

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF
THE WHATAROA RATING DISTRICT
HELD AT THE WHATAROA COMMUNITY HALL
ON 20 OCTOBER 2017, COMMENCING AT 11.00 AM

PRESENT

D. Routhan, K. Kelly, F. Graham, C. Hassall, J. Spencer, G. Styger, I. Coles, B. Graham, D. Friend, D. Dennehy (left meeting at 11.05)

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council
P. McDonnell, S. Challenger (Councillors)
B. Russ, T. Jellyman (Staff)

APOLOGIES

P. Kennedy, M. Potae, D. Blackburn

D. Routhan / D. Friend - Carried

BUSINESS

Cr Challenger opened the meeting and welcomed those present. He introduced himself and the Council staff.

Moved: *"That the minutes of the inaugural Whataroa Rating District Meeting held on 11 October 2012, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."*

K. Kelly / B. Graham - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

C. Hassall stated that he did not receive the agenda papers. T. Jellyman to follow up on this. C. Hassall stated that he cannot remember why the financial report was not adopted. This might have been related to issues with staff time and charge out rates. B. Russ explained charges for staff time. He stated that if he visits to make an inspection the rating district is charged for his time.

FINANCIAL REPORT

B. Russ spoke to this report. He advised that the opening balance was \$80,226.43, income of \$46,128.56 from rates and interest, expenses totaled \$1,931.50 and the closing balance is \$124,423.49. B. Russ answered questions regarding staff time and site inspections. B. Russ stated that money can be saved if the committee checks the works after floods, takes photos and sends them to him. He advised that if there are concerns then he will then come down to inspect the area. B. Russ stated that he is required to visit the area when contractors are on site to inspect the work that has been done in order to ensure it is to an acceptable standard. Cr Challenger stated that Council is required to inspect its assets for insurance purposes.

WORKS REPORT

B. Russ tabled an updated report. He stated that no works were carried out during the 2016 / 2017 financial year. Work was programmed but it was decided to keep an eye on the spurs for the time being as they are working very well.

As a result of an inspection carried out with the Spokesperson \$42,770 worth of maintenance works were identified. B. Russ advised that a new spur is now not required but spur number 8 will be repositioned. He advised that the rest of the work is topping up of spurs that have scoured out, or spurs that have lost their toe. He stated that some rock may be retrieved from the river but this depends on what type of equipment the contractor has on hand. B. Russ advised that he has allowed \$20,000 for unforeseen maintenance. D. Routhan stated that he agrees with the work being done. He stated that he is happy for the rock that is stockpiled on his property to be used for the topping up of spurs.

Discussion took place on using rock from D. Friend's quarry. D. Routhan stated that the rating district should take advantage of using this rock. It was noted that there is a significant amount of rock available in the Whataroa quarry. Discussion took place on rock prices and royalties. Cr McDonnell advised that Council does not make money from its quarries and the general ratepayer has been subsidizing this for years. It was agreed that B. Russ would investigate the possibility of using D. Friend's rock.

Discussion took place regarding contractors. A speaker asked if there is a preferred contractor. B. Russ advised that tenders go out to all contractors; the lowest contractor does not always win the contract as it depends on health and safety criteria and other matters

RATES 2018 / 2019

Cr Challenger advised that with the proposed works and the rate strike of \$42,000 (G.S.T. Exclusive) the balance in the rating district account at the beginning of the 2018 / 2019 financial year is likely to be \$128,000 (G.S.T. Exclusive). Cr Challenger advised that it is important to have money in the kitty in case there is a large flood event. Cr Challenger stated that each rating district has a prudent reserve which is a percentage of the total capital value of the rating district assets. B. Russ advised that total assets for the rating district are approximately \$500,000 but this is currently being reviewed as it is little light. B. Russ explained the loan process to the meeting; he stated that it is important to have a decent amount of money in the rating district account to avoid the requirement for a loan in the event of a big flood. It was agreed that a meeting would be held next year to reassess the rate strike and to discuss the prudent reserve.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Cr Challenger stated it is important that the spokesperson for the rating district keeps a good eye on the assets and contacts B. Russ if there is work required, or if there are concerns.

T. Jellyman read out the names of the current committee who are:

P. Carroll, J. Spencer, D. Routhan, K. Kelly, D. Bowater, T. McBride and D. Friend. It was agreed that the committee members who are not present today (P. Carroll, D. Bowater and T. McBride) would be contacted by T. Jellyman to see if they still wish to remain on the committee.

Moved: *"That G. Styger, P. Carroll, K. Kelly, D. Bowater, T. McBride, D. Friend and D. Routhan be the committee for the 2018 / 2019 financial year.*

D. Friend / D. Routhan – Carried

It was noted that a meeting was held on the riverbank last year and J. Spencer resigned from being the spokesperson and K. Kelly was appointed to this position.

Moved: *"That K. Kelly is elected as the Spokesperson for the 2018 / 2019 financial year."*

D. Friend / D. Routhan - Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

D. Routhan stated he keeps a close eye on the river as he can see a large section of it from his property.

Discussion took place on rock size and work done in quarries by contractors.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11.47 a.m.

Action points for follow up

- B. Russ to investigate the possibility of using rock on D. Friend's property.
- B. Russ to work out prudent reserve.
- Ensure a meeting is held in 2018.
- T. Jellyman to contact P. Carroll, T. McBride and D. Bowater to see if they wish to remain on the committee.

Note:

Following the meeting T. Jellyman followed up on C. Hassall not receiving the agenda papers. They were sent to the farm and not to his Bird Road address.