

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF TE TAI O POUTINI PLAN COMMITTEE HELD ON 31 JANUARY 2020, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, PAROA, GREYMOUTH COMMENCING AT 10.00 A.M.

PRESENT:

R. Williams (Chairman), A. Birchfield, S. Roche, T. Gibson, B. Smith, A. Becker, L. Coll McLaughlin, F. Tumahai, P. Madgwick,

IN ATTENDANCE:

J. Armstrong (Project Manager), L. Easton, E. Bretherton, M. Meehan (WCRC), S. Bastion (WDC), S. Mason (BDC), P. Morris, (GDC), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He reminded those present that this is a public meeting and members of the public as well as media are welcome to attend.

APOLOGIES:

Moved (Becker / Smith) *That the apologies from Cr Martin and Mayor Cleine be accepted.*

Carried

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved (Roche / Birchfield)

That the minutes of the meeting dated 19 December 2019, be confirmed as correct.

Carried

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

The Chairman provided background information on the Order in Council, Deed of Agreement and Standing Orders.

DEED OF AGREEMENT

The Chairman advised that the Deed of Agreement needs to be agreed to by this committee, then go back to the relevant Councils for them to agree. It was agreed that in the absence of the Chair, whoever is hosting the meeting, whichever Mayor or Chairperson, would chair that particular meeting.

Discussion took place on the unavailability of committee members should they be away and the appointment of an alternate in this situation. It was noted that the alternate would have voting rights. It was noted that BDC have not appointed an alternate as they feel permanent members hold the knowledge to vote, that alternates do not.

Discussion took place on voting, and it was agreed that each Council has two votes, no proxy votes are allowed, with alternates having voting rights. The Chairman spoke of the importance of alternates being up to speed with current matters. Mayor Smith noted that the committee operates under Standing Orders, which states no vote unless you are at the meeting (therefore no proxy votes). It was agreed that voting rights and proxy votes would be incorporated into the Deed of Agreement, as part of Section 7, as well as noting the Chair of meetings in the absence of R. Williams. It was agreed that once the amendments are made, the Deed of Agreement is then circulated to the relevant members for formal adoption. The Deed of Agreement will then come back to this committee for adoption in two months' time.

PROJECT TO DATE

J. Armstrong advised that she will now be circulating one report on the 20th of each month. She encouraged those present to contact her at any time should people want more information. J. Armstrong

advised that Council staff are working hard and are under pressure with the amount of work that is required. L. Easton spoke of the importance of staff input into the Plan. The Chairman agreed and stated that now is the time to be involved.

J. Armstrong advised that the roadshow itinerary is almost finalised, she passed on her thanks to the three mayors for their commitment to the roadshow and their offers to be at as many venues as possible. She advised that the itinerary will be placed on the TTPP website. Extensive discussion took place on communications and the importance of getting the message out. Cr Roche offered to assist by providing contact details for smaller publications in the Buller district. J. Armstrong stated that Comms Managers and library staff around the districts have all been very helpful.

L. Easton stated that specific and targeted consultation and workshops will be held every month. J. Armstrong advised that her team will be manning a stand at AgFest on 27 March. She encouraged members of the committee to attend and man the stand on Saturday 28 March m.

J. Armstrong explained the colour coding in her report, she advised that green is for go, and is on track, orange is not too bad, and red is what is causing concern.

It was agreed that the report would be noted.

PROPOSED TE TAI O POUTINI PLAN BUDGET FOR 2020/21

The Chairman advised that should there be a surplus at the end of the financial year, his understanding is that this could be carried over. All agreed with this.

J. Armstrong spoke to her report providing detailed information on the proposed budget for 2020/21. She reported that originally \$900,000 was requested for the 2019/20 budget and this would have been used to employ an additional planner, and for research. The final approved budget was reduced to \$650,000. She stated that another planner is not being sought in the 2020/21 budget. It was noted that \$100,000 will be required for research.

Consideration may be given to applying for an Envirolink grant. She stated that input from MfE is also on hand.

The Chairman invited discussion on costs and scope of the project. J. Armstrong answered questions and provided additional information. Information was provided on funding, rates, annual plan budgets, and research.

M. Meehan advised that it was previously agreed that the budget would be reviewed every February with a recommendation then provided to the regional council for inclusion in their annual plan. He advised that should this committee ask for additional budget then the regional council would have to consult via the annual plan process. Extensive discussion took place on future funding, financial forecasts, LGC contributions and likely budget requirements. P. Madgwick stated that this project has been foisted on the region, but it was also noted that the districts all need to work together to ensure that the project gets a good result.

J. Armstrong spoke of the budget information notes she has put together for the Committee and the benefit of this. The sheet was circulated to those present.

M. Meehan stated that funding from the LGC is uncertain and getting the base rate right is key.

It was agreed that a letter from this Committee would be circulated to Committee members for agreement, then signed by the Mayors, Chairs and iwi representatives, and sent to the LGC, the Minister for the Environment, and the Minister for Local Government seeking further funding of around \$200,000. It was noted that costs are likely to escalate in out years and have been underestimated by LGC.

11.20 – 11.26 am (the meeting adjourned for a small break)

The \$25,000 Council contributions were discussed. It was noted that WDC have paid their contribution. GDC had agreed to pay their contribution if BDC pay theirs. Extensive discussion took place and it was agreed this matter would be left to lay on the table, with no decision agreed upon.

S. Bastion then suggested that funding could be sought from Development West Coast (DWC). It was noted that previously \$150,000 in funding had been provided to DWC for the Economic Development Manager's role. It was agreed that the \$100,000 contribution from the four councils would be removed from the budget, and that the top line of the budget would be altered from \$473,000 to \$573,000.

Moved (Roche / Birchfield)

1. *That the budget report is received.*
2. *That the committee accept the 2020/21 budget.*

3. *That the committee considers how the budget will be funded and provide recommendations on this to the West Coast Regional Council.*
4. *That submissions will be made to the relevant Ministers, the Local Government Commission, and Development West Coast to seek funding to support the budget.*

Carried

Technical Update – Urban Objectives and Policies

L. Easton spoke to this report. She covered urban objectives and policies and spoke to her presentation in detail. It was agreed that residential and visitor population would be included in the planning for population and economic growth area. Discussion took place and several minor amendments and changes were agreed to. L. Easton answered questions.

Moved (Smith / Becker)

1. *That the information is received.*
2. *That the draft Issues and Objectives in this report (as amended by feedback from the Committee) be used as part of the consultation process for the Te Tai o Poutini Plan to be undertaken over early-mid 2020.*

Carried

Technical Update – Proposed Urban Zones

L. Easton spoke to this report and advised one of the major challenges in developing the TTPP is developing a set of coherent zones that are applicable across the West Coast. She stated that this is likely to be one of the key benefits of the plan, as regardless of where development is taking place the zoning rules are clear and consistent across the three districts. L. Easton spoke to the rest of this report and answered questions.

Moved (Williams / Tumahai) *That the information is received.*

Carried

Natural Hazards and Te Tai O Poutini Plan

L. Easton spoke to this report and advised that this is an information paper with more detailed reports forthcoming later in the year. L. Easton advised that the RMA has been amended significantly following the Christchurch earthquakes. She emphasized that this matter covers the significant risks of natural hazards and will require consideration of how bad the risk is and what should be done about it. L. Easton explained the LiDAR that will be flown over the next three years will give good resolution across the whole region and show where flood plains and other areas of concern are. She spoke of managed retreats in coastal areas, and the rules relating to coastal environments. L. Easton advised that more work is to be done on coastal hazards. She stated that the emphasis of the plan is to deal with known hazards and that implications of sea level rise will need to be looked at. L. Easton answered questions.

Moved (Williams / Coll McLaughlin) *That the information is received.*

Carried

S. Bastion left the meeting at 1.52pm

Consultation Process for Te Tai o Poutini Plan

J. Armstrong advised that this paper is for information only. She stated that this is an update on what has been done to date, and where the project is now heading. Committee members committed to attend consultations.

Cr Birchfield congratulated L. Easton on her presentations. All present were in agreement.

Financial Report

It was noted that there is a slight surplus ytd but it is likely this will be spent by the end of June.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Mayor Smith spoke of the media statement that is to be put out and that the essential message is that the three councils support for the regional council is made clear. It was agreed that the Chairman and J. Armstrong would prepare a media statement and circulate this promptly.

The Chairman noted that P. Madgwick has offered a regular media column in the Grey Star. All present agreed with this.

Cr Birchfield expressed his concern with regard to project costs and where this could be heading in the long term.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 24 March 2020 (Buller District Council).

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance.

The meeting closed at 2.00 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date

Action Points

- M. Meehan to make amendments to Deed of Agreement then circulate for signing. Bring back to next meeting for adoption.
- Circulate then send letter to LGC, DWC and the Ministers for the Environment and Local Government seeking additional funding.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday 24 March 2020 (Buller District Council) – commencing at 10.30.

Meeting Dates for 2020

- Thursday 28 May (Grey District Council)
- Thursday 30 July (West Coast Regional Council)
- Tuesday 25 August (Westland District Council)
- Thursday 24 September (Buller District Council)
- Thursday 29 October (Grey District Council)
- Thursday 26 November (West Coast Regional Council)
- Wednesday 14 December (Westland District Council)