

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
KARAMEA RATING DISTRICT
HELD AT THE KARAMEA FIRE STATION
ON 28 OCTOBER 2015, COMMENCING AT 1.00 PM.

PRESENT

B. Langford, D. Rhind, S. Field, H & M. Macbeth, W. Alber, B. Jones, G. Lodge, D. Simkin, P. Moynihan, T. Hawley, J. Lowe, R. Horrell, G. Johnson, A. Bruning, P. Langford, R. Adcock, F. Bjerring, N & L. Pope, K. Neil, G. Richardson, M. Watt, S. Gibson,

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council
N. Clementson (Councillor)
C. Ingle (CEO), P. Birchfield, T. Jellyman (Staff)

APOLOGIES

Cr Archer, B. Lodge, H. Glover, W. Schmidt, M. Godfrey

D. Simkin / B. Langford - Carried

BUSINESS

N. Clementson opened the meeting and welcomed those present. He introduced himself and the Council staff.

Moved: *"That the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting held on 20 November 2014, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting, with the correction of W. Lowe's name in place of W. Burt".*

H. Macbeth / D. Simkin - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

H. Macbeth advised that the W. Burt referred to in the minutes is actually W. Lowe.
P. Birchfield stated that once the committee is elected she would get their contact details so that additional works can be discussed.
Action points were updated with P. Birchfield and C. Ingle explaining these further.

FINANCIAL REPORT

C. Ingle spoke to this report. He reported that the closing balance in the rating district account is \$171,209.07 which is a healthy balance. C. Ingle advised that the contractor costs of \$24,145 are set out in the works report under item 1.

WORKS REPORT

P. Birchfield spoke to this report. She advised that a total of \$24,145 worth of work was carried out during the reporting period.
An inspection was carried out in August 2015 and \$34,320 worth of works were identified. P. Birchfield advised that the stopbank repair by Karamea School (item 2A) has been done as this area was identified as emergency works. Item 2B – top up of spurs at two sites on the Little Wanganui River has also been done. P. Birchfield advised that she has

allowed for \$10,000 for vegetation removal, \$10,000 for unforeseen maintenance and \$5,000 contribution to the Granite Creek works.

P. Birchfield drew attention to the proposed works for the 2016 / 2017 year includes the draft 5 year Indicative Action Plan (IAP). This was developed from the 2011 NIWA Karamea floodplain investigation by G. Smart. The highest priority is an upgrade of the Last Resort stopbank which was partially completed in 2012. Council recommended that the remaining 290m (approximately) length of stopbank behind the school and domain should now be upgraded. P. Birchfield advised that this work is scheduled for two years after the removal of the trees, which is coming up in July 2016. She stated that the cost of this upgrade would be around \$100,000. P. Birchfield answered questions and advised that root balls from trees need to be dug out and this may cost more. C. Ingle advised that this work is just a proposal at this stage and he is aware that the river mouth is also causing concern at the moment. A speaker asked if the stopbank classed as a public asset. C. Ingle advised it is a public asset on private land. It was agreed that something needs to be done about the trees on the stopbank near the motels.

A speaker asked how by how much is the stopbank allowed to drop before it gets repaired. (Reference to stock grazing stopbanks). P. Birchfield offered to inspect this area and if it needs topping up then this would be done. There is concern that the grazing of cattle on stopbanks could be causing damage. G. Richardson stated that in Canterbury grazing is not allowed on stopbanks as all stopbanks are fenced. He stated that years ago the stopbank in Karamea was fenced. B. Langford stated that most of the stopbank is fenced. C. Ingle advised that there have been problems with stock on stopbanks in other parts of the region and this has been dealt with on a case by case basis. C. Ingle stated that if people see something that they are concerned about then they should contact B. Langford and he can let Council know so that something can be done about it.

Moved: "That the proposed works and the Draft 5 year Indicative Action Plan be approved, in principle."

B. Jones / P. McClintock - Carried

H. Macbeth stated that he would like to hold off on setting the rate as this might need to go up if extra works are agreed to.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

T. Jellyman read out the names of the current committee. It was agreed that the status quo would remain for the coming financial year. P. Birchfield asked the committee to record their email addresses on the attendance register.

**Moved: "That the present committee:
Paul McClintock, Peter Langford, Darryl Simkin, Brian Jones,
Margaret Macbeth and Bevan Langford
be the committee for the 2015 / 2016 financial year."**

D. Rhind / R. Horrell - Carried

Moved: "That the incoming committee appoints a spokesperson for the 2015 / 2016 financial year."

D. Rhind / R. Horrell - Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

C. Ingle drew attention to the footnote in the proposed works report relating to a contribution of \$5,000 towards the cleaning out of Granite Creek. C. Ingle advised of a proposed funding split between the landowners who are most affected, (B. Jones and S. McGregor), Kongahu and Karamea rating districts and Buller District Council. A speaker

stated that the he thinks the problem is the Karamea River water is backing up and causing a lake. B. Jones stated that until recently the Karamea River has had very little influence on Granite Creek but now the mouth has been blocked almost completely with water levels in the estuary rising by about a metre. G. Richardson offered to give C. Ingle an old map of this area. G. Richardson spoke of an old rock wall near the Maori Pont campground. He asked if the wall is part of the scheme, it was agreed that this wall is not part of the scheme. It was noted that there are quite a few old works that aren't included in the scheme.

B. Langford addressed the meeting. He had drawn an illustration of the current situation with the Karamea River mouth and explained the areas of concern. B. Langford stated that there is a section of wall that sticks out into the river but the end of the wall has fallen off. B. Langford suggested that the other end of the wall is taken off and put on the end that is causing concern. B. Langford stated that the river is very deep in this area. He stated he is unsure how much this would cost. H. Macbeth stated that he is favour of this and feels that it is the right thing to do. Extensive discussion took place. C. Ingle suggested that engineering advice is sought from someone like Gary Williams to ascertain whether or not this method would work. C. Ingle noted that this would be new capital works and a design and costings would be required. It was agreed that once the engineers report it to hand then a further meeting of the rating district would be held.

Moved: *"That an Engineer's report is sought to investigate the extension of the rock wall in the Karamea River, near Maori Point, and then a meeting is held to discuss the findings of the report."*

M. Watt / S. Gibson - Carried

A speaker asked if something should be done now as the seasonal floods are due in the next two months. He stated that the dune at the north end is already quite low and the sea does come over this area and he suggests a channel is dug out to see if this helps. Discussion took place and it was noted that the Graeme Smart Report advised to keep this area clear of Marram grass. It was noted that if there was an emergency situation then work can be done in this area.

A speaker asked what will happen to Granite Creek once the Karamea River mouth opens. It was stated that Granite Creek is trying to run in a reasonable line and all it needs is a helping hand as the Karamea River is now impacting on Granite Creek. C. Ingle stated that at this morning's Kongahu rating district meeting there was many different points of view but they are prepared to put some money into cleaning out Granite Creek. B. Jones stated that one suggestion is to make a channel out to the estuary and to have a deeper area a bit further up which can fill up and let nature bring the rest down. Discussion ensued. C. Ingle stated that if the Granite Creek clean out is done now then the Karamea River will take out the spoil.

C. Ingle stated that the Kongahu rating district agreed to set aside \$2,000 to clear willows in Granite Creek and they said that if the other parties agree then they would also put in some money to making a start on the Granite Creek clean out. C. Ingle asked the meeting if they were prepared to also contribute. This was agreed to. It was agreed that should there be a heavy rainfall forecast then the northern dune area at Karamea River mouth can be dug out. C. Ingle stated that there is money set aside for unforeseen maintenance and this could be used to open the river mouth in an emergency situation. G. Richardson asked how often Council does a walkover and inspection of riverbanks. P. Birchfield responded and advised that an annual inspection is done each year but the community and rating district spokesperson is relied upon to alert council to any concerns. It was agreed that should further funding be required then this would be discussed at the special meeting in about six months' time.

RATES 2016 / 2017

Cr Clementson advised that the proposed rate strike is \$50,000. It was noted that the balance in the rating district account at the beginning of the 2016 / 2017 financial year is likely to be \$196,483.

Moved: "That the rate strike for the Karamea Rating District remains at \$50,000 for the 2016/ 2017 financial year."

D. Simkin / B. Langford - Carried

Raramai Adcock addressed the meeting. She expressed concern about erosion on the Oparara River which is in danger of taking out a forest area by the river. R. Adcock displayed a 30 second video to the meeting. She stated there is land being lost and trees are being knocked down in this area. A speaker stated that festivals have been held in this area and the community has been planting along the edges to try to prevent erosion but it is still occurring. A speaker stated that there may also be middens in this area. It was agreed that P. Birchfield would inspect this area and if it is an easy fix then this can be discussed at the next special meeting. Funding was discussed and it was noted that the community may be able to apply to BDC for funding for this community asset.

Discussion took place on how the rating system works. C. Ingle explained that the \$50,000 agreed to at today's meeting gets rated across the rateable properties (approximately 400 properties) and is then distributed according to the capital value of each property and the differentials that are in place.

N. Clementson thanked the meeting for their attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2.32 p.m.

Action Points

- Arrange a special meeting in around six months' time to discuss engineering advice on Karamea River rock wall extension.
- P. Birchfield to get prices for the stopbank work for next year.
- P. Birchfield to inspect erosion area at Oparara River.