

## THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 13 JUNE 2017, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.30 A.M.**

#### **PRESENT:**

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

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

#### **2. PUBLIC FORUM**

There was no public forum.

#### **3. MINUTES**

**Moved** (Robb / Archer) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 9 May 2017, be confirmed as correct.*

*Carried*

#### **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

#### **DEPUTATION - MR & MRS ROGERS**

Cr Clementson handed the meeting over to Cr Robb. Cr Robb welcomed Mr & Mrs Rogers to the meeting. Cr Robb explained the procedure and advised Mr & Mrs Rogers that Councillors will have a discussion at the end of the Council meeting and a letter will be sent to them. Mr Rogers addressed the meeting; he introduced his wife Ellen. He stated that he is a Director of Rockies Mining Ltd and has a coal mine known as Rockies Mine which is located on the Stockton Plateau. Mr Rogers outlined his concerns with matters relating to his application to vary his some of his resource consent conditions. He also expressed concerns about the Council's compliance staff in relation to his annual work programmes not being signed off and also when and how site visits were conducted. Mr Rogers confirmed that the Council offered mediation in an attempt to improve the relationship between parties. However after speaking with the independent mediator he declined to continue with this process. Mr Rogers provided Councillors with a copy of a report from Dr Phil Lindsay and recent letter from his planning agent to the Consents & Compliance Manager. Mr Rogers spoke at length and outlined the history referring to the original consent application, being prosecuted for discharges into Rudolph Stream, mediation he had undertaken with the Council previously and interactions with Council staff over the last five years. He answered questions from Councillors. Cr Robb thanked Mr & Mrs Rogers for their attendance and stated that they would receive a letter from Council in due course. Cr Robb handed the meeting back over to Cr Clementson.

#### **4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cr Clementson reported that it has been a quiet month and he has nothing to report.

## **5. REPORTS**

### **5.1 PLANNING AND OPERATIONS GROUP**

#### **5.1.1 PLANNING REPORT**

S. Jones spoke to her report and took it as read. She advised that submissions close tomorrow seeking feedback on the Councils Charging to Monitor Permitted Activities in the National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry. She requested that any comments on the submission need to be to her by tomorrow.

S. Jones advised that staff are currently considering the content of the discussion papers and will prepare a formal response for Council's consideration on the National Planning Standards Discussion Documents. S. Jones advised that the findings on the inquiry into Havelock North's Drinking Water inquiry have been released and recommendations are now being put together. S. Jones stated that once the recommendations are to hand she will bring them to Council as there may be matters that are relevant to Council into the future.

S. Jones advised that MfE are holding an online webinar on 29 June for Elected Members to discuss changes to the Resource Management Amendment Act. S. Jones offered to forward the details on to those interested.

Cr Birchfield asked what caused the water contamination in Havelock North. S. Jones confirmed that this was an E Coli contamination which resulted in around 5000 people getting sick. Cr Robb stated that there are huge implications for all Councils across the country as a result of this inquiry.

S. Jones answered questions from Cr Archer regarding the changes with the National Planning Standards and advised that it is unknown how far the Minister will take the new power but at the moment the only changes will be to structure. She advised that this any other changes are still unknown at this stage as it is almost pre-consultation, and once the route to take has been decided there will then be a formal consultation period. S. Jones advised that this is going to be a long process as the first changes are not due to be gazetted until 2019.

**Moved** (Challenger / Birchfield) *that the report is received.*

*Carried*

#### **5.2.1 CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT**

G. McCormack spoke to this report. He reported that the Te Kuha Mine application was jointly notified with Buller District Council, with the hearing scheduled for September in Westport.

Cr Ewen asked what the term is for the Westroads Ltd resource consent. G. McCormack advised Cr Ewen that he would respond to his query via email as these consents relate to the consolidation of consents relating to gravel charges.

**Moved** (Robb / Archer) *That the June 2017 report of the Consents Group be received.*

*Carried*

#### **5.2.2 COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT**

G. McCormack spoke to this report and advised that two formal warnings and two infringement notices were issued during the reporting period. G. McCormack spoke of the bonds that are to be released and answered questions from councillors.

Cr Challenger asked if 14% of dairy farms noted to be uncompliant is a reasonable number in view of this now being the end of the dairy season. G. McCormack responded that most of the non-compliances are minor maintenance issues and are easily addressed; he stated that abatement notices and formal warnings are being issued this week in some cases. G. McCormack stated that mostly it is general maintenance that is lacking and this may be due to financial reasons.

G. McCormack answered various questions from councillors relating to compliance and mining bonds. He offered to supply further information via email following today's meeting.

Discussion took place on enforcement matters and it was noted that the Enforcement Policy will be coming to the council meeting in the coming month or two.

**Moved** (Robb / Archer)

1. *That the report be received.*
2. *That the Solid Energy bonds for CML-37-161, RC03175, RC11088, RC-2016-0063, RC10217 and RC01285 be released.*

*Against Cr Ewen  
Carried*

### **5.2.3 FISHING VESSEL KUTERE**

G. McCormack spoke to this report. He stated that all fish and diesel on board the stricken vessel were taken off on the day of the grounding.

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

*Carried*

### **5.2.4 DISCHARGE OF AMMONIA CONTAMINATED WATER – JOHNSON BROS TRANSPORT PROSECUTION - ALTERNATIVE JUSTICE PATHWAY**

G. McCormack spoke to this report and advised that as a result of the work carried out all charges against Johnston Bros Transport Ltd have been dropped. Cr Robb stated that this is a good use of the Alternative Justice Pathway and this is an example of a very good outcome for the community. Cr Clementson stated that people using this area have commented on the work done, and this part of the beach has now been opened up for use by the elderly and people who would not normally be able to physically access this area.

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

*Carried*

## **6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS**

M. Meehan advised that there is no air quality report this month as there is yet to be an exceedance of the NES.

J. Douglas thanked Planning staff on behalf of the runanga for the RPS Collaboration Workshop. She stated that this was excellent and was money well spent.

The meeting closed at 11.28 a.m.

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Chairman

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Date