

# 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 6 December, 2007, commencing at 1.33 pm.

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

Also in attendance Crs N A Brown, K L Holmes, K W P Lowe and J A Everest (1.40 pm); Environmental Services Manager, Regulatory Manager, Senior District Planner and Community Services Officer.

## **Confirmation of Minutes**

### **Central Parking Working Group**

At the Council meeting on 22 November, it was noted that clarification had been sought on whether the Working Group considered alternative measures that could be promoted, such as cycling and walking. It was confirmed that these options are being considered in the overall investigation of CBD parking and will be further addressed through the Town Centre Subcommittee.

“That the minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held on 8 November, 2007, as amended, be taken as read and confirmed.”

Beavan/Tasker

**Carried**

### ***Proposed Dwelling Exceeding Building Height & Coverage 4 Coniston Drive, Ashburton***

Cr Leadley declared an interest and withdrew from discussion.

“That application LUC07/0116, being consent to construct a dwelling at 4 Coniston Drive, which exceeds the maximum building coverage and height, be approved subject to the following conditions:

1. That the building shall be constructed and sited in accordance with the plans (Job Reference: BM-07-008, dated 29/08/2007) lodged as part of the application.
2. That no further buildings, accessory or otherwise, shall be constructed or placed on the site.”

Tasker/Burgess

**Carried**

### ***Town Centre Subcommittee***

“That the minutes of the Town Centre Subcommittee meeting held on 29 November 2007, be received.”

Leadley/Tasker

**Carried**

### **Loading Zones**

- “1. That the application for a loading zone on Cass Street be declined; and
2. That Briscoe’s be requested to provide space within their own property to provide room for off-loading of commercial vehicles without this operation occurring on the street or footpath.”

Leadley/Sparks

**Carried**

“That New World and Countdown Supermarkets be advised that the practice of off-loading commercial vehicles on footpath areas must cease within six months.”

Leadley/Kingsbury

**Carried**

### **Visibility Issues – East St/ Kermode St Intersection**

1. That the proposed kerb protrusions be installed at the intersection of Kermode Street and East Street; and
2. That the work be funded from the minor improvements budget in the subsidised roading account.”

Sparks/Beavan

**Carried**

### **Activity Reports**

“That the reports be received.”

Kingsbury/Burgess

**Carried**

### **Building consents**

The Environmental Services Manager explained why the number of building consents issued each year doesn't correspond with the number of codes of compliance issued. Mr McKenzie said that this is due to not all projects being started or completed, or because Council hasn't been requested to carry out a final code of compliance certificate. The onus is on the building owner to obtain the certificate and measures are currently being put in place to help remedy this problem. The Proclaim computer system will shortly be able to show outstanding building consents which Council staff will use to remind owners to obtain their code of compliances.

### **Air Plan Joint Committee**

It was reported to the Committee that good progress is being made with the healthy homes scheme; up to the end of November, 27 homes had been insulated.

### **Public Health**

The Environmental Health Officer reported that recent results from ECan show the water quality in the Ashburton River as being very good. The Ashburton River is the only river tested in the district as it historically was the only one used recreationally for swimming.

### **Notified Consents**

Submissions for LUC07/0122, Sheds New Zealand Limited, closed on 5 December and it is anticipated that the application will be considered before Christmas.

Cr Kilworth referred to application LUC07/0091 and explained to those not familiar with the process that the Committee is not obliged to accept the Planners' recommendations; when considering obligations of Councillors and members of hearing panels it is important to keep an open mind and lack of bias. Reference was also made to the growing trend of consent applications being politicised, giving rise to some uninformed decisions being relayed to the media.

The Mayor said that Council staff are obliged to interpret and implement the District Plan as it is written and that the process to seek variations to this can be sought through the correct channels. He noted that the applicant in this case decided not to pursue the process.

### **Liquor Licensing**

“That the minutes of the Ashburton District Licensing Agency held on 29 November, 2007, be taken as read and confirmed.”

Burgess/Sparks

**Carried**

The meeting concluded at 2.15 pm.