

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Council Meeting
Held on Wednesday 21 October 2020
At 595 Johns Road, Harewood
Commencing at 6.29 pm**

1. PRESENT:

Councillors: Dave Coll, Richard O’Keefe, Alan Strong (Chair), Graeme Nahkies, Trevor Isitt, Rex Gibson, Phillip Musson, Stuart Henderson, Chris Brankin, Bill Southward, Ken Lee

Staff: Debbie Ambler

Public: Larry Burke, Colin Eaton, Mike Agar, Greg Tarras, Bruce Kelly, Wayne Eastwick, Michael Bate, Paul Edwards

2. APOLOGIES:

Councillors: Rasmus Gabrielsson (CEO), Daniel Maxwell

Cr Strong asked Cr Gibson to carry out a Karakia to welcome council and members the public to the meeting. A Strong suggested that due to the length of recent Council meetings, discussion would be kept to protocols of the meeting.

3. NOTIFICATION OF GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Gibson – Recent decisions made by NZC.

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

C Brankin – Now working for DoC. Could have potential conflict.
Cr’s Gibson and Southward members of the NZSAA
Cr Lee member of the RRF

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

“That the minutes from the Council meeting dated 19 August 2020 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.”

Moved: Cr Isitt Seconded: Cr Southward CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING

Nil.

ACTION SHEET

Discussion on the value of holding Council meetings in the Hurunui and Rakaia areas. Cr Strong and R Gabrielsson to progress early in 2021. These meetings

should be interactive and concentrate on issues within the area rather than a full Council meeting.

6. MEETING BUSINESS

6a i Appointee to NZC

Cr Strong advised the resignation of Cr Knight from both NCFG and NZC Councils.

“That Cr Gibson be the primary NCFG NZC representative with Cr Coll acting as backup.”

Moved: Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr Southward

CARRIED

6a ii. Improving Future Council Diversity

Future development of the NCFG Council was discussed with emphasis placed on diversification of its members. It was suggested to co-opt 2-3 positions starting February 2021 with the intent of teaching what Council do and aiming for participants to enter the election process for Council late 2021.

“NCFG Council is committed to bringing greater diversity and balance to our Council, specifically to encourage women and younger individuals to express interest. R Gabrielson is instructed to seek applications with the view to co-opt members to Council by February 2021 until end of term (October 2021) whereby they will be encouraged to stand for Council in the new term.”

Moved: Cr Strong

Seconded: Cr Southward

CARRIED

Cr O’Keefe against

6a iii. Mai Mai Funds for Research into Vehicle Impacts on Greenpark Sands

Funding was sought to continue the study on the impacts of off road vehicle activities on Greenpark Sands. The research is to determine the values attributed to the Conservation area, how it is used and the opinions regarding impacts and alternative strategies for their mitigation.

“That Council approve the use of \$8,000.00 from the Maimai Fund for a Lincoln University Masters student to carry out research on the effect of vehicle impacts on Greenpark Sands.

Moved: Cr Coll

Seconded: Cr Southward

CARRIED

6a iv Finance Report

D Ambler to provide

1. 20/21 Cashflow Forecast to Council as soon as ready.
2. to include in future Financial Reports depreciation and Capital Expenditure Report.
3. To supply the draft PNL to August 2020.

It was noted the McIntyre Bequest was now fully reinstated.

“That Council approve expenditure from the Asset Replacement Fund of \$41,647.77 to purchase a new vehicle.”

Moved: Cr O’Keefe

Seconded: Cr Musson

CARRIED

Cr Isitt raised the matter of outstanding debts of prosecutions.

“That R Gabriellson approach the Court Bailiff to enforce the collection of outstanding fines.”

Moved: Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr Lee

CARRIED

6a v Applications to Hold a Fishing Competition

1. New Zealand Salmon Anglers Association (NZSAA)

C Eaton explained they were currently updating their rule book for the competition due to new fishing regulations and Covid 19. Noted that heads and stomachs of salmon caught during the competition be kept for analysis by fish and game staff.

“That approval is given to NZSAA to hold their fishing competition on Saturday 13th March 2021.”

Moved: Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr Coll

CARRIED

Cr’s Gibson and Southward abstained from voting

2. Rakaia River Fishing Promotions (RRFP)

W Eastwick explained the changes in the way they would be running their competition including a special category/prize for catch and release.

“That approval is given to RRFP to hold their fishing competition on 25th – 28th February 2021.”

Moved: Cr Coll

Seconded: Cr Musson

CARRIED

Cr Lee abstained from voting

6b i Review of Reserves Policy

Cr Strong updated council on the correspondence about the discussion document provided by Ray Grubb. It was discussed that this was not a policy document only a discussion document and agreed that feedback would be provided by NCF&G.

6b ii Resource Allocation Review Update

Cr Strong reported he was on the steering committee for the reference group who report back to NZC for the resource allocation review. The review is partially funded by DoC with independent review results to NZC after Christmas.

6b iv Increasing Opportunities – Summer Duck Hunting

NCFG Council was asked to consider and discuss the test/possible introduction of a summer duck hunting season in early 2021. The possibility to have a summer endorsement on the gamebird licence to enable targeted research was discussed.

Concern was expressed on the effect a summer season would have on populations. Would need very careful monitoring.

“That the NCFG Council support the proposal in principle and ask staff to provide a feasibility study and discussion document on any rule change for a summer duck hunting season by December 2020.”

Moved: Cr Coll

Seconded: Cr Musson

CARRIED

6b v Gamebird Regulation Submission from Christchurch Rod and Gun Club

A submission for a rule change to the pheasant season – extending the season to three weekends instead of one (one weekend over June, July and August) was received.

“That the submission be given to staff to consider when reviewing the 2021 Gamebird regulations.”

Moved: Cr Musson

Seconded: Cr Southward

CARRIED

6b vi Licence Sales Trends in the North Canterbury Region

Concern was raised that South Island regions continue to heavily subsidising North Island regions. More work required to capture lapsed licence holders.

7 REPORTS

7a Chairman's Report

Reported that the finalisation of the 2019/20 year end accounts was underway, meeting with owners of Glenthorne Station, the meeting with ministerial reviewers and resource allocation review.

"That the Chairman's Report be received."

Moved: Cr Musson

Seconded: Cr Southward

CARRIED

7b CEO Report

Reported on meetings held with regional and district councils, trout monitoring, on land use impacts and the planning for a Trout Fishing Festival. Work undertaken to replace access signage; negotiating and submitting on a habitat protection and enhancement proposal.

"That CEO's Report be received."

Moved: Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr Southward

CARRIED

7c Chief Executive Employment Committee Report

G Nahkies reported that due to the absence of R Gabrielsson a more formal and structured review would be undertaken mid 2021.

8 PUBLIC SESSION

- a. M Bate presented updated information on the health of the Kaiapoi Lakes and surrounding areas. Agreed that he continue to work with Cr Gibson and R Gabrielsson to further this issue.
- b. P Edwards thanked R Gabrielsson for attending the recent Christchurch Rod and Gun Club meeting.
- c. B Kelly asked for NCFG to keep stakeholders regularly updated on events and generally what is happening in the NC region.

9 GENERAL BUSINESS

- a. Cr Gibson voiced his concern regarding the recent decision by NZC to review its stance on pheasant reserves.

"That the Chairman write to NZC stating the NCFG Council does not support NZC's recent decision to review their position on pheasant reserves."

Moved: Cr Gibson

Seconded: Cr Isitt

CARRIED

"That the Chairman write to NZC questioning the legitimacy on the process taken on their decision on pheasant reserves."

Moved: Cr O'Keefe

Seconded: Cr Musson

CARRIED

“That staff be tasked to evaluate legitimate releases of pheasants and gamebirds and provide an overview of what can and can’t be done.”

Moved: Cr Isitt Seconded: C Brankin CARRIED

- b. Cr Gibson questioned the process and decision made by NZC regarding the non-resident licence revenue to become part of the general reserve where the annual levy is calculated.

“That the Chairman write to NZC stating NCFG Council’s opposition to NZC decision to have the NRL become part of the general reserve.”

Moved: Cr Gibson Seconded: Cr Isitt CARRIED

Cr O’Keefe against

- c. Cr Gibson stated his extreme disappointment at NZC to weaken their stance on trout farming.

“That the Chairman write to NZC stating NCFG Council’s;

1. Opposition to NZC decision to any relaxation of the rules around trout farming, and

2. Importation of trout flesh.”

Moved: Cr Gibson Seconded: Cr Southward CARRIED

Vote 5 for 3 against

- d. It was agreed that those who want to speak in the Public Session submit their topic in writing to council prior to the meeting to ensure Council members are prepared to answer any questions raised.

- e. **“Due to the unavailability of Cr Coll to attend the next NZC meeting 20-22 November 2020, Cr Musson was nominated to attend on his behalf.”**

Moved: Cr O’Keefe Seconded: C Brankin CARRIED

- f. Cr Southward asked that R Gabrielsson follow up on no vehicle access to braided rivers on the Rakaia River.

As there was no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15pm and moved into a Public Excluded meeting.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Date

**Next Meeting:
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 9 December 2020
6.30pm
595 Johns Road, Harewood**