

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF TE TAI O POUTINI PLAN COMMITTEE HELD ON 21 JUNE 2022, AT THE OFFICES OF WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL & VIA ZOOM, COMMENCING AT 09.30 A.M.

PRESENT:

R. Williams (Chairman), T.Gibson (GDC), L. Martin (WDC), A.Becker (GDC), S. Roche (BDC), A.Birchfield (WCRC), J. Cleine (BDC), S.Challenger alternate for Cr Coll-McLaughlin (WCRC), Acting Mayor Carruthers alternate for Mayor Smith (WDC), P.Madgwick,

IN ATTENDANCE:

S.Bastion (WDC), P.Morris (GDC), S.Mason (BDC) (via Zoom), R.Towntow (BDC), H.Mabin (WCRC), J.Armstrong (WCRC), E.Bretherton, L.Easton (WCRC), P. Lynch (Poutini Ngai Tahu) A. Drnasin (WCRC) (Minute taker)

WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. A reminder was given to all present the meeting was a public forum and all members of the public were welcome to attend including members of the media. The Chair Williams welcomed any members of the public who may be viewing the meeting via Council's Facebook page and he introduced the minute taker – Amie Drnasin from the West Coast Regional Council.

APOLOGIES: F.Tumahai, L Coll- McLaughlin

Moved (L.Martin / A.Becker) *That the apologies be accepted.*

Carried

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved (T.Gibson /L.Martin) *That the minutes of the meeting dated 17 May 2022, be confirmed as correct.*
Carried

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

Financial Report

J. Armstrong took the report as read.

Moved (A.Becker/J.Cleine) *That the financial report is received.*

Carried

Te Tai o Poutini Plan – Outstanding Natural Landscapes (ONL) and Significant Natural Areas (SNA)

L Easton spoke to the report clarifying where an SNA and an ONL overlapped there is not a big difference to landowners as they are already required to apply for a discretionary activity resource consent. Where landowners may be additionally affected is where part of their property may have an SNA and another part or the entirety of the property have an ONL.

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Mayor Gibson noted where there is a double up of the regulations this can be tough for landowners. L Easton responded advising the concerns are noted in the report and there will not be any further recommendations to amend the plan made based on the analysis.

P Madgwick commented there is difficulty in understanding the maps clearly as they are not in 3D. Cr Becker asked what is classified as "natural" and if a landowner can have their land reclassified to have an ONL removed Cr Becker referred specifically to the Strongman Mine. L Easton replied there were a number of reassessments carried out of SNA and ONL over the summer period and amendments were made to the maps. Not all the district has had the reassessment completed, priority of reassessment was given to areas as advised by each council's technical teams. The Strongman Mine was not identified as an area requiring reassessment.

Cr Becker asked if the energy rules can apply to the mining sector, L Easton advised if the energy rules were to specifically apply to the mining sector the plan would need to be amended. L Easton commented it would be hard to justify energy rules applying to the minerals sector as the former are governed by national direction under national policy statements relating to renewable energy generation and the transmission of electricity.

Mayor Gibson agreed with Cr Becker stating the rules made it very restrictive reiterating the maps are not detailed enough. Cr Birchfield agreed with P Madgwick, commenting the maps are ambiguous. Cr Birchfield referred to page 13 of the report and quoted section.6 "there's an estimated 37,000h of privately owned land within the ONL boundaries" noting there is not much land left on the West Coast to use and make a living off, stating it is not sustainable.

Cr Martin sought clarification of the 37,000 hectares asking how many ONL had been identified in previous district plans. L Easton advised the only plan which identified Outstanding Natural Landscapes was the Grey District Plan. Cr Martin noted the maps did not provide sufficient detail to the committee and suggested ground truthing may be required before putting ONL in place.

L Easton confirmed the ONL were identified based on ground truthing which was carried out in 2014, to reassess the rest of the region it would cost \$10,000. Cr Martin commented the estimated cost was less than he expected and, in his view, would be worth the expense.

J Armstrong agreed with Cr Martin the cost was reasonable and the decision was one for the committee, she noted timing would be a factor to ensure the reassessment could be carried out prior to the Committee submission on the plan.

Cr Martin asked if there was a provision for an alternative process for district councils to have their ONL submitted district by district. L Easton advised although a possible potential change to the plan it would be complicated and would take time.

Mayor Cleine requested clarification regarding the process of ground truthing the remaining ONL areas and how this would impact the plan notification. L Easton advised if the committee moved to notify the plan the ground truthing would be completed and amended maps provided as part of the submission of the draft plan, confirming the general public would not have access to the amended maps at the time of public submission period.

P Madgwick requested L Easton to explain what the restrictions on land with Outstanding Natural Landscapes would be, L Easton referred directly to the plan and read it as stated.

P Madgwick requested the ONL areas to be displayed in 3-Dimensional form. L Easton advised the council did not have the technical capability.

Moved (J. Cleine /S. Challenger):

- *That the committee receives the report*

Against: Cr Becker, Mayor Gibson.

Carried

Moved (J.Cleine/S.Roche) *That the committee:*

- *Directs staff to proceed with the ONL review of the remainder of the West Coast at an estimated cost of \$10,000.*

Carried

Te Tai o Poutini Plan – Feedback from Schedule 1 (3) Consultation Process

L. Easton spoke to the report highlighting the reasons behind the recommended resolution. L Easton acknowledged the support and dedication given by Poutini Ngai Tahu and Ngai Tahu staff in the consultation process.

Mayor Cleine asked if DOC and DIA are given the same weighting with regards to the submission process. L Easton advised all submissions are given equal weight.

P Madgwick commented on the encouraging feedback from Department of Conservation and Ministry for the Environment noting the planners had "got it pretty well right". He then asked if the 218 archaeological sites identified, would be included in the archaeological register. L Easton sought an amendment to the resolution to include the request.

Cr Roche asked if the resources required to develop an annual work programme with Iwi and Heritage NZ would be the responsibility of Regional Council or individual District Councils. L Easton advised the funding is the responsibility of the West Coast Regional Council.

Moved (P. Madgwick /L. Martin) *that the committee:*

1. *Receive the report; and*
2. *That an additional policy be included in the Historic Heritage Provisions of the Plan as follows:*
 - *The Councils will work with Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga and Poutini Ngāi Tahu to create a yearly work programme which will enable all NZAA sites of Māori origin in the Tai Poutini to be accurately mapped within the next ten years. These will be included in the planning maps as a Plan Change; and*
3. *That the Committee thank Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu for their feedback and that staff be instructed to work with the rūnanga alongside Poutini Ngāi Tahu to consider further matters that have not been able to be addressed from the feedback with a view to preparing a joint submission on these matters to the Proposed Plan; and*
4. *That the Appendix 10 be amended to include all 218 NZ AA sites of Māori origin.*

Carried

Chair Williams commented the feedback to the report had been positive noting it is a good start and he gave appreciation to the staff involved.

Te Tai o Poutini Plan Hearings Commissioner Nominations Process

Jo Armstrong spoke to the report. J Armstrong asked all members to consider who would be suitable independent commissioners moving forward. Discussion was held regarding timelines, and drawing specific

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mention to point 21 of the report. P Madgwick noted most members had conveyed strong statements over the duration of their membership. Cr Latham noted 5 commissioners comprised of members of the committee and or respective councils would be balanced approach. Cr Birchfield noted his disagreement with the process and stated the commissioners should be made up of the committee members.

Cr Roche asked if commissioners would be involved in the mediation process, L Easton advised commissioners are not normally involved at mediation. Submission papers would be prepared for the TTPP Committee to review prior to mediation, staff attend the mediation any agreements are then brought back to the TTPP Committee for confirmation. The decision makers are the committee not the commissioners. Cr Roche agreed with Cr Martin stating a balanced approach would be to select the commissioners from current members of the TTPP Committee.

Cr Becker agreed members of TTPP should not be unjustly punished for advocating strongly for their region.

Chair Williams clarified point 21 is not the words of the report writer, it is an excerpt from the Resource Management Act.

J Armstrong confirmed that she will be the person who makes contact with suggested prospective Chair. S Bastion offered to ask fellow Chief Executives to form a panel which could assist in shortlisting prospective Chair.

Chair Williams asked what the process is once the recommendations for the hearing panel are received by the committee. L Easton advised the hearing panel provides any recommendations to amend the plan to the committee, the final decision is through the committee. Legal advice was obtained that Hearing Panel Commissioners should not then also participate on the decision-making committee.

Mayor Cleine noted all councils on the committee have an alternate member which should circumvent a commissioner on the hearing panel also presiding as a committee member.

Moved (J. Cleine/ T.Gibson) *that the committee:*

1. *Receive the report; and*
2. *That the Committee consider the proposed nomination process for Te Tai o Poutini Plan hearings commissioners including the suggestion to consult with their peers to identify candidates for nomination.*

Carried

Meeting Adjourned: 10:30am

Meeting Resumes: 10:44am

Adoption of Proposed Te Tai o Poutini Plan for Public Notification

Lois Easton spoke to the report and highlighted the changes specifically relating to coastal hazards and natural hazard overlays.

L Easton also noted the revised airport noise contour boundaries and the impact this had on the plan. L Easton advised the rules relate to new dwellings.

S. Roche requested an amendment to recommendation 2 to reflect "21 July 2022".

P Madgwick took time to acknowledge the planning team. Noting it was a moment in the history of the West Coast to have got to the stage of notification. It is light years ahead of the current district plans who "barely give a nod to Tangata whenua". Well done.

Moved (P. Madgwick/S. Roche) the committee;

1. *Receive the report and;*

2. *That the final draft Te Tai o Poutini Plan be adopted by the Te Tai o Poutini Plan Committee for legal public notification as the Proposed Te o Poutini Plan by Thursday 21 July 2022 and;*
3. *That the submission period for the Proposed Te Tai o Poutini Plan be from the date of notification to 5pm Friday 30th September 2022.*

Against: Cr Allan Birchfield

Carried

Update on draft National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity

Edith Bretherton took the report as read and spoke to the report. Clarification was sought as to the purpose of the report, E Bretherton confirmed the funding is to help councils and landowners.

Cr Martin suggested a submission be made to select committee on the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity. L Easton confirmed submissions on National Policy Statement (NPS) are not heard by select committee, reports are put forward.

E Bretherton advised she is part of a biodiversity working group across all councils and will put forward the concerns raised by Cr Martin.

S Roche agreed a collaboration of Mayors, Chairs and Iwi would benefit the submission.

Chair Williams asked the committee if the members would like the TTPP Committee to make a submission or for the submission process to remain with Regional Council and Westland Council. Mayor Cleine stated a cover letter or wording within the submission could reflect position of the TTPP Committee sufficiently. Chair Williams recommended the submission would return to the Mayors, Chairs, Iwi forum for further discussion.

Moved (A.Becker/T.Gibson) *the committee receives this report*

Carried

Project Manager's Report

Jo Armstrong spoke to the report. Main focus of the planning team was on Schedule 1 processes, notifying the plan, training, and tutorial session. Hard copies of the plan to be delivered to 19 venues across the West Coast Region.

The TTPP Notification timeline was discussed, notification of the plan scheduled for 14 July 2022. Submissions on the plan close on 30 September 2022.

Cr Martin suggested optimising the four councils' communication channels, to strategically streamline the notification. Noted the communications are critical suggesting a two-minute Youtube video to inform residents on how to use the E-Plans. For the plan to be effective Cr Martin recommended resourcing electronic devices to be publicly accessible to support residents to be engaged in the online platform.

Cr Martin requested when the plan is notified for clear communication to be circulated to all elected members of the four councils.

Mayor Cleine agreed with Cr Martin, highlighting the benefit of staff to organize a TTPP specific induction to be included for all incoming committee members. Cr Martin added, advice to be given to the chief executives regarding dates for when new committee members must be chosen and when the next meetings will be held after the elections.

Chair Williams asked if section 32 reports are presented to the TTPP Committee, L Easton advised the reports are read by internal staff, the project manager and the Chairman to understand the rationale.

Chair Williams asked how the committee can make submissions, L Easton advised reports will be provided in the September meeting entailing recommendations to submit on. Chair Williams suggested the meeting is held in person. S.Roche supported an in person meeting. Chair Williams asked J Armstrong to source a venue for the final meeting of 8 September 2022 to be held in person.

Moved (J.Cliene /A. Becker) *That the report is received.*

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

Mayor Cleine acknowledged Chair Williams, J Armstrong, L. Easton, E. Bretherton and elected members for their involvement in the Te Tai Poutini Plan. Noting the West Coast is well ahead a lot of councils and districts with the reforms in the Resource Management Act.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance.

The meeting closed at 11:33 a.m

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held in person at West Coast Regional Council on Thursday, 8 September 2022, commencing at 9.00 a.m.

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Chairman

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Date

Action Points

Meeting Dates for 2022

	Type of meeting	Day, Date and Time	Venue
December	In Person / ZOOM	15 December	