

**NORTHLAND FISH & GAME COUNCIL
CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD AT THE NORTHLAND FISH & GAME OFFICE
NELL PLACE, WHANGAREI
7.00 PM FRIDAY 30th January 2015**

PRESENT:

Chairman: Dave Nicholson

Councillors: Kris Batelaan, Maurice Blyde, Phillip Durham, Chris Lynch, Mike Newson, Cameron Shanks, Mark Williamson.

**Conservation
Board Member:**

Richard Robbins

Staff: Rudi Hoetjes (Manager), Fay Stodart (Office Administrator)

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the table.

APOLOGIES: Leo Leonard, Wayne Pepper
Nicola Douglas (Department of Conservation)

It was moved: *That those apologies are accepted.*

Maurice Blyde/Mike Newson **CARRIED.**

Previous Minutes

At the last Council meeting, a procedure in the minutes was executed incorrectly. The Council discussed the correct procedure as stated in the Governance Manual and agreed to change the minutes.

It was resolved: *That the amended minutes of the meeting held on the 5th December 2014 are confirmed as true and correct.*

Mike Newson/Maurice Blyde **CARRIED.**

Matters Arising

The Northland Fish and Game Habitat Trust

The Chairman of the Northland Fish & Game Habitat Trust signed off the year-end financial accounts. There has been no notification from the auditors of any proposed changes in the state sector on the accountability of public entities.

Councillor Resignation

An official letter was sent to the Minister advising the Minister of the resignation of Councillor Mason Elliott. A public notice was placed in the local papers and all clubs were advised of the vacancy on the Northland Fish & Game Council in December. To date no licence holder has requested a by election or candidacy papers.

Wetland Workshop

The Manager updated the Council on the wetland workshop programme which is being organised in February. A film crew will film one of the workshops in constructing and creating wetlands and make a CD for promotional purposes.

Managers Operational Report

The Council considered the Operational report on a page-by-page exception basis with discussion or further clarification occurring on some items.

1111 Aerial Trend Counts

The Manager informed Council that the aerial trend counts were completed on the 22nd January 2015. A memorandum for the final recommendations to Council was distributed to Council members for consideration later in the meeting.

1181 Game Bird Dispersal

The Council is still very busy hiring out gas guns to disperse mainly Paradise Shelduck from Chicory. The Council has also issued a number of permits to landowners to disperse and destroy birds from crops and gardens.

1241 Purchasing Properties

The Manager presented a series of aerial photos taken of the Underwood property in Dargaville. The board members of the Nature Heritage Fund meet in April and will discuss and consider the application to purchase the Underwood property.

1333 Regional Newsletter

The preparation of the regional newsletter is well underway which will be issued as an insert with the Fish & Game magazine in March. Councillor Birchall questioned whether the vacancy for the Councillors be advertised in the regional newsletter. The Manager advised the Council that there will be a mention on the upcoming elections for Council members in November this year.

1411 Conservation Board & Department of Conservation

The Council received a letter from the Department of Conservation thanking Fish & Game for a great educational and enjoyable field trip on the 6th December. The Manager presented some photos taken on the day of the field trip.

It was moved: **That the Manager's Report is received.**

Kris Batelaan/Chris Lynch

CARRIED.

2015 Game Gazette Notice Final Recommendations

The air charter company the Council used the previous year for the trend counts, no longer held the appropriate certificates so the Council engaged Flight Hauraki this year which is based from Ardmore Airport. The hourly charter rate increased considerably which meant the number of sites counted was reduced to meet budget constraints and to meet the time allocation availability of the pilot.

The Council discussed the Manager's recommendation. The Manager recommended some further changes to the Game Season Gazette:

That the Paradise Shelduck daily bag limits are increased to 25 birds per day for the open season from 2 May to 2 August 2015 and for the Special Paradise Shelduck weekend being held over the 27th & 28th February 2016, the daily bag limit remains at 20 birds per day.

That the Black Swan daily bag limits remain at 15 birds per day for the open season from 2 May to 2 August 2015. The Council approves a 2 day season on Black Swan throughout the Northland region during the weekend of 27th and 28th February 2016 with the daily bag limit of 15 birds per day.

It was moved: *The 2015-16 Game Season Gazette recommendations are accepted as per the Manager's recommendations.*

Noel Birchall/Chris Lynch *CARRIED.*

Governance Councillor Performance Review

Governance Policy 11.3.2 states that "The Council shall every 12 months carry out a review of its performance" The Council's Performance Evaluation Review is on an annual basis which will be held at the first meeting of each calendar year.

All reports from all Councillors were collected by the Chairman. The Chairman will collate all of the results and convey them at the next Council meeting.

Financial Report for period ending 31st December 2015

It was moved: *That the Manager's Financial Report is adopted.*

Kris Batelaan/Mark Williamson *CARRIED.*

Executive Limitations Report

It was moved: *That the Executive Limitations Report is received.*

Chris Lynch/Phil Durham *CARRIED.*

Managers Annual Performance Review

Resolution to Exclude the Public

Into Committee

Resolved: *Cameron Shanks/ Mike Newson* *CARRIED.*

Reason: The reason the public is excluded is to protect the privacy of a living person.

Grounds: The grounds for excluding the public are that the public conduct of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would likely result in disclosure of information, where the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of living persons.

Out of Committee.

Resolved: Phil Durham/ Kris Batelaan **CARRIED.**

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.25pm



Dave Nicholson
Chairman
10th April 2015