

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE REGULATORY AND BUSINESS SUPPORT OF THE GREY DISTRICT COUNCIL**Held in Council Chambers, 105 Tainui Street, Greymouth****on Monday 29 July 2024 commencing at 2:00 pm**

PRESENT: Cr Rex MacDonald (Chair)
Mayor Tania Gibson, Councillor Allan Gibson, Councillor John Canning, Councillor Peter Davy, Councillor Kate Kennedy, Councillor Robert Mallinson, Councillor Jack O'Connor (via Zoom), Councillor Tim Mora

IN ATTENDANCE: Paul Pretorius (Acting Chief Executive), Neil Engelbrecht (Finance Manager), Trish Jellyman (Democracy Advisor), Shannon Beynon (Communication & Engagement Manager)

1 APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1.1 APOLOGIES

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FRABS 24/07/001

Moved: Mayor Tania Gibson

Seconded: Cr John Canning

That the apology from Kw Francois Tumahai be accepted and a leave of absence granted.

Carried Unanimously

1.2 UPDATES TO THE INTERESTS REGISTER

There were no updates to the Interest Register.

1.3 IDENTIFY ANY CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS IN THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest.

1.4 NOTIFICATION OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items.

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

2.1 CONFIRMATION OF THE FINANCE REGULATORY AND BUSINESS SUPPORT COMMITTEE HELD ON 17 JUNE 2024

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FRABS 24/07/002

Moved: Cr Robert Mallinson

Seconded: Cr Tim Mora

That the minutes of the Finance Regulatory and Business Support Committee held on 17 June 2024 be confirmed as true and correct.

Carried Unanimously

3 AGENDA ITEMS

3.1 REGULATORY, RECREATION, BUSINESS SUPPORT AND CUSTOMER SERVICES REPORT

Refer page 15 of the agenda.

The Acting CE advised that the format of the report aims to give Council as much information as possible, he welcomed feedback as to whether or not Councillors feel it gives enough information.

Cr Canning asked when the TiGA Minerals appeal might be heard. The Acting CE undertook to follow up on this.

Cr Mora asked when the Animal Control bylaw is likely to be reviewed. The Acting CE stated that this is in progress.

The Acting CE agreed to provide a full breakdown of costs for dog registration to a constituent of Cr Kennedy's who has requested this.

Cr Mora asked about the comment in the report regarding the maximum number of memberships at the WRC being reached and asked if this means there is a software issue. The Acting CE offered to follow up on this and to report back to all Councillors.

Cr Mora asked about a problem with the roof at the WRC. It was confirmed that this problem relates to a small area around the pool entrance.

Cr Mora asked why the security audit for IT is going to take a year. The Acting CE offered to provide a full report on this matter once the ICT Manager returns from leave. It was agreed that the ICT Manager would present to the next meeting.

The Chairman spoke of some Snap Send Solve requests that have been handed over to the Utilities Team. It was agreed that these would be followed up with the CRSM.

Cr Mallinson pointed out that he had before asked that the IT vulnerabilities section of this report be moved to the In Committee section of the meeting. The Acting CE agreed with this request and advised that the ICT Manager would be made aware of this request.

Cr Kennedy commented that it is good to see that the owners of the Honey Café at Kumara are now the operators of the new café at the WRC. Her Worship confirmed that the new café opens today.

Cr Mora asked what the \$1.6M overdue debt relates to. The Acting CE confirmed this amount includes all monies owed to Council, not only rates.

The FM confirmed that the \$1.6M relates to rates, and fees and charges. He agreed that going forward, rates debt would be kept separate from other debt. It was also agreed that a list of debtors would be provided to Councillors for the next meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FRABS 24/07/003

Moved: Cr Allan Gibson

Seconded: Cr John Canning

That the Finance Regulatory and Business Support Committee:

- a) Receives the report and notes the contents.

Carried Unanimously

3.2 FINANCE REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30 JUNE 2024

Refer page 40 of the agenda.

Her Worship pointed to the provisional shortfall and confirmed that measures are being put in place that will provide Council with the ability to manage its finances better into the future.

The FM spoke to this report. He stated that Council budgeted a shortfall of \$3.439M but was in fact further overspent by another \$800,000. The final position will only be known once the final year end wash up is done.

He stated that cashflows are running a bit lower than expected. He is working on what controls can be put in place going forward. He is also working on overruns. He advised that he will be working closely with managers to ensure that budgets are kept on track.

Cr Mallinson asked when is the first draft of the Annual Report expected.

The FM confirmed that this is an interim result and the final number is likely to be included in the first draft of the Annual Report which is expected around the middle of September.

Cr Mallinson indicated that he would have expected this earlier.

The Acting CE reminded Councillors that Council is functioning without a manager and a consultant is being used in the finance area. He offered to talk this process through with Cr Mallinson should he have any concerns.

In response to a question from Cr Mora, the FM confirmed that the majority of subsidies and grants relate to NZTA claims.

Her Worship stated there will be no cost overruns with budgets without Council approval from hereon in, there will be some tightening and changes which is what Council has been asking for.

It was confirmed that Mr Murray Staite is assisting in the financial area.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FRABS 24/07/004

Moved: Cr Rex MacDonald

Seconded: Cr Allan Gibson

That the Finance Regulatory and Business Support Committee:

- a) Receives the report and notes the contents.

Carried Unanimously

3.3 ACTIVITY BASED MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30 JUNE 2024

Refer page 45 of the agenda.

The FM spoke to this report and advised that going forward he will be providing a lot more detail to Council especially with regard to any budget overspending which will now require Council approval.

Cr Mallinson stated that he had asked previously if staff could look at totalling some of the big revenue expenditure items in each activity statement. He stated that he would still like to see this.

The Chairman stated that he would also like to see this information.

The Acting CE stated that he would like to sit with Cr Mallinson to discuss what format he would like to see in this report.

The Acting CE confirmed his commitment to reduce the amount spent on consultants but at the moment he has no other option. He confirmed that the GMO position will not be filled until the new CE is on board and that he is acting in this role too. He stated that due to the staffing situation he has no option but to use finance consultants as Council has to provide an Annual Report.

The Chairman stated that this is a very prudent approach as Council cannot be exposed during this time.

Cr Gibson asked for further clarification on insurance variance. The FM advised that this is a classification between the various statements. He agreed to circulate further insurance information to Council.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FRABS 24/07/005

Moved: Cr Tim Mora

Seconded: Cr Kate Kennedy

That the Finance Regulatory and Business Support Committee:

- (a) Receive the report and note the contents.

Carried Unanimously

4 IN COMMITTEE ITEMS

That the public is excluded from this part of the meeting in relation to:

Agenda item 4.1

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FRABS 24/07/006

Moved: Cr Rex MacDonald

Seconded: Mayor Tania Gibson

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
4.1 - CONFIRMATION OF IN COMMITTEE MINUTES OF FINANCE REGULATORY AND BUSINESS SUPPORT COMMITTEE HELD ON 17 JUNE 2024	s7(2)(c)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7

Carried Unanimously

5 SUB-COMMITTEE RESUMES IN OPEN MEETING

CLOSURE OR RATIFICATION OF DECISIONS IN OPEN MEETING.

The meeting concluded at 2.28pm.

Confirmed

R MacDonald

Chairperson

____/____/____

Date

UNCONFIRMED