

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT and **MINUTES** of a meeting of the **ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton, on Thursday 10 September 2009, commencing at 1.30 pm.

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor, M B O'Malley; Councillors R J Kilworth (Chair), L J Leadley, B A Tasker, I J Burgess, J A Kingsbury, P W Reveley and J Sparks.

Also in attendance Crs K L Holmes, N A Brown and P W Reveley; Environmental Services Manager, Building Services Manager, Regulatory Manager and Committee Secretary.

APOLOGIES: Crs R C Beavan and K W P Lowe **Sustained**

Confirmation of Minutes

"That the minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held on 30 July 2009, be taken as read and confirmed."

Leadley/Burgess **Carried**

Matters Arising

SPCA – feral cats

The Regulatory Manager advised that the SPCA definition of a feral cat differs from that of the Council. This is due to the SPCA definition in the Companion Cats Code of Welfare stating that feral cats are those which do not rely on humans for anything. Mr Humphries said that Council applies the universal definition of feral which includes wild cats in urban areas being fed by humans. Regardless of the definition the Council's Bylaw and the Health Act require any nuisance to be controlled and discussions to clarify the differing opinions are ongoing.

Private Plan Change – Carters Estate Limited (Redmond Plan Change)

1. That the report be received.
2. That Council accepts the Redmond Proposed Private Plan Change for public notification."

Tasker/Burgess **Carried**

Private Plan Change – J Skevington and J Ruane

1. That the report be received.
2. That Council accepts the Skevington Proposed Private Plan Change for public notification."

Leadley/Kingsbury **Carried**

Activity Reports

"That the reports be received."

Sparks/Reveley **Carried**

Key Performance Indicators

The Environmental Services Manager reported that the department's KPIs will now include monthly reporting. Comparisons from 2008 will be provided in future reports where ever possible.

Ashburton Aquatic Park Charitable Trust Private Plan Change

There have been no appeals made to date, with the appeal period closing tomorrow, 11 September.

District Plan Review

The Environmental Services Manager reported that to date, open days have been held in Methven, Rakaia, Hinds, Mayfield and Barrhill. There has been a good response and feedback from the members of the public who have attended.

Proposed Regional Policy Statement

Council will receive the draft chapters of the Regional Policy Statement on 8 October. The Environmental Services Manager reminded the Committee of the importance of actively participating in preparation of the Regional Policy Statement due to the Council's obligation to give effect to the RPS through its own policy and plans.

Complaints of Insanitary Buildings

The Regulatory Manager reported that action is being taken on two complaints of dangerous and insanitary buildings. The use of outbuildings for accommodation is becoming an increasing problem in the district as a result of limited housing availability and this trend is being monitored.

Air Quality

Ashburton has recorded significantly less air quality exceedences this year with 8 high pollution nights recorded for 2009, compared with 15 in 2008.

The Regulatory Manager reported that a copy of the submission made on the review of the National Environmental Standard has been received today from Environment Canterbury, provided for our information. He undertook to review the submission and assess the need for a submission to be made by the Ashburton District Council.

Law Commission report

The Law Commission's 'Alcohol in our Lives' consultation document is being submitted on by Council. DLA Councillors met yesterday to prepare a draft submission with Community Planning and Regulatory staff. The final submission will be referred to this Committee on 22 October.

CBD issues

The Regulatory Manager reported that a meeting was held with various parties on 7 September, to discuss the need to improve safety and security in the Ashburton CBD. One of the outcomes will require infringement fees to be set. Council's Bylaw provides for infringement fees to be issued. A Council workshop to determine the fees will be held prior to a report being made to Council on 24 September. Mr Humphries said that all infringement fees will be considered and not just those relating to liquor.

Animal Control

Registration of known dogs in the district is over 90% and a penalty has been applied to all unpaid dog registration fees. The Regulatory Manager reported that the animal control contractor is continuing to target specific areas of the district and this has resulted in a number of unregistered dogs being found; This had increased the number of dogs registered and corresponding revenue into the account.

Town Centre Subcommittee

Minutes of the Town Centre Subcommittee meeting, held on 27 August, were received.

Business transacted with the public excluded (2.12 pm)

“That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting:

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:

Item no	General subject of each matter to be considered:	In accordance with Section 48(1) of the Act, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:	
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Confirmation of Minutes	Sections 7(2)(i) & 7(2)(d)	Conduct of negotiations Avoid prejudice to measures protecting health or safety of members of the public

Tasker/Reveley

Carried

There being no resolutions passed, the Committee resumed in open meeting and concluded at 2.25 pm.