

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 12 APRIL 2022 AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10:31 AM.

PRESENT:

S Challenger (Chair), A. Birchfield, P. Ewen, D. Magner, B. Cummings, J. Hill, L. Coll McLaughlin, J. Douglas, F Tumahai (via zoom).

IN ATTENDANCE:

N Costley (Manager Strategy & Communications), J Armstrong (TTPP Project Manager), C. Helem (Consents & Compliance Manager) via zoom, R. Vaughan (Acting Planning, Innovation & Science Manager).

Also present: Brendon McMahon (Grey Star), Lois Williams (Newsroom), member of the public

1. WELCOME

Cr Challenger opened the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. PUBLIC FORUM, PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

There was no public forum.

PRESENTATION

There was no presentation.

5. MINUTES

The Chairman asked the meeting if there were any changes to the minutes of the previous meeting. There were no corrections.

Moved: (Coll McLaughlin/Ewen) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 8th March 2022 be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

6. CHAIR'S REPORT (VERBAL UPDATE)

Cr Challenger advised that he was waiting to arrange a meeting with H Mabin and C Helem with Terry McBride regarding works that had been undertaken in the river and issues he had with accessing his land. He had also had contact from a number of people with questions on the TTPP, which he had clarified for them.

Moved: (Magner/Douglas) *that the Chair's report be received.*

Carried

REPORTS

7. PLANNING AND RESOURCE SCIENCE GROUP

7.1 TE TAI O POUTINI PLAN UPDATE

J Armstrong spoke to this report. She said the team was thrilled with the amount of feedback on the exposure draft of the TTPP, and the drop-in sessions were really well attended. She updated the Committee on the next steps for the TTPP Committee considerations, noting the proposed Plan would be released in the middle of July.

They had 23 people attend the drop-in session at Haast, which staff appreciated. J Armstrong said they had been at the marae at Mahitahi, and Ōkārīto, and then Hokitika yesterday, and then immediately after the meeting she would be going to Punakaiki for a session there.

The Chair commented on the high level of public engagement. F Tumahai asked whether the sessions are available to join via zoom. J Armstrong confirmed that there were no zoom sessions as they were drop-in sessions for the public, and there was no presentation as such. In response to a question from Cr Coll McLaughlin, J Armstrong confirmed that all feedback from early stages of plan development is being captured, so that those communities where drop-in sessions were delayed will have all their feedback picked up.

Cr Cummings asked where the land instability scientific information had come from, and noted the example of the Arnott's Heights area which he felt should not be identified as unstable. He also asked about the hazard area identified at the south side of the Punakaiki River. J Armstrong advised that her planners could respond to these queries. There was some discussion on use of previous studies and grandfathering provisions from current plans.

Moved (Douglas/Hill) *That the report is noted.*

Carried

7.2 PLANNING AND RESOURCE SCIENCE GROUP REPORT

R. Vaughan spoke to this report and took it as read. She said there were more central government proposals coming out that staff would submit on, such as the climate response plan and the exotic forestry national environmental standard.

J Douglas asked when the work on Outstanding Waterbodies was going to start. R Vaughan advised that this would start soon with a discussion on an agreed process, and then shortlisting as to agreed waterbodies.

Cr Coll McLaughlin asked about the timing of the natural wetlands workstream, noting that it would be a controversial matter for Council. R Vaughan advised that she had got someone to do the initial GIS mapping work which will use the LiDAR information, and ground-truthing will follow. She explained that Council was required to identify them, so there will be an inventory, but that this is different from having plan provisions around those and they are still having the conversation about how to put the rules around that. Education will be important on what the current requirements under the RMA are. Cr Coll McLaughlin felt that the cost of mapping wetlands on the West Coast should not be underestimated.

Cr Coll McLaughlin said that a submission on the national climate change adaptation plan would carry a lot more weight if it was done jointly with the District Councils and Rūnanga and DWC.

In response to a question from Cr Cummings, R Vaughan clarified how a wetland would be identified, from ecology rather than just being wet areas, but noted that better definitions are being sought from the Ministry for the Environment.

F Tumahai asked about how enabling the wetland provisions could be. R Vaughan explained that there were two processes, one to identify wetlands and one to then develop provisions. There was some opportunity when developing provisions to look at enabling.

J Douglas asked when the Coastal Plan would be updated. R Douglas replied that what would be needed for the process to update it, was being looked at currently.

Moved (Douglas/ Cummings):

1. *That the report is received; and*
2. *That the Committee agrees with the updated staff advice in Appendix 1 to the report about which national documents to submit on.*

Carried

8. CONSENTS & COMPLIANCE GROUP

8.1 CONSENTS REPORT

C. Helem spoke to this report and took it as read. He updated the Committee that there would be one further day of the hearing for the Westland Minerals Sands consent application for mining at Okari.

Cr Ewen noted in terms of Roa Mining that there had been a number of incidents affecting Otto Creek that had been viewed at Ten Mile Bridge at the State Highway. He noted the application for earthworks in the report and asked whether there would be settling ponds, as he did not want to see runoff from an engineered landfill site. C Helem confirmed the consent conditions required settling ponds and there were discharge and water quality limits to be met on the consent.

In response to a question from Cr Coll McLaughlin, C Helem advised he was not sure of the total fee reduction amount but he did not have concerns from a budgetary point of view.

Moved (Ewen / Cummings) *That the April 2022 report of the Consents Group is received.*

Carried

8.2 COMPLIANCE REPORT

C. Helem spoke to this report and took it as read. There were no questions.

The Chair said he was pleased to see that an educational approach was being taken.

Moved: (Coll McLaughlin / Magner) *That the April 2022 report of the Compliance Group is received.*

Carried

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 11:13 a.m.

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Chair

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Date