

Environmental Services Committee Minutes

Minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held on 17 March, 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, Jac Sparks, Alan Totty and Stuart Wilson.

In attendance

Councillors Neil Brown, Donna Favel, Darryl Nelson and Martin Nordqvist;

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

1 Apologies

Cr Peter Reveley

Sustained

2 Extraordinary Business

Nil

3 Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held on 3 February 2011, be taken as read and confirmed.

Leadley/Burgess

Carried

4 Matters Arising

• Park St Playcentre

It was reported that the Playcentre is proposing to bring documentation on the issue back to the Mayor.

• Art Gallery / Museum

The outcome of the Appeal remains outstanding until all consents are signed off. The Committee will be kept advised.

5 Activity Reports

That the reports be received.

Leadley/Sparks

Carried

• Building consents

The Environmental Services Manager reported that key performance indicators will be provided to the Committee on a regular basis but were not included for this meeting. Mr McKenzie acknowledged the Committee's preference for more detailed reporting on the district's building consent trends and indicated that performance reporting was currently being reviewed.

• Earthquake 22 February

Council's Building Services Manager was part of the Christchurch building evaluation team assisting with the earthquake recovery process. Mr Fields provided a powerpoint slide show of photos taken in the Christchurch CBD following the earthquake.

Because of the similarity in design of some of the older buildings in Ashburton's town centre, it was agreed that the need to address potential issues has become more urgent.

That the review of the dangerous, insanitary and earthquake prone buildings become a priority.

Totty/Burgess

Carried

- **Canterbury Roller Flour Mill**

Following the fire that destroyed the flour mill on 17 February, a retrospective consent will be issued for the demolition or alteration of the remaining building. Council has the discretion to waive the associated consent fees.

- **Building Amendment Bill**

Council's submission has been lodged. A copy of the submission was tabled for discussion.

- **Ashburton Golf Club Subdivision**

Applications for subdivision and land use consents for the creation of 15 allotments off Golf Links Drive have been notified with submissions closing on 23 March. There have been no submissions received to date.

- **Mockford Appeal**

Mediation took place following the Commissioner's decision not to grant consent for a camp ground on Bridge Street. Progress was made and Councillors will be further advised once formal agreement has been reached.

- **District Plan Review**

Hearings proposed for March have been postponed, as a result of the 22 February earthquake. New dates have been advised and hearings will recommence on 12 April.

- **Baring Sq East upgrade**

It is anticipated that the engineering plans for the implementation of the new design will be completed by June. Funding for the town centre upgrade projects is proposed to be reviewed as part of the Long Term Plan process.

- **Regulatory Manager**

The Environmental Services Manager advised that the position of Regulatory Manager has been offered and accepted.

- **District Licensing Agency**

The report and minutes of the District Licensing Agency meeting held on 14 March 2011, were received.

[\[click here to read the report\]](#)

6 Joint Air Quality Working Party Meeting

The Environmental Services Manager reported that some confusion has arisen over the solid fuel fires compliance date, following the announcement of Minister Nick Smith that the National Environmental Standard is to be changed. Mr McKenzie explained that ECan's Air Plan requires compliance by 2014, however under the NES old solid fuel fires will not have to be converted to clean heat alternatives until 2020.

As the Government subsidy scheme expires in 2013, Council's recommendation would be to encourage the community to continue working to the Air Plan level of compliance while subsidies and resources are still available.

The Committee agreed that attempts should be made to have ECan align its plan with the new NES dates that the Minister has announced.

That the Ashburton District Council formally invites Environment Canterbury to amend the deadline dates contained in the Natural Resources Regional Plan (Chapter 3 Air Quality), so that those deadline dates correspond with the proposed amended National Environmental Standard on air quality that is being amended as per the recent announcement by the Hon Nick Smith Minister for the Environment.

Kilworth/McKay

Carried

The meeting concluded at 2.33 pm.