

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 10 OCTOBER 2017, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11.45 A.M.

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

M. Meehan (Chief Executive Officer) R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), G. McCormack (Consents & Compliance Manager), R. Beal (Operations Manager), H. Mills (Planning Science & Innovation Manager), N. Costley (Strategy & Communications Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES:

Moved (Ewen / Challenger) *That the apology from Cr McDonnell be accepted.*

Carried

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

3.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved (Archer / Challenger) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 12 September 2017, be confirmed as correct, with the removal of Cr Clementson's name as he was an apology.*

Carried

Matters arising

Cr Ewen asked if Buller District Council are now not included in the proposed One District Plan. M. Meehan advised that Buller District Council has some concerns around governance and a fear of losing local perspective. M. Meehan advised that he has spoken with Mayor Howard and he has assured him that they are still in. He stated that the Local Government Commission has advised that if Buller is out, their funding will remain in place. Further discussion ensued.

REPORTS:

4.1 ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT

R. Beal spoke to this report and advised that the working group have all now signed the Terms of Reference for the Buller River Flood Consultation project.

Cr Archer stated that he is unsure how the Granity Ngakawau Hector erosion issue is going to be advanced as a response to questions raised is required. Cr Archer spoke extensively of the issues in this area and stated that adopting the Niwa Report is not addressing the issues. R. Beal advised that he is working with a colleague at Buller District Council to try to get some answers circulated to the community. Extensive discussion took place. Cr Archer stated that the majority of the community does not want to relocate. He stated they are a strong community, they understand fully the issues they are facing but the costs that have been put by the Council to the community are way beyond their financial reach. M. Meehan advised that in the past Council has done work on these types of natural hazards, and has looked at options for the community and have provided this as part of becoming a potential rating district. M. Meehan stated that Council has been very upfront with the community and have advised them that there is no silver bullet in this case. He stated that the community now wants to go ahead and do work on their own, but this would only be a temporary fix.

Cr Archer asked if Buller District Council is being kept informed of progress with the Buller River Flood Protection Consultation. R. Beal responded that he has been providing information but they are currently very busy with other matters.

Moved (Clementson / Archer) *That the report is received.*

Carried

4.1.2 GREYMOUTH FLOODWALL AND COBDEN FLOOD PROTECTION WORKS

R. Beal spoke to this report and advised that the annual meeting of the Greymouth Joint Floodwall Committee (GJFC) was held on 12 September with the below recommendations coming out of this meeting. R. Beal advised that projected costs of this work could be approximately \$400,000 but this figure would include the costs of the floodwall repairs. He stated that a loan of \$600,000 could be required if all of the recommendations were implemented. R. Mallinson suggested that a fifth recommendation is added, that Council agrees to borrow up to \$600,000.

Cr Ewen stated that he has an issue with the fourth recommendation. He stated that he asked at the meeting of the GJFC in September if this was a new meeting and was assured that it was a new meeting and not a reconvened meeting. Cr Ewen is concerned about who is likely to Chair the meeting in February as the Chair rotates each meeting. It was agreed that the fourth recommendation would be changed to "a new meeting, and this meeting would be chaired by Mayor Kokshoorn. R. Beal and M. Meehan answered questions from Councillors relating to repair work and proposed work in the Greymouth rating district.

R. Mallinson advised that if Council did borrow \$600,000 the impact per \$100,000 of capital value in the Greymouth Rating District would be an extra \$7 per \$100,000 of capital value.

Moved (Ewen / Birchfield)

1. *That this report be received.*
2. *Implement the protection works as per recommendation.*
3. *GDC is reimbursed for incurred costs and upgrade of the Tarry Creek pump station through the Greymouth Rating District.*
4. *That the Greymouth Joint Floodwall Committee convenes a new meeting in February 2018 (13 February TBC), to examine the effectiveness of the above works.*
5. *That Council agrees to borrow up to \$600,000, on an interest only basis until 30 June 2018.*

Carried

4.2 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT

R. Mallinson spoke to this report and advised that the surplus for the two months is \$327,000.

Moved (Archer / Challenger) *That the report be received.*

Carried

4.2.1 ADOPTION OF AUDITED ANNUAL REPORT 2016 / 17

R. Mallinson spoke to this report and advised that the letter of representation will be signed after today's meeting.

Moved (Archer / Birchfield)

That Council formally adopts the Annual Report for the 2016 / 17 year pursuant to Section 98 of the Local Government Act 2002

Carried

4.2.2 INTERIM AUDIT MANAGEMENT REPORT 2016 / 17

R. Mallinson spoke to this report. He stated that he is happy with the findings in this report. He answered questions from Councillors.

Moved (Clementson / Archer)

That the Interim Audit Management Report for 2016 / 17 be received.

Carried

4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE – 13 NOVEMBER 2017 MEETING

Cr Archer left the table for this item.

Moved (Ewen / Challenger)

That Council grants Councillor Archer a leave of absence from attending the 13 November 2017 scheduled Council meeting.

Carried

5.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT

The Chairman spoke to his report. He stated that work that has been done by the Governance Group is now starting to take shape with the groups involved now starting to work together. The Chairman spoke of the work being done with the Visiting Drivers Governance Group. Discussion took place on ways to improve driver education such as directional arrows and passing lanes. The Chairman spoke of the importance of the work that the Regional Transport Committee does in this area. The Chairman reported that some very good options have come out of the meeting of the Franz Josef Working Group. He stated that good questions were asked and those present have now gained a good understanding of what the future holds for this area. The Chairman stated that the Waiho River is the biggest issue the area is facing. Cr Archer asked where the decision making lies and if this is with the community or the district council. The Chairman advised that the next step is for the community to come up with what they want to do and then to have conversations with those involved. He stated that Franz Josef is the third reason why visitors come to New Zealand and this is of economic value to wider New Zealand, not just to the West Coast. Extensive discussion ensued relating to roads, the river, relocation options and potential earthquakes.

Moved (Robb / Clementson) *that this report is received.*

Carried

6.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

M. Meehan spoke to his report and advised that his involvement with the water issue in Westport was from the Civil Defence perspective. He stated that the situation is better than it was a few weeks ago. M. Meehan spoke of his recent visit to Edgecumbe and Matata. He stated that it was very interesting and sobering to see the level of devastation that these types of events can cause. M. Meehan spoke of the issues currently being faced by the Bay of Plenty Regional Council following this flood event. M. Meehan reported that he also visited coastal areas that are facing similar coastal erosion issues as those currently affecting the Buller region. M. Meehan spoke of the work streams that are coming out of the LGNZ Policy Advisory Group and advised that the LGNZ Roadshow is being hosted here this afternoon. M. Meehan reported that he and H. Mills attended a hui at Arahura Marae. He stated that this was very useful hui and he will be meeting with Ngai Tahu staff again in a few weeks' time, after which a further hui will be held.

Moved (Archer / Challenger) *that this report is received.*

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 1.00 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date