

**MINUTES OF THE HAWKE'S BAY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE ON TUESDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2022 AT 6:00PM**

**PRESENT:**

Councillors Bates (Chairman), Lumsden, Bowcock, Melville, Newton, Slavin (Callum),  
Williams

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Jesse Friedlander (Regional Manager), Carmel Veitch (NZC Accountant)

**1 Welcome (6.00 PM)**

Cr. Bates welcomed everyone to the meeting and informed those in attendance that the meeting would be audio-recorded.

**2 Apologies**

Apologies received from Cr. Duley, Mackay, Slavin (Blair), Niblett

**3 Minutes of the previous meetings (December 2021)**

Cr. Williams did not move that the H&S report be accepted as he was an apology for this meeting. This will be rectified.

*3.1 That having previously been circulated to members, the minutes of the meetings of the Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Council held on 7 December 2021 are a true and accurate record with the above change noted.*  
*Bowcock/Lumsden*

**4 Matters Arising**

It was questioned whether there had been any progress on placing toilets at popular public fishing accesses. Staff have contacted HBRC and are waiting to hear back regarding suitable locations/maintenance arrangements.

**5 Notification of Items of General Business**

- Continuation of HBF&GC governance advisor.

**6 Conflict of Interest Register**

Cr. Newton declared an interest as a director of the National Trout Centre.

**7 Health and Safety Report**

*That Council accepts the health and safety report*  
*Newton/Lumsden*

## **8 Finance Report**

Council thanked Carmel for attending the meeting. Cr. Newton questioned figures on **Table 1**. This is expenditure shown against the annual budget.

Carmel provided Council with an overview of the F&G financial system and the new tables in the HB finance report as requested by Council at the previous meeting.

It was suggested that staff investigate alternatives to Zoom to reduce costs. Microsoft Teams or Google Meetings could be used.

At this point, Carmel Veitch exited the video conference and Council thanked her for her attendance.

**6.1 That the payments for November and December 2021 totalling \$94,413.62 be approved.**

<i>November 2021</i>	<i>\$64,591.37</i>
<i>December 2021</i>	<i>\$31,942.46</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$96,533.83</i>

**6.2 That the Finance Report be accepted for the 2 months ended 31 December 2021.**  
*Bowcock/Newton*

## **8 Council Priorities**

Cr. Newton feels that the priorities need to be narrowed down to focus on a smaller number.

Cr. Bates questioned what everyone's top priorities are. This is the time for councillors to put forward what they are passionate about.

Cr. Newton is particularly interested in education, improving our relationships with iwi and rural NZ and the development of the Game Farm into an educational facility.

Cr. Slavin's top priorities are building/improving habitat, growing opportunities for hunters and anglers, improving access and making more public land available where possible.

Cr. Melville prioritised licence sales and education of anglers and hunters including those who don't have the opportunity to learn from family members. Retaining the resource including access and water quality are also priorities. Maybe some areas of focus such as partnering with predator free organisations could be left to other organisations. We also need to look at justifying our sports. This includes an increased focus around harvesting for food rather than sport.

Cr. Lumsden prioritised the right of licenceholders to fish and hunt including the retention of social licence. Cycleways encroaching on upland game hunting areas is a big issue and is causing safety concerns.

Jesse will formulate this into a draft list of priorities and a draft OWP will be presented to Council at the next meeting.

## **9. Anglers Notice**

Hawke's Bay F&GC has tried to simplify regulations over the last twenty years and if there is any way that we could further simplify our fishing regulations, we should do this.

We have some waters with slotting sizes. Are these fit for purpose or do they over-complicate unnecessarily?

**3.1 That Council agrees to the consultation process and time frame for considering changes to the 2022/23 Anglers Notice.**

**3.2 That Council identifies any issues for further discussion in the initial "Issues and Options" paper to be prepared in April.**

*Williams/Melville*

## **10 Cultural Harvest**

Cr. Mackay has put some points forward via email:

1 what's our goal, reduction of numbers, or another form of feeding the family.

2 who/how do we educate harvesters to achieve our goal.

3 who/ how do we monitor to ensure against over harvest.

This would be a trial and data would be gathered on the harvest. The initial number of eggs authorised for harvest would be small and follow up monitoring on brood numbers carried out.

We need towards better relationships with mana whenua. Potentially this trial could be expanded to include other areas/species at a later stage.

***That Council discusses the paper presented on cultural harvest of swan eggs and approves the cultural harvest of swan egg trial for the 2022 season.***

*Lumsden/Newton*

## **11 Management Report**

Cr. Newton expressed disappointment that the childrens fishing day could not be run during the current covid restrictions. Due to the close contact required and social distancing requirements, it has not been possible to run the event although smaller training events will still be run.

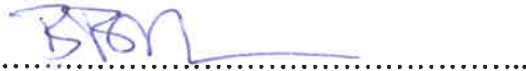
## **12 Licence Sales Report**

***That Council accepts this licence sales report***

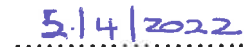
*Bowcock/Lumsden*

**13      General Business**

Council discussed the employment arrangement of our governance advisor (Sam Robinson) and whether it was still necessary for an advisor to attend every meeting. Agreement that the input of our governance advisor has been extremely valuable and ongoing support would be beneficial as required. Perhaps he could attend every second meeting in future or as required. Cr. Bates will discuss with Sam.

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Chairman Bruce Bates

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Date