

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 4 OCTOBER 2016, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.30 A.M.

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

M. Meehan (Chief Executive Officer), G. McCormack (Consents & Compliance Manager), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), R. Beal (Operations Manager), N. Costley (Communications Manager), S. Jones (Planning Team Leader), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk), The Media.

1. APOLOGIES

(Archer / Robb) *That the apology from Cr Clementson be accepted.*

Carried

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

3. MINUTES

Moved (McDonnell / Challenger) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 13 September 2016, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. REPORTS

5.1 PLANNING AND OPERATIONS GROUP

5.1.1 PLANNING REPORT

S. Jones spoke to this report and advised that the final prehearing meeting for the Regional Policy Statement will be held tomorrow.

S. Jones reported that 46 submissions have been received on the Land and Water Plan – Plan Change 1. She reported that staff are now summarising the submissions and will notify for further submissions next week. S. Jones reported that staff will meet with DoC next week to discuss some of the specific wetlands that comments were received on.

S. Jones reported that Council made a brief submission on the Local Government Amendment Bill and supported the comments made by LGNZ and SOLGM. S. Jones advised that given the number of submissions received and the concerns raised by some parties with regard to the consultation undertaken, it has now been decided to delay this to allow for further conversations with the parties concerned.

S. Jones reported that the submission on the Productivity Commission draft report on Better Urban Planning was lodged yesterday.

Cr McDonnell asked how many of the submissions received on the Land and Water Plan was related to wetlands? S. Jones advised that around half related to wetlands with some of them being specific to

certain wetlands and others were general. S. Jones stated that there were also comments about buffer zones. She advised that these will be published next week.

Moved (Archer / McDonnell) *that the report is received.*

Carried

5.1.2 HYDROLOGY & FLOOD WARNING UPDATE

M. Meehan spoke to this report and took it as read.

Moved (Ewen / Robb) *that the report be received.*

Carried

5.2.1 CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT

G. McCormack spoke to his report and advised that 11 non notified resource consent applications were received, with five variations to consent conditions. He reported that five site visits were carried out in relation to consent applications. G. McCormack reported that a decision on the hearing held last week is due in two weeks' time. Cr Archer asked G. McCormack what notification pathway the Okuru Enterprises consent application would follow? G. McCormack advised that he would follow up on this after today's meeting and report back to Cr Archer on this. It was noted that there has been a small increase in the amount of resource consents coming through at the moment with the Stevenson Mine consent and the Waitaha Dam consent expected shortly. G. McCormack agreed and stated that there is an upturn with goldmining consents over the past two months.

Moved (Robb / Challenger) *That the October 2016 reports of the Compliance Group be received.*

Carried

5.2.2 COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT

G. McCormack spoke to this report. He advised that 37 site visits were carried out during the reporting period with 29 being compliant and eight non-compliant. G. McCormack reported that eight incidents / complaints were dealt with. G. McCormack reported that three formal warnings, one infringement notice, and three abatement notices were issued during the reporting period. He reported that one mining work programme has been received during the reporting period.

M. Meehan reported that Council has been assisting Westland District Council with the processing of resource consents, along with some compliance work as well due to staff resourcing issues at Westland District Council. He stated that the compliance work is mainly in the mining area. G. McCormack stated that staff are assisting with their mining compliance programme which will tie in with our programme. He stated that this work will benefit both parties. Cr Ewen asked G. McCormack if he was concerned about the amount of non-compliance with regard to site visit. G. McCormack responded that with the new technology about to be implemented, it will make the reporting side easier and he will be able to then break down which sectors have been non-compliant. He stated that these are not serious breaches but more of a reminder to get things in order.

Moved (Archer / Robb) *that the report be received.*

Carried

6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Ewen expressed his thanks to staff over the last term; he stated that there has been quite a few staff changes over the past three years. Cr Ewen thanked Iwi for their contributions over the term. Cr Archer asked if there has been a timeframe for the production and release of the Action Plan in relation to the Growth Study. Cr Robb responded that he is Chair of the Governance Group, and they are under a fair bit of pressure to have the Action Plan to the Government for signoff by the end of January so that Government can then have the next release out by February. Cr Robb stated that at the moment the final makeup of the Governance Group is being worked through. He stated that the

top role could change following the Local Body Elections later this week but he feels there is a reasonable level of continuance of members of this group. He stated there are some possible new members, and there also some that have pulled out due to work commitments. Cr Robb stated that a lot of the work has been done, and it is now a matter of prioritising what needs to be done. Cr Robb stated that the consultants involved with the Growth Study are still employed until the action plan is completed and it is their role to pull everything together.

Cr Ewen thanked M. Meehan for his contributions since coming into his new role. Cr Ewen also thanked other staff members including R. Beal, G. McCormack, S. Jones and N. Costley. He wished his fellow councillors well for the upcoming elections.

The meeting closed at 10.45 a.m.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date