



## MACKENZIE FORESTRY BOARD

### *Membership:*

Graeme Page (Chairman)  
Annette Money  
Graham Smith  
Evan Williams

*Notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Mackenzie  
Forestry Board  
to be held in the Council Chambers, Fairlie,  
on Tuesday 23 April 2013 at 9:30am*

**VENUE:** Council Chambers, Fairlie

**BUSINESS:** As per agenda attached

**WAYNE BARNETT**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

17 April 2013



## **MACKENZIE FORESTRY BOARD**

**Agenda for Tuesday 23 April 2013**

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### **I APOLOGIES**

### **II DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

### **III MINUTES**

Confirm and adopt as the correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Mackenzie Forestry Board held on 19 March 2013.

### **IV REPORTS**

1. Financial Report (to be tabled)
2. Delegated Authority for Period of Unavailability for the Chairman and Cr Smith

# MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE MACKENZIE FORESTRY BOARD HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, FAIRLIE, ON TUESDAY 19 MARCH 2013 AT 9.30 AM

### PRESENT:

Graeme Page (Chairman)  
Mayor Claire Barlow  
Crs Evan Williams  
Graham Smith  
Peter Maxwell  
Annette Money  
John Bishop

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Kevin O'Neill (Forester Manager)  
Paul Morris (Manager – Finance and Administration)  
Garth Nixon (Community Facilities Manager)  
Nathan Hole (Manager Planning and Regulations)  
Keri-Ann Little (Committee Clerk)  
Anne Braun – Elwert (Member of the Public)  
Colin Maclaren (Member of the Public)  
Tracey Bell (Member of the Public)  
Two Members of the Public

### I APOLOGY

There were no apologies.

### II DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no declarations of interest.

### III MINUTES:

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting of the Mackenzie Forestry Board held on 18 September 2012 be confirmed and adopted as the correct record of the meeting.

**Graham Smith/Evan Williams**

- *Cnr Smith asked the Committee for an update on the health of Mr Terry O'Neill, District Forester, following his recent accident. The Chair, Cnr Page reported he had been to visit Mr O'Neill yesterday in the Spinal Unit at Burwood Hospital in Christchurch. He reported Mr O'Neill was feeling a lot better in himself and is looking to be discharged in a month's time. Mr Chair also stated that he believes Mr O'Neill is now starting to realise some of the issues in front of him and Mr O'Neill is currently liaising with ACC about his future in his current home. Mr Chair also took this opportunity to ask Mr O'Neill various questions regarding the Lake Tekapo Plantation that were raised at the meeting last Thursday evening.*

#### **IV LAKE TEKAPO PLANTATION:**

The Chairman welcomed Lake Tekapo residents Anne Braun-Elwert, Colin Maclaren and Tracey Bell and invited Ms Braun-Elwert on behalf of the group to address the meeting regarding the Forestry Board's intention to harvest some of the trees in the Lake Tekapo Plantation.

Ms Braun-Elwert's report is Appendix A of the record.

Mr Chair called on Cr Smith to address the Committee with a report from the Public Meeting held in Lake Tekapo on the evening of Thursday 15 March. Cr Smith reported it was an interesting meeting and that he had possibly thought there would have been more people in attendance; he gave a rough indication of about 30 people in attendance. Cr Smith reported it was his belief it was an open meeting to discuss Forestry but from there it has progressed to a stage as a Forestry Board now have a lot of other issue to consider with the harvesting of the Lake Tekapo Plantation; including stumping of the plantation, irrigation and amenity planting's. Cr Smith stated that the meeting demonstrated that Lake Tekapo Residents want to maintain the Plantation and that was the main issue but felt quite confident that a resolution could be agreed on.

Cr Smith addressed the Forestry Board and stated that he recommends that due to the cost of amenity plantings, stump removal, irrigation and the felling of the trees and the share volume of work at hand that Council make the decision on the future of the Lake Tekapo Plantation.

Resolved: That Council make the decision as regards to the future of the Lake Tekapo Plantation.

**Graham Smith/ Evan Williams**

Cr Graeme Page, Chair voted in favour of the resolution.

Cr Annette Money voted against the resolution.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS  
THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 10.02 AM**

**CHAIRMAN:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Tekapo Forest – south of Murray Place

The case for delaying any decision re harvesting for a year:

1) According to a 1973 document the original purpose of the plantation was for wind shelter NOT commercial forestry:

"An Appraisal of the Tekapo Region with Specific Emphasis on Planning of the Domain" was written as part of some research for a Diploma in Landscape Architecture for the University of Canterbury, by T. C. Emmitt (B. Hort.). He writes:

*The County Council plantation to the south-east of the township was planted at the request of the Tekapo Commission for the purpose of shelter. They comprise mainly P. nigra and P. ponderosa, and although their timber value is small due to poor maintenance, their amenity value is high....*

*This area is important to the future development of Tekapo as it is a buffer against wind, smoke and smell from the local rubbish dump and sewerage works. Because of bad maintenance its timber value is rather low, and therefore it presents Tekapo with a ready-made recreation area.*

2) Even in these earlier years this document shows that the amenity value of these trees and their recreational value were recognized. Delaying felling for a year would allow time for a cost/benefit analysis to be done, assessing removal of the trees versus retaining them for recreation and aesthetic purposes; and it would allow time to set up an alternative model for management if the trees were to be retained and to estimate more accurately the cost of that.

3) If the community is to lose the best part of this forest (Section B in particular), then we deserve to be given more accurate figures regarding the value of the timber and what the revenue would be once all the costs, including amenity planting and debris removal in Section A have been allowed for.

4) Thinking ahead: say all the trees in Section B are milled and replanted as per a "normal" commercial forestry scenario with pine trees, intending to mill them again 30 or more years down the track, then we will not get back the kind of open, park-like forest we have now, because production practices have changed, meaning a much denser forest. To accommodate recreational values as much as possible in this area, any felling should be staged, instead of felling all the 65-year-old Corsican pine at once. This calls for a management plan that looks to the future of this forest as a recreational area primarily. Delaying for a year would allow time for a MP to be drawn up.

A Management Plan could cover the following:

a) In the longer term aim to have the whole of the area between Murray Place and the bottom of the hill on the south side designated as a Recreation Reserve - and explore the management options for this.

b) In the medium term allow the Forestry Board to harvest the area where they have milled before.

c) In the short term (in a year's time?) allow the milling of Section A to proceed, subject to a proper budget being drawn up, allowing for low stump cutting, debris removal by mulching and installation of a watering system and the amenity planting. (Volunteer assistance can be called on for planting.)

For Section B explore the possibility of allowing at least half of the trees to remain (according to independent advice those 63 year old Corsican pine should be good for another 20 years at least). A year's delay would give time to determine more accurately the value of those trees - both in terms of timber value, but also their other values in terms of amenity and recreation. Selectively log, as has been done previously, those which pose a windfall danger, if necessary. (Maybe Don....? could be engaged for such work - he lives in Tekapo, so would save transport costs.)

Bear in mind that this Tekapo plantation was not planted for commercial forestry purposes. It is a community asset for shelter from wind and sewerage smells as well as for recreation. More recognition needs to be given to those aspects in any decisions you make for tree felling.

## MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL

**REPORT TO:** MACKENZIE FORESTRY BOARD

**SUBJECT:** DELEGATED AUTHORITY FOR PERIOD OF UNAVAILABILITY FOR THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLOR SMITH

**MEETING DATE:** 23 APRIL 2013

**REF:** REG

**FROM:** CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

To provide for delegated authority for Forestry Board decision making during May and August 2013.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Chairman and Cr Smith are scheduled to be unavailable for a period of time during May and August 2013.

It is expected that operational activities will be occurring during this period and it is appropriate that delegated authority be given to an appropriate person or persons during this period.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. That the report be received.
2. That the Board authorise a suitable person or persons to make operational decisions on their behalf during the absence of the Chairman and Cr Smith.

**WAYNE BARNETT**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Appendix 1:  
Feasibility Study on Land Sales Achieved – Hughes Development.