

REPORT and **MINUTES** of a meeting of the **ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton, on Thursday 14 June, 2007, commencing at 1.30 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors R J Kilworth (Chair), R C Beavan, L J Leadley, B A Tasker, K W P Lowe, M J Urquhart, D Glass and I J Burgess.

Also in attendance Crs P W Reveley, N A Brown and K L Holmes; Environmental Services Manager, Senior District Planner, Senior District Environmental Health Officer, Licensing Inspector and Committee Secretary.

APOLOGIES: His Worship the Mayor, M B O'Malley and Cr D N Nelson **Sustained**

Confirmation of Minutes

“That the minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held on 3 May, 2007, be taken as read and confirmed.”

Beavan/Burgess **Carried**

Matters Arising

NE Ashburton Plan Change

The Environmental Services Manager reported that the hearing date is close to being set and will be notified when evidence for the hearing has been finalised.

Methven Trotting Club

Public notification has been given of the Methven Trotting Club's application for a private Plan Change. Submissions to the proposal will close on 10 August 2007.

Activity Reports

“That the reports be received.”

Glass/Tasker **Carried**

Building Consents

The Environmental Services Manager reported that the value of building consents issued for the first five months of this year is 28% higher than the same period last year. The actual number of consents processed in this period has increased by 26%. This is in contrast to a downward national trend.

Small Villages Development Project

Documentation prepared by Boffa Miskell has been received and will be presented to Councillors at a workshop following the Committee meeting. The information will then be distributed for comment from those communities involved with small village development.

Bylaw Review

The Environmental Health Officer reported that the new Bylaws are required to be operative by 1 July 2008. The process includes reviewing the Trade Waste Bylaw and it was reported that the Operations department is to progress this Bylaw to be in effect by the time the new wastewater plant is commissioned.

Illegal Dumping

The NZ Fire Service has reported a significant drop in the number of riverbed fires since vehicle access was reduced and the policy of early removal of dumped vehicles was applied.

Notifiable Diseases

The Environmental Health Officer reported that the Canterbury District Health Board is to assume responsibility for the initial investigation of enteric diseases and Council will be involved only if a serious outbreak occurs.

Air Quality

ECan has set up monitoring points around the Ashburton urban area to test PM10 levels. The designated sites are located on Clark, Cambridge, Dobson and East Streets. The Environmental Health Officer reported that recordings to date show that all areas are affected by pollution but at varying levels. He confirmed that although the air shed relates to the urban boundary, any development located outside the boundary and contributing to pollution levels in the air shed could be declined ECan consent if the Ashburton air shed did not meet the National Environmental Standard after 2013.

Liquor Licensing

A Batcheler provided the Committee with a verbal report on the “Undy 500” event which is to take place on 24 August. The event involves in University students travelling from Christchurch to Dunedin and in recent years their stopping in Ashburton has resulted in a number of liquor related issues. Ms Batcheler reported that measures are being put in place locally to minimise problems.

The Licensing Inspector left the meeting at 1.55 pm.

Liquor Licensing Policy

The draft liquor licensing policy, developed by a Working Group comprising Council, Police, ACADS, and the hospitality industry, has been made available for public comment. Submissions close on 6 July 2007.

Land Use Consents

The Environmental Services Manager was asked to report back on the reason why consent applications LUC070036 and LUC070056 were issued as controlled activities and consent LUC070056 issued as a discretionary activity. It was noted that all three relate to dwellings being built in low flood risk areas.

Notified Consents

The Commissioner’s decision for application LUC060046, Ashburton Christian School, has been received and will be released today.

The Range Users consent hearing was held on 4 May and the decision was reserved pending the applicant’s written right of reply, which has recently been received. The appeal lodged against consent LUC060094, Veehof Dairy Services Ltd, has been subsequently withdrawn.

Items transacted with the public excluded (2.15 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:
7	Geo-preservation sites	Section 7(2)(i) Conduct of negotiations

Glass/Tasker

Carried

There being no resolutions passed the Committee resumed in open meeting and concluded at 2.16 pm.