

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting
Held on Wednesday 13 December 2017
At 595 Johns Road, Harewood
Commencing at 8.15 pm

1. Present:

Councillors: Trevor Isitt (Chair), John Cumberpatch, Peter Robinson, Chris Brankin, Ron Stuart, Phillip Musson, Alan Strong, Malcolm Gilbert, Craig Maylam
Staff: Rod Cullinane, Debbie Ambler, Dirk Barr, Richard Cosgrove, Steve Terry, Tony Hawker, Scott Pearson
Public: Paul Hodgson, Mike Ager, Kevin Belcher, Larry Burke

2. Apologies:

Councillors: Bruce Kelly, Ken Lee (Lateness)
Staff: Emily Arthur-Moore, R Barr

"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 18 October 2017 be accepted".

Moved: Cr Robinson Seconded: Cr Maylam CARRIED

4b. Matters Arising

Field Visit to the CPW – Organised for 20 February 2018 (with a backup date of 27 February). S Pearson to send information/invites to Councillors and NZSAA early 2018.

5. Health and Safety Update

A first aid kit was purchased for the office and is located above the photocopier in the filing room. NC Health & Safety Plan and office safety plan ready for sign-off by Councillors and staff in early 2018. The Health & Safety Plan for the Water and Wildlife Habitat Trust was signed off by its Trustees in December 2017.

6. Public Session

No matters were raised.

7. Meeting Business

7a i Meeting Dates for 2018

Confirmed as 21 February, 21 March, 18 April, 20 June, 15 August, 17 October and 12 December 2018. D Ambler to update the NCF&G website.

7a ii Permission from F&G to Capture and Hold Mallard Ducks for Research

Landcare Research was seeking permission to capture and hold 40 mallard ducks for the development of non-lethal methods for assessing the susceptibility of birds to para-aminopropiophenone (PAPP).

Points raised in discussion were;

- uncomfortable with gamebirds being used as 'guinea pigs' for research;
- mallards habitat not likely to be targeted by aerial drop;
- PAPP could negate the use of 1080;
- precautionary research which is a standard piece of development work;
- ask to be a party and be consulted on any recommendations from the research.

"That NCF&G support the research project and ask Landcare to present results to Council when completed."

Moved: Cr Cumberpatch

Seconded: Cr Maylam

CARRIED

D Barr to organise a meeting with Landcare outlining discussion points raised.

7a iii Gamebird Regulations Review

Only three people responded to the Review with the general consensus for;

"Keep the 25 bag limit for opening weekend then reduce to 15 for the rest of the gamebird season."

Moved: Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr Maylam

CARRIED

D Barr to let NZC know of the change.

Cr Maylam raised the need for the Gamebird survey to include "how many birds seen and how many bagged".

Discussion followed on the different bag limits when shooting on an irrigation ponds. It was thought hunters were not utilising the season properly not knowing when to hunt and how much to take.

D Barr to liaise with Cr Maylam regarding the change to the Gamebird survey.

7vi 2017 Salmon Management Report

"That NCF&G continue with the peak count Salmon monitoring program."

Moved: Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr Cumberpatch

CARRIED

7b i Bio Security Alert

Discussed at AGM.

7bii Appointment of Councillors

Discussion on the process of co-opting council members to council was explained along with the rules around “neglect of duty” (if a Councillor failed to attend three meetings in a row). R Cullinane commented that the legislation was uncertain since the term “appointment” does not define whether it carries voting rights. Council does not appear to have the authority to elevate co-opted members to full voting members. The basis for this is s26V(2) (co-opted members) and s26ZA(5) (election and appointment) of the Conservation Act 1987 as well as the Fish & Game Council Election Regulations 1990.

7b iv Wheelchair Platform

Advertising the wheelchair platform as being a special fishing location was raised, with the health and safety aspects and who is responsible for this discussed. R Cullinane explained that he had been advised that the wheelchair platform came under the umbrella of ECan’s responsibility and was not Fish and Game’s responsibility. R Cullinane to seek legal advice before adding the wheelchair platform into any F&G brochures, web site.

7b v Community Water Partnership

Cr Stuart to represent NC F&G on this Committee.

7b vi Continuation of Support – Styx Mill Living Laboratory

Cr Stuart advised he had withdrawn his representation from this Committee.

8. Reports

8a Chairman’s Report - Cr Isitt reported on his fundraising efforts for the WWHT mentioning a possible partnership with a potential corporate in the environmental sector. Cr Isitt advised hosting Cantackle both at Johns Road and at the Groynes had been successful and now planned the organisation CanInspire to take up the opportunity.

8b Staff Report

1411 Statutory Liaison – Fish Screens – It was advised that ECAN would be carrying out staff training on fish screens during the lead up to Christmas. Cr Musson asked R Cullinane to update progress on Fish Screen working group.

8c Financial Report

Discussion surrounded the overspend of the hatchery in this years Annual Report, on the review process of hatcheries nationwide and funding that is required to run a hatchery.

R Cullinane to alert NZC of NCF&G concerns of over-run on hatchery spending.

8d NZC Report

Cr Cumberpatch reported that the National Council had its first meeting with the new CEO and spoke on areas of future focus for the organisation.

8e Fresh Waters Programme

P Robinson advised the postponement of the Lake Lyndon Family Fishing day that would be re-programmed in the new year.

8f Building Report

R Cullinane advised the Code of Compliance had not been issued as yet and had received the last invoice from Fowlers.

8g General Business

1. P Musson advised there was a sign going up by Living Waters near the Snake Creek Project (Powells Road) and asked if NCF&G could put their logo on the sign as well due to our involvement with the Project.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.10.pm.

Chairman: _____

Date: _____