

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting Held on Wednesday 18 April 2018 At 595 Johns Road, Harewood Commencing at 6.34 pm

1. Present:

Councillors: Trevor Isitt (Chair), Charles Smith, Peter Robinson, Chris Brankin, Ron Stuart, Phillip Musson, Alan Strong, Denis Kelliher, Bruce Kelly, Ken Lee, Craig Maylam

Staff: Rod Cullinane, Debbie Ambler, Dirk Barr, Steve Terry, Tony Hawker, Scott Pearson

In Attendance: Darryn Haffenden

2. Apologies:

Councillors: John Cumberpatch (lateness), Malcolm Gilbert

Staff: Emily Arthur-Moore, Ryton Barr, Richard Cosgrove

“That the apologies be accepted.”

Moved: Cr Robinson

Seconded: Cr Stuart

CARRIED

Cr Isitt welcomed D Heffenden to the meeting.

3. Notification of General Business

Nil.

4a. Minutes from Previous Meeting:

“That the minutes from 21 February 2018 be accepted”.

Moved: Cr Stuart

Seconded: Cr Kelly

CARRIED

4b. Matters Arising

1. **Permission to Capture and Hold Mallard Ducks for Research** – Cr Isitt reported that permission had been agreed to. This subject to be deleted off Action Sheet.
2. **Change to Gamebird Survey** - Agenda for next Gamebird Advisory Committee meeting.
3. **Governance, Management and Strategic Planning Meeting** – Cr Cumberpatch was thanked for his efforts in co-ordinating and chairing the Strategic Planning meeting.
4. **Fish Screens** – T Hawker reported a meeting had been held with the ECan’s Compliance Manager and said he was disappointed with the lack of progress to date. He was concerned that ECan was

focusing on consent conditions rather than accessing the NIWA guidelines. Discussion on how to progress issues of concern followed.

5. **Pheasant Rearing** – D Haffenden updated the meeting on the progress on the Waimakariri Regional Park pheasant rearing programme. Three incubators had been used to rear baby pheasants but no real result had been seen to date.

5. Health and Safety Update

The health and safety briefing and plan that was used for the Lake Lyndon family fishing day was presented with the one change being made – Darfield Fire Station number. The safety briefing and plan would be used in the future as a template for all NC F&G fishing contests.

6. Public Session

No matters were raised.

7. Meeting Business

7a ii Developing Revenue Through Increased Participation

A Report on Developing Revenue Through Increased Participation was briefly discussed. D Ambler to re-circulate email from NZC to Councillors for input in formulating a response to NZC before 30th June 2018.

7b i Environment Protection Involvement

Cr Stuart wanted to formally acknowledge E Arthur-Moore's input and enthusiasm into both the Snake Creek and Silverstream projects.

7a ii Letter of Concern Regarding Waterways and Wildlife

A letter was tabled from M Bate regarding the state and welfare of our environment, especially waterways and wildlife. His letter specifically centred on the waterfowl population and its decline in and around a 15km radius of the Kaiapoi Wastewater Treatment Plant. The use of pesticides around river systems was also of concern. These topics be on the agenda for the next Gamebird Advisory Committee meeting.

In the meantime;

“That a letter be sent to the Mayor and CEO of the Waimakariri District Council outlining concerns raised and seek assurances that their waste management and water management practices are not harmful to the habitat and wildlife in and around the Kaiapoi wastewater treatment plant and to also seek assurance that the Council was not in breach of any Consent regarding spraying over water.”

Moved: Cr Robinson

Seconded: Cr Isitt

CARRIED

S Terry to investigate a contractor who was spraying over water at Winding Creek.

8. Reports

8a Chairman's Report - Cr Isitt reported on a successful visit by the Winemun Wintu delegation to the North Canterbury Region. Cr Isitt stated he had spent time fundraising in support of the Fish In Schools programme, and announced the Fish Migration Day would be held on Friday 20th April 2018.

D Barr followed on from the Chairman's report by thanking staff and volunteers who assisted with the visit by the Winemun Wintu delegation. The delegation was overwhelmed by the hosting and support received by NCF&G staff and all of the volunteers who were supporting their cause. D Barr then outlined the events of the week long visit and also the background of the project thus far. Cr Stuart asked that F&G recognise the cultural differences between the delegation and F&G and this should be a focus on subsequent visits.

8b Staff Report

1211 Resource Consents – S Pearson reported on the conflicts in the collaborative process within the Hurunui Zone Committee which was causing relationship issues between representatives from various agencies. According to him the main issue was that the Zone Committee wanted to delay introducing minimum flows. S Pearson advised he had withdrawn from attending Zone Committee meetings until a solution was found to improve the collaborative process.

1311 Access Advocacy – T Hawker advised that the Selwyn District Council has approved a new toilet facility at Ryton Bay and stated that F&G could be approached for a contribution to ongoing maintenance. He also stated the Trustpower site could be used as a possible camping ground and would be interested in following this up.

8c Financial Report

R Cullinane stated the current budget and performance figures needed to be refreshed and be re-presented.

8d NZC Report

Cr Cumberpatch advised he had been co-opted onto the National Sea Run Salmon Committee and explained the processes the Committee would take when advising the strategic priorities that were being proposed. It was agreed that stakeholders were to be kept regularly informed on the progress of this Committee.

8e Fresh Waters Programme

Cr Robinson advised that due to weed control being carried out at the Groynes lakes in spring/summer 2018, the annual TAKF event would need to be postponed until late November 2018. He advised that fishing at the Groynes Lakes continued to be popular after the release of 1,500 fish, that chlorination of

Christchurch City drinking water is providing challenges for those schools/organisations which have running water tanks and that the Lake Lyndon Family Fishing day was very successful.

8f Building Report

R Cullinane advised that he was now dealing direct with the Christchurch City Council regarding disabled access to the building. Wheelchair access signage was being installed over the next couple of weeks.

8g Advisory Committee

Gamebird - It was advised that Cr Maylam was unable to continue as Chairman of this Committee. After discussion it was decided,

" That C Brankin be appointed as Chairman of the Gamebird Advisory Committee".

Moved: Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr Stuart

CARRIED

Ecan Regional Park Management and F&G Staff Meeting – to be held bi-annually in April and September each year.

Salmon/Trout – Items raised in the Committee meeting minutes from 19 March 2018;

- i. Ellesmere Brown Trout Augmentation – it was advised that this report was now a key strategic priority for NCF&G. The recommendation from the Salmon/Trout Advisory Committee was that a moveable and reactive plan for Ellesmere and its tributary rivers, to increase trout numbers in its locations, be undertaken by the most suitable means available.

" That Cr Strong work with staff on a proposal to bring back recommendations to the next Council meeting in June".

Moved: Cr Stuart

Seconded: Cr Isitt

CARRIED

- ii. **Fish Screens Kevin Belcher** – Advised the disappointment over the functioning of the Claxby irrigation water take fish screen, K Belcher has been invited by staff to discuss the issue.
- iii. **Salmon Symposium Nov 2017 Discussion Document by Alan Strong** – advised that the recommendation to formulate supportive guidelines and establish financial support and a workable plan was covered by the strategic priorities of NCF&G.
- iv. **River Cameras** – recommendation that a feasibility study into the merits and cost relativity of camera installations be carried out. Discussion on cost and upkeep followed. It was thought the only way to achieve this would be by a grant.
- v. **Closure of the Kaiapoi River above Ash Keaton** – it was proposed that the Kaiapoi River be closed from Ash Keaton upstream due to anglers taking bag limit catches home only to return later and continue fishing. This proposal to be considered when undertaking the fishing regulations review.

9. General Business

9a. NZSAA – Retirement of Heather Saunders

It was advised that H Saunders would be stepping down as Secretary of the NZSAA. Tony Humphries was standing down as President with Larry Burke becoming the next President of the NZSAA.

” That NCF&G send a letter to NZSAA acknowledging the service and support of both H Saunders and T Humphries”.

Moved: Cr Robinson

Seconded: Cr Isitt

CARRIED

9b. Fishing Guides Licence

Discussion on guides potentially doing deals with landowners on exclusive access and the need to regulate and manage this better.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.17.pm.

Chairman: _____

Date: _____