

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Council Meeting
Held on Wednesday 9 DECEMBER 2020
At 595 Johns Road, Harewood
Commencing at 6.29 pm**

1. PRESENT:

Councillors: Dave Coll, Richard O’Keefe, Alan Strong (Chair), Trevor Isitt, Rex Gibson, Phillip Musson, Stuart Henderson, Chris Brankin (Ngai Tahu Rep), Ken Lee

Staff: Rasmus Gabrielsson, Debbie Ambler

Public: Michael Bate, Richard Cosgrove (S/I Communications Advisor), Carmel Veitch (NZC Accountant), Paula Smith (CACB)

2. APOLOGIES:

Councillors: Graeme Nahkies (Governance Specialist), Daniel Maxwell (Federated Farmers Rep), Bill Southward

Cr Gibson opened the meeting with a Karakia.

3. NOTIFICATION OF GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

“That the minutes from the Council meeting dated 21 October 2020 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.”

Moved: Cr Coll

Seconded: Cr Lee

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING

Nil.

ACTION SHEET

- Development of an educational and promotional strategy for gamebird – workshops to be held in the new year.
- NCFG 10 Year Salmon Management Plan – expecting confirmation from Government early March 2021 on season bag limit change.
- Botulism/Toxic Poison on Waterfowl – Cr Gibson added to WDC mailing list on subject. No cases reported as yet for this year.

6. MEETING BUSINESS

6a i Gamebird Regulation Options

Points raised in discussion:

- Have season for mallards same as CSI as more sensible to have same weekends;
- Measure outcomes;
- Recommendations decided on last three years of surveys;
- Status quo on other regulations.

“That NCFG Council adopt the following staff recommendations:

1. Open a summer mallard hunting season on the first two weekends in February (in line with CSI), with a daily bag limit of 10 mallards. This will apply to both areas A and B. Hunting is only permitted over paddocks and must be more than 200m from any water body.

2. Extend the pheasant hunting season from one weekend to three weekends being the first Saturday in June (excluding Queens Birthday weekend) with a daily bag limit of one cock pheasant.

3. If approved, it is also recommended that any potential impacts, adverse or otherwise, of these regulation changes be monitored with the use of additional phone harvest surveys to cover these periods.”

Moved: Cr Isitt Seconded: Cr Musson CARRIED

6a ii. Co-Opt to Council – Selection Process

Cr Strong advised positions were advertised with 25-30 people expressing interest thus far. Decision taken to look at three people to co-opt to Council with the remaining forming a focus group to assist Council with outlining a 10 year salmon management plan.

Cr Strong to follow up with Emily Craig as possible candidate for co-option to Council.

Process:

That a selection committee be formed from interested Councillors.

“That Cr’s Musson, Isitt, Coll and Henderson from a selection committee to co-opt members to Council”.

Moved: Cr Lee Seconded: C Brankin CARRIED
Cr Lee advised conflict of interest.

That an information evening be held late January 2021 with a view to come back to Council with a decision on who to co-opt and who to include in the focus group. That a specific Council meeting be held early February 2021.

Timeframe for advising prospective candidates:

1. Set and advise date for a meeting in late January 2021 for candidates who have expressed an interest;
2. Hold an information evening late January 2021;
3. Send reminder to candidates two weeks prior to January meeting.

6a iii. Appointee to NZC

Cr Coll advised he was happy to continue to represent NCFG at NZC meetings.

After discussion a vote was held as two nominees were considered:

Moved: Cr Isitt	Seconded: Cr O’Keefe	Cr Coll as nominee	5 for
Moved: Cr Brankin	Seconded: Cr Gibson	Cr Musson as nominee	2 for

Cr Strong to advise NZC of result.

6a iv. Funding for Winding Creek Weed Spraying

\$5,000.00 was sought from each organisation regarding a three-way contribution between NCFG, DoC and Flock Hill for weed control.

“That staff conduct a site visit to inspect the weed control issue and meet with representatives from Flock Hill to explore options for developing a long term weed management plan for the buffer zones retired from grazing to protect freshwater values”.

Moved: C Brankin Seconded: Cr Musson CARRIED

The outcomes of the visit be reported back to Council in February 2021.

6a v. Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere Hunting

Staff were asked to provide a response to an enquiry regarding boat hunting on Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere.

“That Council do not currently need to further regulate or restrict boat hunting methods on Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere”.

Moved: Cr Henderson Seconded: Cr Isitt CARRIED

R Gabrielsson to communicate finding back to T Lassen.

6b a. Chairman’s Report

Tabled at Council AGM.

6b b. Chief Executive Report

Reported on:

- the finalisation of the 2019/2020 Annual Report and Statement of Performance.
- 80 resource consents reviewed.
- Staff partaking in a collaborative fishery survey looking at hupua-lagoon fish communities in Ashburton, Rangitata and Rakaia lagoons and lower braids.
- Lake Coleridge fishing competition was completed.
- Co-hosted a Trout Fishing Festival.
- Carried out stream health assessments and habitat monitoring on salmon spawning and rearing stream in Glenariffe, Cass Hill, Bullock Creek and Winding Creek.
- Attended fish screen meeting.
- Met with Ngai Tahu and DoC to discuss joint projects on Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere.

- Talked with Iwi regarding better management of cultural harvest.
- Lake Sumner toilet installed.
- Electric fishing for ongoing monitoring was carried out on Snake Creek sites.
- Gamebird harvest surveys were carried out.
- Two ranger information meetings were held.

“That the CEO Report be accepted”.

Moved: Cr Coll

Seconded: Cr Musson

CARRIED

6b c. Finance Report

“That the Finance Report be presented monthly via email on the 25th of each month when there is no Council meeting. Comment made by email and resolution of the monthly financial reports be at the next Council meeting.”

Moved: Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr Gibson

CARRIED

“That the finance report be accepted for the month ending 31 October 2020.”

Moved: Cr Musson

Seconded: Cr Henderson

CARRIED

6b d. Health and Safety Report

R Gabrielsson report a Health and Safety Audit of NCFG would be completed early 2021. Cr O’Keefe asked that the Health and Safety Report be written going forward. Cr Lee advised that owners of Montrose be notified when staff head up to hatchery site.

“That the verbal Health and Safety Report be received.”

Moved: Cr Gibson

Seconded: Cr Lee

CARRIED

6b e. Chief Executive Employment Committee Report

To be dealt with in Public Excluded.

6b f. NZC Report

Cr Musson reported on matters discussed at the recent NZC meeting. Agreed this Report was very good and detailed.

“That the NZC Report be received.”

Moved: Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr O’Keefe

CARRIED

General Business was brought forward at this point.

8. General Business

Cr Isitt outlined his frustration at the lack of response to a sponsored fish release into the Groyne fishing lakes over the Christmas / summer holiday period and of the difficulty to source appropriately priced fish to enable the release to occur.

R Gabrielsson to co-ordinate a meeting with the sponsor, and Cr’s Coll and Strong arrange the maintenance of the Groyne fish screens.

7. Public Session

M Bate presented a slide show on the lack of aquatic life and bird life around the Ararira / LII River, Te Waihora / Ellesmere and Harts Creek/Waitatari. He wanted more pressure to be put on ECan to stop the alleged chemical weed spraying.

Cr Strong agreed that NCFG want the problem fixed as well. R Gabrielsson to write a letter to the Ararira / LII River Committee stating concerns. M Bate to be kept informed.

Cr Strong advised the meeting would now move into "Public Excluded" at 4.40pm.

Signed:

Chairman

Date

Next Meeting:

Council Meeting
Wednesday 17 February 2020
6.30pm
595 Johns Road, Harewood