

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting

Held on Wednesday 20TH April 2016

At the DoC Offices, 31 Nga Mahi Road, Sockburn

Commencing at 6.30 pm

1. Present:

Councillors: Peter Robinson, Trevor Isitt, Malcolm Gilbert, John Cumberpatch, Denis Kelliher, Craig Maylam, Jacques Botha, Bruce Kelly

Staff: Rod Cullinane, Steve Terry, Tony Hawker, Debbie Ambler, Emily Arthur-Moore, Dirk Barr, Ryton Barr

Public: Brian Reid, Alan Strong

2. Apologies:

Councillors: Ron Stuart, Ken Lee

Staff: Scott Pearson (lateness), Richard Cosgrove (South Island Communications Advisor) (lateness)

"That the apologies be accepted."

Moved: Cr Robinson

Seconded: Cr Maylam

CARRIED

Cr Isitt welcomed B Reid and A Strong to the meeting and introduced Richard Cosgrove who had been appointed the South Island Communications Advisor.

4a. Minutes from Previous Meeting:

"That the minutes from 17th February 2016 meeting be accepted with one amendment. Cr O'Connell was marked as an apology when one was not given."

"That the minutes from the Special Council Meeting held on 16th March 2016 be accepted".

Moved: Cr Botha

Seconded: Cr Isitt

CARRIED

Matters Arising

Matters Arising from Minutes dated 17th February 2016:

Items to be deferred until the Council meeting in June:

1. 6a iv Donations Received In Memory of Graham McDonald
2. 6b I Policy on Reparation for Non-Compliance
3. Mallard Survey

8h Cr Robinson to send a letter to K Jolly from Fulton Hogan thanking him for his co-operation in managing the shingle extraction activity in the Waimakariri River so that the impact on river clarity was minimised for anglers during the salmon season.

Matters Arising from Minutes dated 16th March 2016:

R Cullinane reported that DoC approved the regulation change to close all waterways in North Canterbury east of State Highway One to fishing for all sports fish from 1st May to 30th September each year.

Action Sheet

The following items were noted as complete and taken off the Action Sheet;

18 February 2015 – No 1 – Meeting with MPI Compliance Officer regarding cross over issues on the Waimakariri River

17 June 2015 – No 3 – Consult NIWA and Cawthron regarding evidence of what is occurring at Lake Coleridge in the spawning grounds.

4 November 2015 – No 4 - Recommendations on wording to be used by Rangers on the riverbank relating to proof of not fishing for other than sportsfish”.

16 December 2015 - No 7 – Waikuku Stream Users Group Media Awards. S Pearson to liaise with R Cosgrove relating to media releases surrounding this event.

Action Sheet - General

4 November 2015 – No 5 – Survey of Mallard Ducks in the North Canterbury region – D Barr suggested that this count be done when doing the paradise duck count. The issue of Asian workers harvesting duck eggs required to be addressed and an investigation on legislation around this subject to be looked into. D Barr suggested that for a more accurate count, that consideration be given to counting duck eggs rather than adults.

17 February 2016 – No 9 – Lanyards for licence holders – No 10 – Maori Name Interpretation – No 11 – Language interpretation in regulations guides – Cr Cumberpatch to raise at the next NZC meeting.

5. Public Session

A Strong addressed the meeting on his Report “The Te-Waihora/Lake Ellesmere Brown Trout Fishery ‘ Collapse and the Short Term Recovery’” with suggestions for short and long term plans to restore the fishery. It was decided to arrange a meeting between A Strong and staff to discuss how best to move forward on the subject.

6. Meeting Business**6a iv Building Project – 595 Johns Road**

R Cullinane presented concept design plans for the proposed build at 595 Johns Road. He outlined the building costs received by two building companies and explained where the budgeted money for the project could come from subject to Council approval namely; the ‘Building Reserve’, the ‘Land Proceeds for Appropriation Reserve’ and the ‘Greenpark Reserve’. R Cullinane stated the next step was to take down the existing hedge along the current driveway and run stock fencing around two paddocks to allow sheep to be run to keep the grass down. It was decided that R Cullinane and D Kelliher would share the Project Management of the build. A fundraiser package was being designed to approach corporate organisations to donate in kind services to keep costs down, however this was not being considered as part of the budget ie this would be a bonus if achieved. In the unlikely event of a cost overrun to the budget then money from North Canterbury reserves would be sought. It was also suggested by Cr Kelliher that a 5%

contingency sum be allowed for. Cr Maylam suggested the possibility of stakeholders purchasing a tree to assist with the landscaping costs.

“That Council approve;

- 1. The construction of the new headquarters building as per the plans and specifications by Fowler Homes.**
- 2. The use of the Building Reserve, the Land Appropriation Reserve and the Greenpark Reserves towards the construction costs by way of a redirection of these latter two funds.**
- 3. Approval for the project to proceed using Fowler Homes subject to the Building Advisory Committee being satisfied that the cost of any items yet to be allowed for which when added to the fixed price provided by Fowler Homes (updated if necessary to allow for any voluntary input) will not total more than the reserve funds identified.”**

Moved: Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr Kelliher

CARRIED (unanimously)

6a i 2016 Drift Dive Report

T Hawker outlined highlights from this Report - There were positive trout numbers in the Hurunui with large green patches without didymo; that numbers were down in the Hope and Waiau Rivers due to habitat change from flooding; that the Boyle had good size trout in it. Cr Robinson stated the importance to continue trend counts given the request for data from a recent zone committee meeting.

6a iii NIWA Research Project

NIWA was asking for support for a research project aimed at looking at salmon movement during various flows in the Waimakariri River during the 2016/2017 salmon season. Two methods were to be used; tagging salmon caught by anglers which would then be released and setting nets in the tidal reaches if there was an abundance of salmon. NIWA was seeking F&G approval for the project as well as advice on locations with no F&G staff time being required.

“That Councillors approve the NIWA Research project.”

Moved: Cr Cumberpatch

Seconded: Cr Botha

CARRIED

7. Reports

7a. Chairman’s Report

Cr Isitt outlined the following; that he had spent a few days on lowland waterway research and stated the need to keep up with NC F&G current stance and be clear on the message that is being delivered; the need to keep all data current; the need to have a ‘Plan B’ regarding getting nitrate levels into local plans; that any findings need to be made public in a manner in which people could understand.

The Freshwater petition be sent out to all staff and stakeholders.

7d. NZ Council Report

J Cumberpatch reported he had advised NZC of the proposed regulations change for the winter season then went through the NZC minutes in his update discussion.

7b. Staff Report

i. Hurunui Waiau Zone Committee Meeting

S Pearson, Cr Robinson and Cr Isitt were in attendance at this meeting and were asked to justify and clarify the NC F&G position on the recent winter fishing regulation change. A request for data to support this decision was made and Cr Isitt said that this underlined our need to keep all data current as opposed to using figures that could be considered out of date. A meeting with ECAN was suggested to discuss this matter as well as the Ecan enforcement report produced by Emily Arthur-Moore – see below

ii. Working With Nature Awards

S Pearson advised the reluctance by the Press to publicise this article. Cr Gilbert suggested the use of other publications such as Canterbury Farming or other national farming publications. R Cosgrove to investigate other publications. It was noted that D Rood (National Communications Manager) was keen to roll out these types of awards throughout the rest of the country.

7ci Financial Report

R Cullinane explained the 2016/2017 Budget would be presented to a Regional Managers meeting to be held 26 April 2016.

7e Youth and Family Programme

Cr Robinson reported that Programme had been renamed 'Fresh Waters' and approaches for corporate sponsorship would occur in the next couple of weeks. The appointment of four trustees would be undertaken before going to the public.

6a ii. Analysis of ECAN's Enforcement of Waterway Protection Rules Relating to Stock Access

The report addressed four key concerns:

- Slow response times and failure to respond at all to many complaints;
- A reluctance to use formal enforcement tools;
- A lack of consistency in rule enforcement;
- Poor follow up where breaches had been identified.

After discussion on how to deal with this issue it was decided that R Cullinane organise a Councillor/Commissioner meeting with ECAN for mid May. S Pearson, E Arthur-Moore and T Hawker to work on a strategy for this meeting.

3. Appointment of Bruce Kelly to Council

Following the statutory requirement for Council to publicly advertise its intention, and having done so, Cr Isitt put the motion;

“That B Kelly be appointed as a Councillor with full voting rights.”

Moved: Cr Isitt Seconded: Not Required CARRIED

“A Strong be co-opted as a NC Councillor (subject to his agreement) but with no voting rights as prescribed by such an appointment.”

Moved: Cr Kelliher Seconded: Cr Kelly CARRIED

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30p.m.

Chairman: _____ Date: _____ Next

Next Meeting

Date: 15TH June 2016

Time: 6.30p.m.

Venue: DoC Offices, 31 Nga Mahi Road, Sockburn