

Minutes of the Environmental Services Committee Meeting

held on 3 February, 2011, commencing at 1.30 pm, in the Council Chamber, 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton.

Present

His Worship the Mayor, Angus McKay; Councillors Robin Kilworth (Chair), John Leadley, Jim Burgess, Don McLeod, Peter Reveley, Jac Sparks, Alan Totty and Stuart Wilson.

In attendance

Councillors Neil Brown, Darryl Nelson and Martin Nordqvist;

Environmental Services Manager, Senior District Planner, Building Services Manager and Committee Secretary.

Two members of the public.

1 Apologies

Cr Donna Favel

Sustained

2 Extraordinary Business

Nil

3 Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held on 2 December, 2010, be taken as read and confirmed.

Reveley/Burgess

Carried

4 Matters Arising

• Park St Playcentre

The Mayor is liaising with the Playcentre in response to their concerns with pigeons roosting in the heritage tree. It was noted that ECan operates a pest liaison committee within the district but their pest management strategy does not include pigeons and there is currently no budget to address this specific problem.

5 Proposed District Plan – Hearing Procedures / Guide

1. **That** the report be received;
2. **That** Committee adopts the procedures/ guide, attached as Appendix 1, for the purpose of the hearings on the Proposed District Plan.

Leadley/Totty

Carried

6 Proposed District Plan – Out of Scope Submissions / Invalid Submissions

That the Committee holds a preliminary hearing at a future date (to be arranged) on submissions that are potentially outside the scope of the Proposed District Plan and the validity of further submissions, additional to the hearing dates scheduled in the Council Meetings Calendar 2011.

Burgess/McLeod

Carried

7 Waiver of late Further Submissions / Invalid Submissions

That pursuant to Section 37 of the Resource Management Act 1991, Council approves the waiver of compliance with the time limit for lodging further submissions on the Proposed District Plan in respect of the submissions made by –

- Manse Street Homes Ltd, 81 Manse Street, Hampstead, Ashburton.
Received 15 November 2010.
- F A McKenzie, 86 Woodvale Road, RD8, Ashburton.
Received 15 November 2010.
- W and M Muckle, 3954 Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road, RD1, Ashburton.
Received 15 November 2010.
- M Cretney, 382 Alford Forest Cemetery Road, RD1, Ashburton.
Received 6 December 2010.
- Federated Farmers, PO Box 414, Ashburton.
Received on 24 November 2010.

Leadley/McLeod

Carried

8 Activity Reports

That the reports be received.

Reveley/Wilson

Carried

• Resource Consent Appeal – Art Gallery & Museum

Reference was made to recent media comments that suggested a number of Councillors are against the current position Council holds. Staff were asked whether there is a way that Councillors could be kept informed without affecting the mediation process.

The Senior District Planner explained that the discussion was held on a private and 'without prejudice' basis, in accordance with mediation process. The Committee heard that final agreement is yet to be reached. It was noted that because some parties to the appeal did not attend and their representatives were unable to obtain their agreement; a final statement for public release has not yet been obtained.

A copy of the Commissioner's decision will be included on Council's web site.

• District Plan review

The first hearing will take place on 23 February, on the Arowhenua Marae. All Councillors have been invited to take part in the visit to the Marae.

• Draft Regional Policy Statement

Staff participated in a workshop with Commissioner Skelton at Environment Canterbury yesterday. The proposed draft RPS will be notified in March, subject to approval of a report by ECan on 2 March.

• Ashburton River recreational water quality

ECan monitoring has revealed that the acceptable level of faecal E coli has been exceeded in the Ashburton River. The source of contamination is unknown.

It was noted that ECan monitors the area above and below the black billed gull colony where the water quality is low, however this conflicts somewhat with Council's monitoring site below the colony where a better result has been found.

The Committee agreed that, through ECan's annual plan submission process, a request will be made for an investigation into the causes of this pollution.

That the Canterbury Water Management Zone Committee be requested to carry out a study of the threats to water quality in the Ashburton River.

Mayor/Sparks

Carried

- **Sections with fire hazards**

Discussion took place on the annual recurrence of overgrown sections and absentee property owners. It was reported that, where necessary, Council undertakes the clearing of sections and invoices the property owner.

- **Animal control**

Future reports showing the total number of known dogs registered will no longer include those dogs reported as dead or gone from the district.

9 Town Centre Subcommittee

The minutes of the Town Centre Subcommittee meeting held on 16 December, 2010, were received.

Discussion that took place on asphaltic concrete and chipseal sealing options, associated costs and benefits, will be further addressed through the Operations Committee.

Business transacted with the public excluded (2.26 pm)

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely – 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:	
10	Resource consent appeal – Mockford Investments Ltd	Section 7(2)(i)	Conduct of negotiations

Wilson/Sparks

Carried

Business transacted with the public excluded now in open meeting

- **Resource Consent Appeal – Mockford Investments Ltd**

1. **That** the report be received.
2. **That** delegated authority is given to the Senior District Planner to settle or agree on any matter discussed at mediation for the appeal between Mockford Investments Limited and Ashburton District Council.

Kilworth/Burgess

Carried

The meeting concluded at 2.40 pm.