

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 11 APRIL 2017, AT THE ARAHURA MARAE, 1 OLD CHRISTCHURCH ROAD, ARAHURA, HOKITIKA, COMMENCING AT 12.17 P.M.

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

1. APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

3.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved (Archer / Birchfield) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 15 March 2017, be confirmed as correct, with the two amendments made as below.*

Carried

Matters arising

Cr Ewen requested that the comments that he made stating that he is in favour of one Council for the West Coast are added to the minutes.

Cr Archer asked R. Beal for an update as to when the NIWA report for Carters Beach will be received. R. Beal stated that he expects to receive the report within the next two weeks.

REPORTS:

4.1 ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT

R. Beal spoke to this report. He advised that the appeal period for the resource consent for rock extraction from the Whitehorse property closes on 18 April, not 7 April as stated in this report.

The strategy for the community consultation for the Buller River was discussed. R. Beal advised that the working group is about to be re- formed. It was agreed that Crs Clementson and Archer would assist with this and the appointment of community leaders to the working group. R. Beal advised that one landowner at Taramakau has signed up to provide rock to the rating district; one other landowner is due to sign up to provide rock soon.

R. Beal reported that a special meeting of the Kaniere Rating District was held last week. He stated that an opinion survey will be sent out to the rating district shortly seeking feedback as to whether or not ratepayers are in favour of the proposed works.

Moved (Clementson / Birchfield) *That this report is received.*

Carried

4.2 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT

R. Mallinson spoke to his report. He stated that as agreed at last month's Council meeting this report is brief as he has been busy with budget and annual plan work. R. Mallinson reported that the Westpac Investment Portfolio income was \$153,000.

R. Mallinson stated that he has had a further look at Risk #7 of the Council Risk Register, he advised that he has now completed more work on this. R. Mallinson stated that he also surveyed councils of a similar size to ensure that there is consistency with regard to audit and risk matters, and external appointments to audit and risk committees. The Chairman commented that it is important that there is more awareness around these matters. Discussion took place and it was noted that there is benefit in having a risk register in place and it is important the risk register is reviewed regularly.

Moved (Archer / Birchfield)

1. *That the report be received.*
2. *That Council adopts the reviewed Risk Register.*
3. *That the Risk Register be reviewed again prior to 1 July 2018.*

Carried

4.3 NOTICE OF MOTION FROM CR BIRCHFIELD

Cr Birchfield spoke of his notice of motion. He stated that his reason he has put this before Council is that he was annoyed about reading about the decision to terminate Mr Sturgeon's appointment on Development West Coast in the newspaper. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that communication would be improved next time and the Chairman will communicate earlier with councillors so that the decision can be made with input from all councillors. M. Meehan advised that an employment consultant has been engaged for the current vacancy. Cr Ewen asked if the applications are going to be brought back to Council so that a collective appointment can be made. M. Meehan advised that consultant will bring a shortlist of candidates back and this can be discussed with Councillors.

Moved (Birchfield / Archer)

That the Council the Council Chairman be appointed to the Development West Coast Appointments Panel, pursuant to Schedule 3 of the Trust Deed, and that the appointed Council Chairman Representative be required to consult with other WCRC Councillors with regard to matters relating to the appointment of the joint Council representative, before the representative is appointed.

Carried

LATE ITEM

Moved (Clementson / Archer *that the late item is accepted.*

Carried

SECTION 33 TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS FROM WESTLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

G. McCormack spoke to this report. He stated that the Westland District Council (WDC) has requested that they would like to transfer some resource management functions to WCRC. G. McCormack stated that WDC wish to be able to reduce time, recover costs and to have a central agency to streamline the resource management process and to create a more simplified system for the public. Discussion took place, G. McCormack and M. Meehan answered questions relating to financial implications, cost recovery, risk, staff time and bonds on unconsented mine sites. G. McCormack advised that extra staff would not be required at this stage, but if there are spikes in demand then the services of consultants could be considered. He stated that any unconsented mine sites would have to have bonds in place first. Discussion took place on risk, the Chairman stated that the risk needs to be considered and that consideration also needs to be given to providing a service to WDC which ensures economic progress can still proceed. It was agreed that any legal costs relating to historic issues are WDC's responsibility and the takeover date would be 1 July 2017. It was also agreed that should WDC wish to recommence this function then six months' notice is given to WCRC to ensure that any transition is back as smooth as possible.

Moved (Birchfield / Archer)

1. *That the transfer of the mining consenting and compliance function from Westland District Council be accepted by the West Coast Regional Council, and will formally commence on 1 July 2017.*
2. *That the Deed of Transfer be amended so that paragraph's 9 and 10 require 6 months' written notice from WDC, in relation to any change to either the transfer agreement or revocation of the transfer.*
3. *That Council allow the Chief Executive and the Consents and Compliance Manager to confirm these arrangements with Westland District Council.*
4. *That Westland District Council is responsible for legal costs relating to historic issues prior to 1 July 2017.*

Carried

5.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT

The Chairman spoke to his report and took it as read. He stated that the meeting with the Chairman and Chief Executive of Ecan was very good with discussion taking place on water issues, swimmability targets, communication and water issues.

The Chairman reported that the action plan for the Governance Group work around economic development arrangements is due in June.

Discussion took place on the Council appointee on Development West Coast. The Chairman explained the appointment process and stated that he is hopeful that an appointment will be made by the end of May.

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

Carried

6.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

M. Meehan spoke to his report and spoke of the various meetings he attended. He agreed with the comments made by the Chairman relating to their meeting with Ecan. M. Meehan reported that he and N. Costley met with two public relations / communications companies in Christchurch to discuss Council's requirements in this area. Cr Ewen commented that he does not agree with this as he feels this work should be done in house and we are a small council.

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

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 1.07 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date