

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting
Held on Wednesday 18 October 2017
At 595 Johns Road, Harewood
Commencing at 6.30 pm

1. Present:

Councillors: Trevor Isitt (Chair), John Cumberpatch, Peter Robinson, Bruce Kelly, Chris Brankin, Denis Kelliher, Ron Stuart, Phillip Musson
Staff: Rod Cullinane, Debbie Ambler, Dirk Barr, Richard Cosgrove, Steve Terry, Tony Hawker, Scott Pearson
Public: Tony Hallams

2. Apologies:

Councillors: Alan Strong, Malcolm Gilbert, Craig Maylam
Staff: Emily Arthur-Moore

"That the apologies be accepted."

Moved: Cr Stuart Seconded: Cr Cumberpatch CARRIED

3. Notification of General Business

Nil.

4a. Minutes from Previous Meeting:

"That the minutes from 16 August 2017 be accepted".

Moved: Cr Robinson Seconded: Cr Maylam CARRIED

4b. Matters Arising

Items taken off the Action Sheet

- i. Discuss with ECAN viability of fish screens being incorporated into the Farm Environment Plan – R Cullinane advised this had been raised internally with ECAN with an outcome of not being possible.
- ii. Code of Conduct for Sports Fishing
- iii. Lake Lyndon Fishing Day – Website / Book Lodge
- iv. Reparation Policy to Councillors
- v. Councillor Elections 2018
- vi. Size limit for Salmon / Trout at Lake Coleridge – T Hawker reported that the length of fish was not a problem and that the rule did not change.

Field Visit to the CPW – S Pearson reported the formation of the Rakaia Issues Group who would be working through key issues on the Rakaia. A visit to the CPW / Rakaia River would be organised in early 2018.

Chertsey / Barhill Fish Screen – T Hawker reported that a fish screen working party had been set up to review and set new consent conditions had its first meeting. All fish screen issues would be discussed at this group which included the types of fish screens used and how to monitor and gauge their effectiveness.

5. Health and Safety Update

Due to pressures on moving to Johns Road and staff taking leave, there had been no H&S meeting, but policies and procedures were continuing to be adhered to. A draft H&S plan had been written for the Water and Wildlife Habitat Trust and is currently being edited prior to sign off.

6. Public Session

T Hallams was welcomed to the meeting. T Hallams requested that Canterbury University be approached regarding the continued access to Lakes Hawdon and Meremere and that this be a condition of sale of Craigeburn Station. T Hawker replied that there was already dialogue with the overseas purchaser on this and other matters.

The same applied to Mt White Station with access to Lake Letitia. T Hawker replied there was no guarantee that F&G would be consulted but that when sold, would negotiate with new owners.

7. Meeting Business

7a i Lake Coleridge Rainbow Trout Spawning Survey

T Hawker reported this year's results were affected by floods and spoke of concern that intensification was going to have around Lillian Stream without adequate fencing.

"That NCF&G continue with the survey each year to gain and understand trends in the Lake Coleridge fishery and monitor the success of rainbow releases into spawning streams;

That the landowner of Glenthorne Station be approached immediately to discuss concerns regarding the recent development at Lillian Stream."

Moved: Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr Stewart

CARRIED

7a ii Annual Aerial Trend Counts of Paradise Shelduck, Black Swan, Mallard Duck, Shoveler Duck, White Swan

R Barr stated that black swan populations had doubled this year. He was concerned that the Swan Hunt Competition was keeping farmers from getting Permits to Control and that a total revisit of the Swan Hunt was required.

"That Council consider including the Gamebird species "pheasant" within this Annual Gamebird Report. Staff and Council are repeatedly asked by hunters at the Gamebird Regulations review for increased limit bags and lengthened season durations for cock pheasant. Staff are of the opinion that because no monitoring of species is undertaken, an effort should be made to gather information on populations by surveying hunters.

The intended method of information gathering would be by using Rangers to engage with hunters during the current two day pheasant season compliance operation, asking them on personal sightings of hens and cocks, and hunting successes during the 2 day season.

Rangers currently meet up with around 40 pheasant hunters during the annual season on the Rakaia, Selwyn and Waimakariri catchments. The information gathered could then be used to create a valuable population

trend count providing Council and staff with informed knowledge of the wellbeing of current isolated populations.”

Moved: Cr Kelly

Seconded: Cr Stuart

CARRIED

7a iii 2017 Salmon Management Report

“That this Report be withdrawn from being approved at this Council meeting as further discussion was required.”

Moved: Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr Robinson

CARRIED

7b i National Gamebird Harvest Survey

S Terry reported that the average individual hunter harvest has trended down as shooting on farms did not require a licence. The Gamebird Advisory Committee to consider ways of starting a “Register to Shoot On Farmland” database seeking farm owners input.

7b ii Award for Outstanding Service

D Ambler to agenda for December Council meeting.

8. Reports

8a **Chairman’s Report** - Cr Isitt reported the progress for an Eastern Lake was slow going. The building opening was a success with acknowledgements going to R Cullinane and Cr Kelliher for their project management and to staff for their enthusiasm to work in such trying conditions over the past 5 years. That a follow-up letter by Council to DoC (copy to L Sanson) for their generosity of accommodations for some staff also.

8b **Staff Report**

1213 RMA Compliance - R Cullinane advised the MOU with ECAN is currently being discussed. Notified Consent Process to be on agenda for next ECAN/NCF&G staff meeting.

After discussion on the Hurunui Water Project around fish screens, S Terry to look at salmon survival on the Hurunui over the past years. Any initiative would require assistance from local community groups on the Hurunui as with the Rakaia River e.g. Amuri Rod and Gun Club.

1511 Ranging - Discussion on cases currently under investigation by Compliance Committee and the introduction of Reparation and how that would be managed.

8c **Financial Report**

Discussion on the national decline in licence sales and the review of licence categories in time for the 2018/2019 season.

8d NZC Report

Cr Cumberpatch reported a Governer/Councillor Forum would be held in June 2018, the Take A Kid Fishing brand was under investigation, that any funding from the Research Fund that had not furnished a report would be withdrawn.

8e Fresh Waters Programme

P Robinson reported that a trial for the use of the Isaac ponds by Leeston School would occur shortly, however there were some obstacles to overcome regarding H&S. S Terry to approach M Robson regarding portals for this site. That further expansion opportunities for the Programme exists with Ryman Healthcare.

8f Salmon Symposium

R Cosgrove reported Registrations would be open shortly.

8g. B Johnson Farewell

R Cullinane to draft letter B Johnson on behalf of Councillors for his retirement.

Public Excluded Session

“To move into Public Excluded session of the meeting”

Moved: Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr Stuart Carried

“To move out of Public Excluded session and back into a Public session of the meeting”

Moved: Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr Kelly Carried

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.35.pm.

Chairman: _____ Date: _____

Next meeting:

Wednesday 13 December 2017 – Including AGM

595 Johns Road, Harewood, Christchurch