

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF
THE WHATAROA RATING DISTRICT
HELD AT THE WHATAROA COMMUNITY HALL
ON 22 NOVEMBER 2019, COMMENCING AT 11.36 AM

PRESENT

B. Graham, C. Hassall, G. Styger, D. Friend, J. Spencer

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council

D. Magner, S. Challenger (Councillors)

R. Beal, B. Russ, R. Mallinson, T. Jellyman (Staff)

APOLOGIES

K. Kelly, P. Kennedy

BUSINESS

Cr Magner opened the meeting and welcomed those present. She introduced herself and the Council staff.

Moved: *"That the minutes of the Whataroa Rating District Meeting held on 30 October 2018, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."*

D. Friend / C. Hassall - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

C. Hassall asked why the works that were supposed to be tendered last year were not carried out. B. Russ advised that he has kept an eye on this area each time he has passes when on route to Franz Josef. B. Russ advised that the rock in place is doing a good job and if more rock was placed it would not bind in and would probably be lost in the next flood. He stated that this work still does not yet need to be done. D. Friend stated that K. Kelly has had a look at this area and he agrees with this approach as he feels more damage could be done to the spurs by adding 1800 tonne of rock. D. Friend advised that both K. Kelly and D. Routhan are happy with B. Russ's approach. B. Russ stated that this is the second time he has put this work off but if the rating district does want it done, he can arrange this. B. Russ stated there is little to be gained by doing this work as it will not improve service levels. Cr Magner asked the meeting if they wished to have a meeting on site to decide on this. It was agreed that B. Russ would keep an eye on this area.

FINANCIAL REPORT

R. Beal spoke to this report. He advised that the opening balance was \$170,929.15, and the closing balance was \$220,613.92.

WORKS REPORT

B. Russ spoke to the works report. He stated that no works were carried out during the 2018 / 2019 financial year.

B. Russ advised that as a result of a discussion with the Spokesperson \$42,770 worth of maintenance works were identified, these are the same works which have been put off for the

past two years. It was agreed that Spur #8 would be discussed at a site visit. B. Russ advised that he has allowed \$20,000 for unforeseen maintenance.

B. Russ advised that rock prices are expected to increase again shortly, therefore he has been looking at other sources of rock. He stated that rock from Whataroa Quarry is around \$40 per tonne. B. Russ stated that big rock is required and he is hoping to find rock closer to Harihari. He stated that health and safety regulations have changed a lot of the last few years.

RATES 2019 / 2020

Cr Magner advised that with the proposed works and the rate strike of \$42,000 (G.S.T. Exclusive) the balance in the rating district account at the beginning of the 2020 / 2021 financial year is likely to be \$220,000. B. Russ advised that the prudent reserve for the rating district is approximately \$200,000. He suggested that the rate strike remains the same as over the past few years there have been some large flood events due to the change in weather patterns. B. Russ advised that there are indications that a new weather pattern is being entered with similar weather events to those experienced in the 80's expected. It was agreed that the rate strike would remain at \$42,000.

Moved: *"That rate strike for the Whataroa rating district is \$42,000 Excl GST for the 2020 / 2021 financial year."*

D. Friend / B. Graham - Carried

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Cr Magner read out the names of the current committee, and asked the meeting if they wished to make any changes. D. Friend advised that K. Kelly is prepared to be the spokesperson again. It was noted the Phonse Carroll no longer lives in the area but still owns land. It was suggested the K. Kelly might contact P. Carroll and ask him if he wishes to remain on the committee. It was agreed that the status quo remains.

Moved: *"That G. Styger, P. Carroll, K. Kelly, D. Bowater, T. McBride, D. Friend and D. Routhan be the committee for the 2020 / 2021 financial year."*

D. Friend / C. Hassall – Carried

Moved: *"That K. Kelly is elected as the Spokesperson for the 2020 / 2021 financial year."*

D. Friend / C. Hassall - Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

D. Friend advised that K. Kelly would like to scope the option of putting more gravel on the road. B. Russ advised that this was previously discussed and it was agreed that gravel would be placed when the rock work is done. Discussion took place and it was agreed that the gravel would be placed both on the road and on the turnaround area.

The loss of the Waiho Bridge was discussed along with the state of bridges around Whataroa and the impact the river has on bridges. B. Russ advised that NZTA are inspecting areas via drone. He agreed to follow up on this matter with NZTA.

B. Russ advised that an extension has been proposed downstream of the Whataroa deviation but a design is still awaited. B. Russ advised that a resource consent would be required for this work, along with affected party sign off.

G. Styger stated that he is losing land to the river. He asked if could have his rates reduced if he is losing land. R. Mallinson advised that Council rates on capital value as determined by Quotable

Value Ltd who are under contract from the district council. He advised that valuations can be appealed at any time, and queries should be directed to QV.

B. Russ answered questions relating to the work being carried out in Franz Josef following on from the March weather event. He advised that the Waiho River is aggrading 180 mms per year and this is a very difficult river to manage. B. Russ explained the function of river training to the meeting.

It was agreed that a meeting would be held next year.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 12.05 p.m.

Action points for follow up

- B. Russ to follow up bridge inspections with NZTA.