

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE GREYMOUTH JOINT FLOODWALL COMMITTEE
HELD ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2017,
AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL,
388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 3.02 P.M.**

PRESENT:

T. Kokshoorn, A. Robb (Chairman), A. Birchfield, P. Ewen, M. Hay, C. Sandrey

IN ATTENDANCE:

M. Meehan (WCRC Chief Executive), R. Beal (WCRC Operations Manager), R. Mallinson (WCRC Corporate Services Manager), P. Birchfield (GDC Engineer), P. Pretorius (GDC Chief Executive), M. Sutherland (GDC Assets Manager), K. Perrin-Smith (GDC Engineer) T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk), The Media.

APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

BUSINESS

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

MINUTES

T. Kokshoorn disputed the accuracy of the minutes (page 3) where it was moved that bund work would go through the West Coast Regional Council 2017/18 Annual Plan process for consultation, including financial implications and then to report back to the Joint Floodwall Committee (JFC) as soon as possible. He stated that his recollection was that a report containing costings would be put to a meeting of the Greymouth Floodwall Committee prior to the Annual Plan consultation to allow for further input from the joint committee. R. Beal stated some of these costings were only received last week as options were changing. It was noted that seven submissions were received via the annual plan process.

P. Pretorius drew attention to page 3 of the minutes and clarified that it is a requirement of the Building Act, that any structure that is erected must have a 50 year life minimum.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved: That the minutes of the Joint Floodwall Committee meeting held 14 November 2016, as circulated, be confirmed as correct, with the amendments listed above made.

T. Kokshoorn / C. Sandrey - Carried

MATTERS ARISING:

There were no further matters arising.

It was agreed that the order of agenda items would be changed as requested by T. Kokshoorn to allow for the future works to be discussed prior to the financial reports as this may impact on the financials.

PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

WORKS REPORT – GREYMOUTH RATING DISTRICT

P. Birchfield spoke to her report regarding the joint repair work for on the floodwall. She stated that a trial repair of two joints was successful.

R. Beal displayed video footage of Cobden Lagoon / Range Creek during a 3.3m spring tide last week and stated that the river was not in flood at the time of filming. The video showed the Range Creek floodgate, which WCRC is proposing to upgrade. R. Beal advised that a significant amount of water enters this area and one of the main priorities is to control this more effectively during flood events. He stated that this is a recommendation from the recent NIWA Report and the costs to upgrade the floodgate have come in at just over \$100,000. The NIWA report was discussed along with options for the bund. P. Birchfield advised that the LiDAR survey information came to hand after the Gardner report was commissioned. M. Meehan explained that LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) provides an accurate picture of what is happening. P. Birchfield read out the NIWA recommendations which are: upgrade of floodgate, monitoring of floodgate, upgrade of culvert to a one way valve, establish 100m sacrificial bund, block ditch mouth, monitoring the effectiveness of the protection works. P. Birchfield stated that the NIWA report also recommended an assessment of drainage as there is a high risk of flooding due to overland flow pooling behind the bund. On that basis the 100m bund is suggested as a trial option. Extensive discussion ensued. R. Beal advised that the total costs for the upgrade of the floodgate, 100 m bund and the blocking of the mouth of the ditch amount to \$213,000. This can be done within a short period of time. Following discussion regarding pumping options M. Meehan asked what resources from GDC are available in regards to a portable pump and staffing. P. Pretorius stated that the size of the pump needs to be discussed and he would need to talk to his staff about this. T. Kokshoorn spoke of his recommendations and timeframes for proposed works. He asked how long it would take for costings to be worked out for a 400m bund. Cr Birchfield stated that it is important that professional engineering advice is followed, which was recommending a 100m bund along with the other NIWA recommendations.

Moved: T. Kokshoorn / M. Hay

1. *That the meeting records its disappointment that updated costs for the provision of a full bund protecting Cobden has not been obtained.*
2. *The meeting records its disappointment that an interim meeting to take a final decision on the provision of a full bund for Cobden had not been called in time to provide the necessary funding for it on the 2017 / 18 West Coast Regional Council Annual Plan.*
3. *Given the above the suggestion in the agenda to provide only a partial bund for Cobden be rejected noting that it fails to consider all practical options as a requirement of the Local Government Act.*
4. *As a means of progressing the matter:*
 - *Staff report back to the JFC at a new meeting of the JFC by October 2017 on the total cost of a bund to protect Cobden.*
 - *Staff, at the same meeting report back on the cost per household in the rating district to loan – fund the cost of a total bund.*
 - *This meeting will make a final recommendation to the West Coast Regional Council in relation to the provision of a total bund as opposed to a partial bund noting that the West Coast Regional Council had earlier undertaken consultation with the Greymouth Floodwall Rating District on the matter.*
5. *Given the provision of 4 above, the JFC defers a decision on a potential rate strike for 2018 / 19 for the Greymouth Floodwall Rating District pending the outcome of that process.*

Cr Sandrey stated it is important that a solution is found as soon as possible and that mitigating some solutions with a common sense approach that everyone can agree on that will get this across the line from both perspectives. Cr Sandrey stated he is not ruling out the 400 m bund but that he wants something done now that will improve the situation. He is happy with the upgrade to the floodgate and supports the bund trial.

The Kokshoorn motion was put. Crs Robb, Birchfield and Sandrey were against the motion. T. Kokshoorn, Cr Hay and Cr Ewen were in favour. The motion was lost as there was no casting vote.

Cr Hay stated he voted for the motion as he wants to move things forward. Cr Sandrey stated if the upgrade of the floodgate is included in an amended motion and monitoring of the floodgate, then he would be in favour of the amendment. M. Meehan stated that we are proposing to progress the NIWA recommendations as soon as practicable. R. Beal confirmed that the timeframe for the floodgate would be about three months and the bund within a few weeks. It was agreed that a meeting will be held in February to discuss progress to date.

P. Pretorius clarified that up until the last meeting the 400m bund was still on the table and there was request that this was costed. Since then the WCRC reported that NIWA advises that the longer bund is perhaps no longer the best option as LiDAR has provided more information. On that basis, WCRC proposes a trial solution, namely to provide a shorter bund in addition to other changes, i.e. to the floodgate. Discussion ensued.

**Moved: That the following is carried out:
Upgrade the floodgate, monitoring of the floodgate, upgrade the culvert to a one way valve, establish a 100m sacrificial bund, block ditch mouth, monitor the effectiveness of the protection works, and reconvene the meeting of the JFC in February 2018.**

A. Robb / A. Birchfield

T. Kokshoorn moved an amendment to the motion.

That, in addition to the above, at the February meeting a report is brought back to the meeting on the funding and costs of the 400m bund.

T Kokshoorn/ M. Hay

The amendment and new substantive motion was then voted on.

Carried

It was agreed that the minutes of today's meeting would be circulated early to avoid member uncertainty as to what was discussed/decided during meetings.

FINANCIAL REPORT

R. Mallinson reported that the balance in the loan account was \$82,041, in credit, as of the end of 30 June 2017. He advised that the balance of the maintenance account of just under \$135,000 in credit, as of 30 June 2017, net of the recoveries of litigation. R. Mallinson advised that the balance in the account of the Saltwater Creek New River account is \$7,673 at 30 June 2017.

Moved: That the financial report is approved.

T. Robb / A. Birchfield - Carried

WORKS REPORT SALTWATER CREEK / NEW RIVER

R. Beal advised that no works were carried out during the reporting period.

FINANCIAL REPORT

R. Beal reported that the closing balance as of 30 June 2017 is \$7,673.59.

RATE STRIKE – NEW RIVER / SALTWATER CREEK

R. Beal advised that once the prudent reserve of \$10,000 is reached then consideration should be given as to whether an annual rate strike is required.

It was agreed that the rate strike would remain the same at \$2,500 for the 2018 / 2019 financial year.

Moved: That the rate strike for the 2018 / 2019 financial year is \$2,500.

C. Sandrey / A. Birchfield - Carried

WORKS REPORT – GREYMOUTH RATING DISTRICT

Moved: That the works report is received.

A. Birchfield / T. Kokshoorn - Carried

REPLACEMENT OF FLOOD PUMPS

T. Kokshoorn requested that the rating district reimburses GDC for the costs of the renewal of the pump columns at Johnston Street (\$145,000) and Tarry Creek (\$42,000). P. Pretorius advised that the costs are expected to approximately \$187,000.

Discussion took place on the costs of the upgrade to pump station at Tarry Creek and Johnston Street. It was noted that the pumping stations are an important part of the flood protection scheme but they are not part of the assets for the rating district. P. Pretorius stated that GDC wishes to be reimbursed for the Johnston Street pump station.

Moved: That the West Coast Regional Council reimburses the Grey District Council for the costs associated with the replacement of the steel columns for the Johnston Street and Tarry Creek pump stations at an approximate cost of \$187,000 and confirms that GDC is to undertake the repairs.

T. Kokshoorn / Cr Ewen - Carried

M. Sutherland confirmed that the pumps were functioning but the columns containing the pumps had collapsed. P. Pretorius advised that this was not a maintenance issue but a renewal as the columns are underground.

Cr Birchfield indicated agreement on the basis that GDC maintains the pumps and its components.

RATE STRIKE – GREYMOUTH FLOODWALL

M. Meehan advised that currently the maintenance rate strike is sitting at \$50,000 per year. He stated that this now needs to be at least \$100,000 to cover the costs of proposed works.

P. Pretorius questioned the financial statement saying that the intended capital programme is not clearly reflected. R Mallinson advised that WCRC intends funding the work by loan.

Moved: That a decision on the rate strike is deferred until the February meeting.

T. Kokshoorn / C. Sandrey - Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Ewen asked if the area around the Santa Fe Bridge is undercutting, he asked if this has been inspected. P. Birchfield responded that this has been inspected and is regularly monitored, it has not moved or worsened and it would be very difficult to get to this area. She advised that for the size of the erosion scour it would be best to continue to monitor this area.

It was agreed that the minutes would be circulated to the Chair of the meeting and the Chief Executives within a month of the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.28 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date