membership subscription fee which is based on population, with the exception of Auckland which had separate arrangements following their amalgamation.

Cr Challenger commented that the Council needs to ensure they work with Local Government New Zealand and utilise all the resources made available moving forward.

Chair Birchfield moved that membership for the next year would be voted on, and this membership should be voted on yearly. Councillors were asked to vote on whether to approve the membership payment.

Moved (Challenger/Coll McLaughlin) *That the Council approve the payment of the membership fee, \$34,313.82 (GST excl.).*

Carried

Voted **against**: Chair Birchfield, Cr Ewen, Cr Cummings.

7.3 Te Tai o Poutini Plan Funding *(Refer to 10:17 of the official recording)*

H Mabin spoke to this report and took it as read.

Cr Hill asked if the council is confident the columns presented in the 10-year budget after year three stating zero figures are accurate and whether there will be surpluses. H Mabin responded it was her understanding after the plan is active this would be the situation. H Mabin asked J Armstrong to comment. J Armstrong noted that Cr Hill was correct. Definite costings stated for hearings, mediations, appeals through the court at the time determined were unknown and therefore a nominal amount was entered.

Cr Coll McLaughlin recalled a discussion with a past Executive Leadership Team member whereby it was agreed the costs were so hugely unknown at this point the decision was made to state there was not enough information available to determine costs.

Cr Ewen reiterated his concern with the One Plan project. He noted that the Government put this on the region and were well aware of the projected costs with the limited number of rate payers we have. There have been a lot of costs thrown at rate payers and it is now getting to the stage where the costs are burdensome. Cr Ewen shared his concern that the Council does not know what the projection may be and now the Council are asking for more money from the rate payers. This is going to be an ongoing thing especially with the projects currently being undertaken by Council. Cr Ewen felt there is far too much pressure being put on Local Government from Central Government. Cr Ewen confirmed he would not be voting for this resolution.

Chair Birchfield agreed with Cr Ewen. The Council has been stuck with a very expensive plan and the concern is the plan is going to restrict people's right to use existing land. On one side the Council is putting more cost on ratepayers to fund the plan, and on the other hand the Council are taking away the right to earn income from the land they are being rated for.

Cr Coll McLaughlin noted Cr Ewen's point, and expressed the opinion that the TTPP team have worked to manage the budget exceptionally well to produce a very high quality plan. Cr Coll McLaughlin clarified the resolution sought today was in line with what was consulted on in the Long-term Plan and this is about reducing Council exposure from a cashflow perspective. Cr Coll-McLaughlin advised that she would be voting for this resolution because it is about financial risk for Council and supports taking the concerns further to Government.

Cr Ewen clarified he is not criticising staff in this process. The socio-economic make-up of the West Coast Region is one of the reasons Council should be seeking Government funding.

Chair Birchfield agreed noting staff had done a good job. Chair Birchfield's concerns are regarding SNA's and the restrictions that will be placed on rateable land. He noted there is only 15% of the land to use and more keeps being taken away. The ability to earn a living from the land is being restricted. Chair Birchfield questioned if there are going to be viable communities if more land is not released for use.

Cr Magner agreed with Chair Birchfield's sentiments and the cost to the community. Given this is what was set out in the Long-term Plan it needs to be funded.

Cr Hill agreed with Chair Birchfield that the million-dollar borrowing is necessary to achieve budget.

Cr Cummings agreed with Chair Birchfield and Cr Ewen, sharing his concern regarding what will happen when the plan is active and what the repercussions will be. Cr Cummings noted there have already been millions spent on mapping wetlands. He mentioned there is no support from Wellington (Government) and the decisions will rest with the Council who will be facing the community.

Cr Challenger agreed with Cr Cummings, and reiterated that the Council have approved TTPP in the Long-term Plan. The consequences of not going ahead with TTPP throws away the time the team have spent working on

it. It is a matter of getting the message through to Central Government that their imposition on the Council is costing rate payers money. We have a small rate payer base so how do afford all these projects.

Cr Cummings commented regarding SNA's and Wetlands; it is the rest of New Zealand who have profited from it all. Central Government wanted this to happen so they should in some way fund it.

Chair Birchfield stated it is a democracy issue. The rights of landowners have been confiscated and it is now an issue for Central Government to protect the rights of the people.

Moved (Coll McLaughlin/Challenger) *That the Council approve Staff to activate the process to borrow \$1,000,000 from LGFA.*

Carried

Against - Councillor Ewen

7.4 Engineering Cost Recovery (refer to 12:37:54 of the official recording)

H Mabin spoke to this report and took it as read. H Mabin gave an overview explaining staff are now in the process of looking at the year 2 of the long term plan to ensure they are appropriate for the Annual Plan 2023. Clarification was sought from Council to confirm what was adopted in year 2 of LTP and if Council want to proceed with the imbedded cost increases. H Mabin and Gordon Harris, Financial Accountant did a thorough investigation into the model which confirmed there was a 2.3% increase of engineering costs to be recovered from rating districts.

There was discussion regarding an option of a 4.5% increase. The 4.5% is an indication from Strategic Pay as the likely average pay increase for the public sector. H Mabin confirmed her recommendation is to adhere to at least 2.3% as set in the LTP. If Council sought the increase to 4.5% H Mabin will include this in the budget

Cr Challenger did not think it can be increased up to the 4.5% it is not a large sum but every little bit counts. Council have indicated to rate payers the 2.3% anything beyond this will need to be justified. Cr Ewen agreed to remain at 2.3%.

Cr Coll McLaughlin agreed and would like it noted at the next LTP process that salary increases are kept in mind at that time.

Moved (Magner/Ewen) *That the Council approve the Engineering Cost Recovery Charges as adopted in the Long-term Plan 2021-2031 to be applied to the Rating Districts' rates for the 2023 financial year.*

Carried

7.5 Insurance Cost Recovery

H Mabin spoke to this report and took it as read. AON Insurance has advised council should budget for a 7.5% increase. The option was given to council to accept what was disclosed in the LTP with comparison.

Cr Coll McLaughlin sought clarification to ensure the vote was to stay with the LTP value. Chair Birchfield confirmed that was correct.

Moved (Hill/Challenger) *That the Council Approve the Insurance Cost Recovery Charges as adopted in the Long-term Plan 2021-2031 to be applied to the Rating Districts' Rates for the 2023 financial year.*

Carried

7.6 User Fees & Charges 2023

H Mabin spoke to this report and took it as read and sought clarification from Council regarding the increase. Cr Ewen acknowledged that this is a user pays situation. He asked if the potential for the increase in mileage and fuel had been imbedded in these costs and that it was something to be mindful of when everything that comes to the West Coast is on wheels.

Moved (Magner/Cummings) *That the Council Approve the User Fees & Charges as adopted in the Long-term Plan 2021-2031 to be applied to charges in the 2023 financial year.*

Carried

7.7 Westport Rating District Joint Committee – Recommendation

H Mabin spoke to the report. After discussions the resolution was amended and passed as per below.

Moved (Hill /Cummings) *that Council:*

Approve inclusion in the business case to be submitted to the Hon. Minister Mahuta for the purposes of securing co-investment the following:

- A. *Design ‘service levels’ of the preferred Westport flood risk mitigation scheme be based on:*
- *RCP6 protection along the length of the proposed flood risk mitigation structure extending down the true left of the Orowaiti River and estuary from the Stephens Road rail embankment to the coast.*
 - *RCP6 protection along the length of the proposed flood risk mitigation structure extending up the Buller River’s ‘true right’ bank from the coast, inland and then around toward the Stephens Road rail embankment.*

Carried

Moved (Ewen /Challenger) *that Council:*

Approve inclusion in the business case to be submitted to the Hon. Minister Mahuta for the purposes of securing co-investment the following:

- B. *Subject to consent, use of property agreements, funding, Iwi review and consultation requirements - to apply the following Westport flood risk mitigation scheme design and alignment guidelines:*
- *A combination of concrete wall, single board walls and double earth filled walls, with the use of each being selected to best suit site-specific circumstances.*
 - *Rock wall repair works for bank protection near O’Conor Home and Organ’s Island.*
 - *Embankments and walls - with an alignment, heights, and other design parameters to reflect the results of modelling and hydrological effectiveness research carried out by Land River Sea Consulting Ltd, Christchurch (May 2022) and advice provided by G & E Williams Consultants Ltd (June 2022).*
 - *Extension of the flood risk mitigation embankment at Carter’s Beach eastward (toward the Buller River) along Schadick Avenue, to include houses along this road and the airport.*
 - *Revegetation of the relic-meander channel land on the true right of the Buller River near Organ’s Island.*

Carried

Moved (Coll McLaughlin /Cummings) *that Council:*

Approve inclusion in the business case to be submitted to the Hon. Minister Mahuta for the purposes of securing co-investment the following:

- C. Agree there is limited merit in the inclusion of the following flood risk mitigation structural solutions:*
- a. Providing flood risk mitigation structures around the Snodgrass peninsula;*
 - b. Dredging the Buller River to manage floods;*
 - c. Excavating a cut to allow the direct sea-exit of the Orowaiti River;*
 - d. Excavating a causeway on the Snodgrass peninsula;*
 - e. Constructing culverts at the Railway embankment at Stephens Road or on the embankment adjacent to the Orowaiti State Highway bridge.*

The Buller District Council and West Coast Regional Council continue to advocate for climate change adaptation options for people not protected as part of the non-structural actions included in the Westport flood risk mitigation business case.

Carried

Moved (Hill/Cummings) *that Council:*

Approve inclusion in the business case to be submitted to the Hon. Minister Mahuta for the purposes of securing co-investment the following:

- D. Include an estimated \$26 million cost of the preferred Westport flood risk mitigation scheme. Subject to 1(A).*

Carried

Moved (Magner/Coll McLaughlin) *that Council:*

Approve inclusion in the business case to be submitted to the Hon. Minister Mahuta for the purposes of securing co-investment the following:

- E. Seek a 75:25 split with central government financial assistance / co-investment is required to improve the resilience of the Westport community against flood risks. Subject to a 25% share being up to a maximum of \$10.2 million West Coast Regional Council Flood Protection Scheme.*

Carried

7.8 Rates for 2023

H Mabin spoke to this report and took it as read. It was understood a 10% increase on the general rate was approved however if the LTP was followed as it was adopted it would be a 12.3% increase. She sought clarification from Council to either follow the LTP or revert to a pure 10% increase on general rates. The rates for the Westport Rating District were also noted.

Cr Challenger and Cr Coll McLaughlin noted that Council still needs to meet costs and the 12.3% was consulted on.

Cr Coll McLaughlin commented that regarding the Westport Rating District it needs to be acknowledged that the scheme currently has no differentials. There will come a time very soon where there will be a much

stronger understanding where the alignment is, at which that point differentials will be a key piece of work. In light of this, she supported the vote in favour of this paper and would like it noted that in the future differentials will need to be introduced.

Moved (Magner/Cummings) *That the Council Approve the Rates as adopted in the Long-term Plan 2021-2031 to be applied in the 2023 financial year; and*

1. *Approve the Rates for the Westport Rating District of;*
 - o *\$2.23 per \$100,000 Capital value for Pre-Construction work; and*
 - o *\$5.34 per \$100,000 Capital value for preparatory work for the Westport Flood Protection Scheme.*

Carried

7.9 Capital Expenditure 2023

H Mabin spoke to this report and took it as read. This paper formalised the adjustments discussed at Risk & Assurance Committee.

Moved (Magner/Challenger) *That the Council approve the carry forward of unspent budget from 2022 to 2023 of \$14,188,344 that consists of:*

- a. *Flood Protection and Control systems of \$14,076,538; and*
- b. *Other Assets of \$111,796*
2. *Approve the deferral of \$12,224,635 planned 2023 Flood Protection and Control systems capital expenditure to 2024;*
3. *Approve the inclusion in the Annual Plan 2023 of a total of capital expenditure of \$15,710,788 that consists of;*
 - a. *Flood Protection and Control systems of \$14,776,538; and*
 - b. *Other Assets of \$934,240.*

Carried

The Chair Adjourned the meeting for lunch at 12:55pm

The Council meeting resumed at 1:25pm.

Due to technical difficulties no livestream to Facebook functionality was available after the adjournment.

7.10 Infrastructure Governance Committee – Terms of Reference

H Mabin spoke to this paper advising she was not completely comfortable with the terms of reference and therefore there was not one available to put forward. Mike Beagle will be onsite for the next two days and the draft terms of reference will be circulated to the Infrastructure Governance Committee. H Mabin sought approval from Council to defer the final Terms of Reference and proposed that this be brought back to the Special Meeting on 28 June.

Cr Coll McLaughlin queried H Mabin as to why she was not comfortable with the TOR. H Mabin responded that the draft terms of reference did not align with legislative reporting lines and needed to be amended. H Mabin would also like to have the Terms of Reference reviewed by the Infrastructure Governance Committee before submitting it to council.

Chair Birchfield confirmed the paper was to be deferred.

8. REPORTS

8.1 Operations Group Report

R. Vaughan took the report as read and presented the report on behalf of James Bell, Paulette Birchfield and Lillian Crozier.

Cr Ewen referred to page 131 of the Agenda seeking clarification regarding Photo 2. The photo showed scouring downstream of the rock spur however the caption refers to scouring upstream, page 129 also refers to “immediately upstream of a rock spur”. R Vaughan will confirm with the engineers to clarify this.

Moved (Challenger/Cummings) *that council receive the report*

Carried

Cr Coll McLaughlin asked if the IRG budget will include communication resilience. R Vaughan confirmed this as correct.

Impromptu update – Emergency Works

R Vaughan sought permission through the Chair to give a verbal update regarding the emergency works in Westport, specifically Organ’s Island and the O’Conor Home bank. The tender dates notified were no longer suitable following a cross section and engineering review the scope of the work had been changed. There was additional information to be included in the tender documents before being released. The altered design must be approved by the TAG team. Had the tender documents been released as they were there would not have been a large enough budget to complete the altered works. The advice is there is no adverse risk unless a large flood occurs. There are risks of the area eroding further if the works are not carried out.

Cr Coll McLaughlin sought clarification regarding the budget change required for Organ’s Island and O’Conor home bank. R Vaughan clarified this is not a budget change but a design change and it will be within the approved budget. Cr Coll McLaughlin appreciated the further engineering enquiries being undertaken as her understanding was a much smaller flood would create much more damage. She asked if there was a large forecast event in the timeframes available is there a plan B or a temporary measure to prevent the Orowaiti overflow being inundated like it was in July 2021. R Vaughan noted that she not able to answer that specific query at this time and will come back to Cr Coll McLaughlin with a response from the engineers.

Moved (Ewen/Cummings) *that Council receive the report*

Carried

8.2 Hydrology Report

Rachel Vaughan took the report as read and spoke to the extensive work prepared by Rose Beagley regarding the weather event of 20 April 2022. The worst affected areas were in the Hokitika and some South Westland catchments. Hokitika data showed high intensity and concentration of rainfall in the upper catchments, the event showed this was an annual return interval of approximately 11 years.

Cr Ewen commended the comprehensive report stating this is the exact data Council need to see and passed on appreciation to Rose Beagley which was supported by Chair Birchfield.

Moved (Coll McLaughlin/Hill) *that Council receive the report*

Carried

8.3 Westport Rating District Joint Committee meeting minutes

Nichola Costley took the report as read.

No matters arising.

Moved (Cummings/Challenger) *that Council receive and note the minutes of the Westport Rating District Joint Committee meetings of 11 April 2022 and 4 May 2022*

Carried

8.4 Emergency Works Claims

Rachel Vaughan spoke to this report and took it as read. The purpose of the report is to update Council of the claims which are being applied for to NEMA resulting from the flood events of 2-5 February 2022 and 9-10 February 2022. Total amount is just over \$400,000.

Cr Coll MacLaughlin commented it is good to see a favourable response to the claim was expected.

Moved (Coll McLaughlin/ Magner) *that Council receive the report*

Carried

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

10. PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS

It was agreed that the General Council Meeting agenda item of Westport Business Case would be suspended until after the scheduled workshop. Chair Birchfield moved to go into Committee.

Moved (Coll McLaughlin/Magner) *that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of the meeting, namely, -*

- *Items 10.1 – 10.8 (inclusive)*

Item No.	General Subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 7 of LGOIMA for the passing of this resolution
Item 10.1	Confirmation of Confidential Minutes – Council meeting 10 May 2022	The item contains information relating to commercial matters and information that was subject to an obligation of confidence	To protect commercial information and to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence (s 7(2)(c) and s 7(2)(b)).
Item 10.2	Confirmation of Confidential Minutes – Extraordinary Council meeting 30 May 2022	The item contains information relating to commercial matters	To protect commercial information (s 7(2)(b)).

Item 10.3	Consultants – Resource Consents	The item contains information relating to commercial matters	To protect commercial information (s 7(2)(b)).
Item 10.4	Group Life Insurance	The item contains information relating to commercial matters	To protect commercial information (s 7(2)(b)).
Item 10.5	PWC Report	The item contains information relating to commercial matters	To protect commercial information (s 7(2)(b)).
Item 10.6	Mining Bonds	The item contains information relating to commercial matters	To protect commercial information (s 7(2)(b)).
Item 10.7	IRG Projects	The item contains information relating to commercial matters	To protect commercial information (s 7(2)(b)).
Item 10.8	Annual Report 2020/21	The item contains information which is subject to an obligation of confidence	To protect information that is subject to an obligation of confidence (s 7(2)(c)).

I also move that

- *Heather Mabin, Marc Ferguson, Colin Helem, and Rachel Vaughan be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded, because of their knowledge on these subjects. This knowledge will be of assistance in relation to the matters to be discussed; and*
- *The Minutes Clerk also be permitted to remain at the meeting.*

Carried

The meeting moved into public excluded, In Committee at 1:34pm.

The General Public Council Meeting resumed at 3:54pm

Meeting Closed 4.28PM

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Chair

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Date

UNCONFIRMED