

North Canterbury Fish and Game Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting
Held on Wednesday 21st August 2013,
At the DoC Offices, 32 Nga Mahi Place, Sockburn
Commencing at 6.30pm

1. Present:

Councillors: Martin Clements, Peter Robinson, Serge Bonnafoux, Steve McNeill, Chris Goom, Ken Lee, Garth Free, Bruce Kelly, Brian Smart, Trevor Isitt.
Co-opted Members: Cavan O'Connell (Ngai Tahu), Malcolm Gilbert (Federated Farmers).
Staff: Rod Cullinane, Tony Hawker, Scott Pearson, Debbie Ambler.
In Attendance: Kelvin Wright (Canterbury Lure Fishing), Keith.....

2. Apologies: Paul Farrow, Andrew Currie (NZ Council), Emily Moore, Steve Terry, Dirk Barr (Staff).

"That the apologies be accepted".

Moved: Cr Bonnafoux
Seconded: Cr Kelly **Carried**

3. Notification of General Business

- 3.1 Cr Free Tagging of Salmon
- 3.2 Cr Free Trout Stocking
- 3.3 Cr McNeill Where is Salmon Report?

4. Minutes from the Previous Meeting dated 19th June 2013

"That the minutes from the previous meeting be accepted.

Moved: Cr McNeill
Seconded: Cr Bonnafoux **Carried**

4.1 Matters Arising/Action Sheet

Action Sheet:

- No 2. Council strategy for goals survey. Completed
- Under New Matters No 3. Young hunters wetland project development - to be discussed in conjunction with Boggy Creek and Van Eaghans Hut. Deferred until next Council Meeting.
- Under 17th October No 1. Presentation of Ranger Certificates - have found it hard to find a suitable time to present - RC to ask recipients to next Council Meeting or pre-fishing season rangers meeting. Otherwise post them out.
- Under 17th October No 9. Visitor access to Molesworth Management Plan - Cr Bonnafoux reported the concession was coming to an end and could be completely changed. Because of stock, access was restricted and was a safety issue. S Pearson to discuss with landowners concerned. Item to be removed from Action Sheet.
- Under 20th February No 1 - 4 completed.

- Under 20th February No 5 New office premises - reported that P Barnes from Christchurch City Council was organising site visits, but the relocation sub-committee was finding it hard to get them to commit to a further meeting date.
- Under 20th February No 6 Signage Rakaia and Waimakariri River Mouths - change P Robinson to E Moore under Person Responsible.
- Under 17th April No 1 Whiskey Creek Hatchery - D Barr to present proposal at next Council meeting.
- Under 17th April No 2 Brown Trout Spawning Survey - Report to be tabled at next Council meeting. R Cullinane to check with S Terry to see if further action is required.
- Under 17th April No 6 Issuing of Gamebird Permits - Policy in place
- Under 17th April No 7 D Ambler to email sub-committee convenors for dates of meetings and this be permanent on the Agenda of the Council.
- Under 19th June No 3 Oath of Office - R Cullinane to send letter to NZ Council
outlining Council decision.

6. Meeting Business

6 a ii Regulations Review

Discussion centred on the recent fishing regulations review, the procedure this followed and the proposed changes to the review process to enable better flow of information and voting process.

Points made were that clubs and stakeholders needed to be heard, not just the submitters. The show of hands for the voting process was no longer inappropriate. Club representatives should advise who their representative was and ensure the submissions were widely discussed within the club. The need for a Chairman and a panel to hear the submissions was suggested

"That the new guidelines to carry out the regulations review be implemented."

Moved: Cr Clements

Seconded: Cr Isitt Carried

D Ambler to post a copy of the 2013-14 Fishing Regulations Guide to each Councillor.

Soft Scented Bait - Cr Clements suggested that if this had not been clarified in the Regulations, that each retailer be given the correct definition to pass on to licence holders.

6 a ii 2014 Fishing Competition - Rakaia River Fishing Promotions (RRFP)

RRFP tabled a request to hold the 2014 fishing competition. General discussion focused on how F&G and the Ranging team could/should carry out their duties on the day and/or if this event be treated as a public relations exercise. The competition is to be held on 29th February to 2nd March 2014.

Cr Clements suggested that F&G ask RRFP if they could have a presence on the day.

"That the RRFP proposal be approved and that F&G ask RRFP if we could treat this event as a public awareness exercise

Moved: Cr Goom

Seconded: Cr Isitt Carried

6 a iii Pub Charity Funding

R Cullinane explained funding was required to purchase a new volunteer vehicle to be shared between the contractor at the hatchery, the French students for F&G work related purposes when they are with F&G and any other approved users including Volunteers. Discussion was then had on the requirement for the French students to have a current driver's licence and be over the age of 25. That "Terms of Use" of the volunteer vehicle be signed by each French student prior to using the vehicle. R Cullinane confirmed that such a policy would be put in place.

After discussion on the type of vehicle to purchase, it was decided to raise the funding application up to a maximum of \$15,000 on E Moores' recommendation.

"1. That the Council approve an application for Pub Charity Funding be submitted for a vehicle up to a maximum value of \$15,000.

And

2. That the Council approve a further application for Pub Charity Funding be submitted for an enclosed lockable trailer for the sand wand equipment to the value of \$5,000.00 "

Moved: Cr Smart

Seconded: Cr Moody Carried

6 b i Draft Media Policy

The draft media policy outlined the need for Councillors and staff to have a consistent and appropriate approach to dealing with media releases, interviews and other requests from the visual and print media.

"That the Draft Media Policy be adopted as a guiding document"

Moved: Cr Free

Seconded: Cr Smart

S Pearson suggested that the document be amended from "any request for interviews or the release of information shall in the first instance be communicated to the General Manager or in his absence the Communications Manager" to include the addition "unless delegated by the General Manager". Cr Smart suggested that Rangers be included in the policy.

It was decided to modify the Draft to read "Any item submitted to the media on behalf of Fish and Game (written, photographic or video) by a member of staff or Council must first..... - to read by a member of staff or Council or people who represent Fish and Game on their behalf.

Cr Smart then withdrew from the original motion.

"That the Draft Media Policy be adopted as a guiding document with the above changes"

Moved: Cr Free

Seconded: Cr Smart Carried

Cr Bonnafoux abstained

7 Reports

7 a Chairman's Report

Cr Clements stated that his personal circumstances had changed and he is now living out of town. Because of this he had withdrawn from various Trust Boards he was on. He said he missed the

contact with staff but was updated regularly by R Cullinane. He asked Council if they thought this situation would be a problem. R Cullinane stated that there was no disadvantage at all.

7 b. Staff Report

Fish and Game Hatcheries (1141) - Cr McNeill asked about the effects on collection of trout ova at the Otukaikino trap. T Hawker explained that eventually there would be a targeted release of trout in that river.

National Liaison (1841) - Cr Bonnafoux asked about the recent F&G Magazine mailout and why he had received six magazines addressed to him. It was explained that the system was in a transition period and there may have been crossover between the old and new systems.

National Liaison (1412) -

Cr Clements asked how recent liaison with MP's Maryan Street and Nicky Wagner had gone. S. Pearson answered that the day with Maryan Street was very worthwhile but that the meeting with Nicky Wagner had been a concern, given her strongly pro-irrigation views and the fact she would be chairing the RMA Reforms Select Committee.

7 c. Financial Report

7 c i Financial Report

R Cullinane reported that the financial year ended on 31 August and expenditure was tracking to budget. Cr Clements thanked R Cullinane and D Ambler on their efforts with the financial information.

7 d. New Zealand Council Report

Cr Robinson reported on the Environment Society Defence Conference he had attended. He explained the urgent need for a collective approach regarding NZ Council litigation reserves and suggested the November NZ Council meeting include area Chairmen and Managers to progress this matter. General discussion followed on the need to transition from litigation to more of a public awareness focus, moving towards advertisements, bill boards etc. S Pearson advised that there had been some positive gains in recent litigation work and that this work would need to continue in some form, but he also said that a more comprehensive approach was required in the current political climate. .

R Cullinane suggested the matter be revisited at national level and ask what has been done.

7 e. Portfolio

Media - Cr Farrow was absent.

Relocation - Cr Goom reported process was slow with the Christchurch City Council and because of this suggested a temporary office be set up. General discussion followed on setting up temporary offices versus waiting for a new building.

Cr Clements suggested Cr Goom continue to pursue building accommodation for a temporary office while R Cullinane considered seeking national support for rent assistance through the next Managers meeting.

Water Fowl - Cr Smart advised he now was in a position to move the committee along after being absent for three months..

Youth Programme - Cr Robinson tabled his progress report on the Youth Initiative and advised there would be a three monthly report meeting with Future Rivers on 30th August.

8. General Business

8 a Staff and Organisational Knowledge Retention

R Cullinane reported that in the relocation from Horatio Street, historical data and surveys/reports were retained. He stated all electronic data was backed up and everything transferred off individual machines to the server as individuals had left. The server was now located at Rangiora.

T Hawker stated that to get a better understanding on what is happening in North Canterbury region every experience should be written down when in the field. That in future work plans, areas that have not been well documented in the past should be targeted once identified.

R Cullinane to invite Dennis Maindonald to a council meeting or hold a special meeting to draw on his knowledge and experience. That the Voluntary Rangers be invited to attend.

8 b Trout Stocking

Cr Free spoke on the genetics of trout and the specific habitat required to raise them. Discussion followed on where the specific types of trout should be released.

8 c Salmon Management Report

R Cullinane reported there was a hold up with this Report and would be presented prior to the next Council meeting.

8 d. Montrose Hatchery

R Cullinane explained the 3 plus 2 year lease for Montrose was now signed and two payments totalling \$12,000.00 plus GST was required to be made. (\$10,000.00 was for the upkeep of the track down to the hatchery over a five year period and \$2,000.00 for general maintenance to be paid on an annual basis). He requested the \$10,000 payment come out of the Rakaia account with the \$2,000 from the operations account

"That the Council accept the proposal outlined by R Cullinane"

Moved: Cr Free

Seconded: Cr Bonnafoux Carried

8 e Brown Trout Fin Clipping

After discussion surrounding the release of brown trout, Council agreed not to fin clip trout if they were not going to be monitored. The brown trout to be released into the Ashburton lakes will still need to be fin clipped as requested by CSI.

There being no further business, the Council meeting concluded at 10.05 pm.

Chairman: _____ Dated: _____

Next Meeting: Wednesday 16th October 2013

Venue: 31 Nga Mahi Place Sockburn, Commencing: 6.30pm