

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 8 November, 2007, commencing at 1.30 pm.

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

Also in attendance Crs Lowe and Holmes; Senior District Planner, Regulatory Manager and Committee Secretary.

APOLOGY: Crs J A Kingsbury, J Sparks and N A Brown **Sustained**
[absent on Council Business]

Confirmation of Minutes

"That the minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held on 6 September, 2007, be taken as read and confirmed."

Beavan/Tasker **Carried**

Group 2 Areas of Significant Conservation Value and Geo-Conservation Sites

The Senior District Planner advised that staff have met with the majority of potentially affected landowners who agreed that there needn't be a greater level of protection than is currently afforded. The delineation of sites will be further refined prior to the sites being notified in the Plan Change.

"That Council commences the Plan Change process in respect to Group 2 Areas of Significant Conservation Value and Geo-Conservation Sites."

Beavan/Leadley **Carried**

Ashburton District Plan Review – Work Programme

- “1. That the District Plan Review Work Programme, attached as Appendix 1, be endorsed by the Environmental Services Committee; and
2. That the Environmental Services Committee commits to the workshops contained within the District Plan Review Work Programme.”

Tasker/Leadley **Carried**

Hanham – Breach of Enforcement Order, District Plan and Resource Consent Conditions

"That the report be received."

Reveley/Burgess **Carried**

Town Centre Subcommittee

Town Centre redevelopment

The minutes were amended to record that on 22 November, Marc Baily (Boffa Miskell) will attend the Council workshop on small villages development. The next meeting of the Town Centre Subcommittee is scheduled for 29 November, and it is proposed that Tim Church of Boffa Miskell will attend to update the Subcommittee on the town centre development project.

At its meeting on 30 October, the Town Centre Subcommittee considered a recommendation to undertake further investigation into parking in the central business and suburban areas of Ashburton.

Cr Leadley took the opportunity to acknowledge the members of the public who have been actively involved in the working party. Further work is to be undertaken by the working party in March 2008.

Parking in urban areas of Ashburton

- “1. That the Committee approves
- a) the review of times, charging mechanisms and locations of restricted parking areas/spaces;
 - b) the investigation into increasing the number of long term parking areas/spaces;
 - c) the investigation into the establishment of private reserved parking spaces;
 - d) a review of the number and location of mobility impaired parking spaces; and
 - e) the investigation of a one way system in the CBD to increase the number of parking spaces available.
2. That the results of the investigation be considered by the Central Parking Working Group and the Town Centre Subcommittee, to be reported to the March meeting of the Environmental Services Committee; and
3. That discussions with OnTrack be held to further assess availability of their land.
4. That the cost for the investigation and report be met from the Parking reserve account.”

Leadley/Tasker

Carried

The Mayor referred to Council’s decision last year which attempted to provide short term parking solutions in the lead-up to Christmas. He suggested that the business owners in the CBD be again asked to help make the West Street car park available to shoppers by asking their staff to refrain from using the parks.

“That the Business Association be requested to consider a protocol that would see the employees of CBD businesses refrain from parking in the West Street car park in the lead-up to Christmas on a voluntary basis.”

Mayor/Leadley

Carried

Activity Reports

“That the reports be received.”

Tasker/Beavan

Carried

Valetta Stopbank

It was reported that Environment Canterbury’s application for resource consent was lodged with Council today.

Air Plan Joint Committee

Cr Beavan reported that the Healthy Homes project will be the subject of a report to the Air Plan Joint Committee meeting on 23 November.

Recreational water quality

Clarification was sought on whether comparative figures are available on water samples taken above and below the Ashburton River bridge that would show the pollution effect of the large colony of gulls nesting in the area.

The Regulatory Manager confirmed that sampling is carried out at the bridge by ECan, however specific sampling has not been undertaken above the gull colony. He agreed to seek further information from ECan, including water quality comparisons taken with other rivers.

NE Ashburton decision

It was reported that the decision of the Environment Court is expected to be available for the Council meeting on 22 November.

Consents granted under delegation

Reference made to application SUB 070078, a proposed 189 lot subdivision at 74 Bridge Street. Because of the significant size of this development the Committee asked to see a copy of the plans. Clarification was also sought on whether floor height restrictions would be imposed.

Methven Trotting Plan Change

It was reported that one further submission has been received from Transit NZ who are seeking to retain the integrity of the state highway.

Statistical reports

The Committee requested that future statistical reports on building consents include yearly as well as monthly comparisons. It was noted that the increase in dairy shed consents in particular has implications for roading infrastructure.

The Consent Planner attended the meeting at 2.35 pm and tabled information on the Southmark consent. Discussion resumed on the subdivision requirements for floor height restrictions.

The Senior District Planner reported that any building consents issued for dwellings erected in stage one of the subdivision will be required to have a floor height of not less than 300mm above the 1:200 year requirement.

At the conclusion of this discussion, the Mayor requested that further detail be provided in subsequent reports relating to subdivision development.

The meeting concluded at 2.53 pm.