

MINUTES

TITLE: Environment & Planning Committee
DATE: Thursday, 13 December 2007
TIME: 9.30 am
VENUE: Council Chamber, 189 Queen Street, Richmond

PRESENT: Cr M J Higgins (Chair), Mayor R G Kempthorne, Crs S J Borlase (Deputy Chair), S G Bryant, R G Currie, B F Dowler, J L Edgar, B W Ensor, G A Glover, J L Inglis, T E Norriss, N Riley and E J Wilkins

IN ATTENDANCE: Environment & Planning Manager (D C Bush-King), Manager Policy (G S Markham), Consultant Policy Planner (S Leusink-Sladen), Policy Planners (D Hewitt and R Biss), Administration Officer (B D Moore)

APOLOGIES

Moved Crs Bryant / Currie
EP07/12/04

THAT apologies be received from Mayor Kempthorne for lateness and Cr King for absence.
CARRIED

1. PUBLIC FORUM

Mr D Melville spoke on behalf of organisations which attend the Department of Conservation Community Forum. He referred to the briefing report within the agenda on new and possible resource policy projects which included the Waimea Estuary and catchments integrated management strategy.

Mr Melville commended the Council's current initiative to extend the protection of the Waimea Estuary. He referred to the amount of information already produced and gathered on the subject and encouraged the Council to engage the community in the preparation of the strategy and that the existing reports should be accessed and used.

Dr Peter Ballance, representing Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society, spoke in support of the statement by Mr Melville and tabled a supporting petition of signatures collected at EcoFest.

Mr Maxwell Clark of 410 to 418 Queen Street West, Richmond expressed concern about Council's proposed zoning of his land which was proposed to be in five zones with an unzoned allotment on the estuary edge. He said that the zoning plan had been done on the basis of land contour. He said people should be concerned about the risk assessment in regard to land used for commercial purposes. He suggested that there could be an interface with the coastal estuary to provide for such things as cafes.

Ms D Martin spoke for Motueka Branch Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society and addressed the issue of the Motueka sand spit and its management. She spoke of the conflicts of use which occur between the management of the scenic reserve and below mean high water springs. The concern expressed was for the bird life, especially the migratory godwit population. She spoke of the problems with allowing dogs to free range among nesting birds and that the area is used by quad bikes and horses. She asked the Council to review the signage regarding dogs especially in the transition zone between the scenic reserve and below mean high water springs.

Ms H Campbell said that there is a management plan in existence for the Motueka sand spit.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

2.1 Environment & Planning Committee - 5 November 2007

**Moved Crs Wilkins / Higgins
EP07/12/05**

**THAT the minutes of an Environment & Planning Committee meeting held on 5 November 2007 containing resolutions EP07/11/15 to EP07/11/17, be approved as a correct record, noting Cr Wilkins replaced Cr Riley in the attendance record.
CARRIED**

2.2 Environment & Planning Committee - Ruby Bay Developments Limited

**Moved Crs Bryant / Borlase
EP07/12/06**

**THAT the minutes of an Environment & Planning Committee meeting held on 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 18 October and 21 November 2007, containing resolutions EP07/11/15 to EP07/11/18 be approved as a correct record.
CARRIED**

2.3 Environment & Planning Committee - 13 November 2007

**Moved Crs Bryant / Higgins
EP07/12/07**

**THAT the minutes of a meeting of the Environment & Planning Committee held on 13 November 2007, containing resolutions EP07/11/012 to EP07/11/14, be approved as a correct record.
CARRIED**

2.4 Environment & Planning Committee - 15 November 2007

**Moved Crs Ensor / Norriss
EP07/12/08**

**THAT the minutes of a meeting of the Environment & Planning Committee held on 15 November 2007, containing resolutions EP07/11/01 to EP07/11/11, be approved as a correct record.
CARRIED**

3. COUNCIL SUBMISSION ON VARIATIONS 61 TO 63 - REPORT EP07/12/03

Policy Planner, D Hewitt, referred to the draft submission contained within the agenda and sought approval from this Committee to lodge this submission subject to some further minor variations to be authorised by the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of this Committee. Ms Hewitt recommended that a 400 m² triangular portion of land adjacent to Headingly Lane be zoned open space, the same as the rest of the adjacent title.

Mr Bush-King said that once all submissions had been received they will be summarised for Council to consider.

Moved Crs Bryant / Inglis EP07/12/09

**THAT the Environment & Planning Committee adopts the submission to Variation 61 to 63, set out as attachment 1 to report EP07/12/03 for lodging before closure date of 20 December 2007 and that the Environment & Planning Committee Chairman and Deputy Chairman have authority to sign off the final wording of the submission.
CARRIED**

4. BRIEFING REPORT – NEW AND POSSIBLE RESOURCE POLICY PROJECTS - REPORT EP07/12/04

Cr Higgins allowed Golden Bay Community Board Chairman, Mr J Bell, to speak on behalf of the Golden Bay Community Board on the subject of resource policy projects. Golden Bay Community Board members Carolyn McLellan and Karen Brookes were present.

Mr Bell said that the Golden Bay Community Board supported the proposed projects, for example Golden Bay West Strategic Planning.

Policy Planner, Ms D Hewitt, spoke on the subject of Golden Bay West Strategic Planning. Cr Norriss expressed concern about this area receiving priority over the communities of Wakefield and Brightwater. Mr Markham said it was a natural follow on to address Golden Bay West after eastern Golden Bay was sufficiently advanced. The Council had given this location a number one priority as a policy project previously.

Cr Borlase spoke of how the Golden Bay ratepayer base is growing quite rapidly even though resident population may have dropped but that it swells to 20,000 over summer. Cr Inglis questioned what method was proposed to treat sewerage from Patons Rock community.

Cr Higgins referred the committee to the staff recommendations within each section of this report. Mr Markham spoke about the Waimea Estuary and catchments integrated management strategy which could proceed under currently budgeted staff time.

Policy Planner, Ms R Biss, spoke about the strategic development planning for the townships of Brightwater, Wakefield and Tasman. Mr Markham said it was efficient to have both Brightwater and Wakefield development planning running in parallel.

Councillors were then given an opportunity to comment individually on the priorities proposed within this report. Cr Bryant said he would like to see the Wakefield and Brightwater priorities raised. Mr Bush-King responded that he thought Brightwater and Wakefield could go up to priority 1 in the financial year 2008/2009. Cr Ensor said that Council seems to be under resourced with staff in the policy planning area.

**Moved Crs Borlase / Riley
EP07/12/10**

THAT the Environment & Planning Committee agrees to the commencement of the Golden Bay West Strategic Planning Project and the Waimea Estuary project at a rate consistent with ongoing commitments with current projects and subject to any additional funding needs, for 2008/2009 being provided in the 2008/2009 Annual Plan.

CARRIED

**Moved Crs Bryant / Edgar
EP07/12/11**

THAT the Brightwater and Wakefield development projects be established in the 2008/2009 financial year as priority 1.

CARRIED

5. PROJECT STORMWATER - REPORT EP07/12/05

The agenda contained a report of 3 December 2007 from Consultant Policy Planner, Ms S Leusink-Sladen. Stormwater Variation 56 was notified in July 2007 for public submissions in Update 26 to the PTRMP. Project stormwater is a joint initiative between Engineering Services and Environment & Planning departments and this report had been referred to the last Engineering Services Committee Meeting for receipt.

**Moved Crs Borlase / Wilkins
EP07/12/12**

THAT Project Stormwater Report EP07/12/05 of 3 December 2007 be received.

CARRIED

**6. INVESTIGATION INTO SIGNIFICANT NATURAL AREAS IN TASMAN DISTRICT –
REPORT EP07/12/06**

The agenda contained this report of 13 December 2007 from Policy Planner L Vaughan. This was an update on the proposed investigation into significant natural areas, involving a number of parties that had signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Council. A replacement was sought for Mayor Kempthorne on the project overview group.

**Moved Crs Bryant / Ensor
EP07/12/13**

THAT Report EP07/12/06, investigation into significant natural areas in Tasman District, be received and that Cr S Borlase be appointed to sit on the significant natural areas assessment project overview group, as a point of liaison with the Environment & Planning Committee.

CARRIED

7. COSTS FOR LEGAL CHALLENGES

Cr Norriss sought that Environment & Planning Department staff provide information for Council to consider, regarding costs associated with legal challenges. He said he would like a list of challenges to Council decisions and what the results were and what costs were incurred and awarded in the Environment Court over the last two years.

Cr Higgins thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 11.45 am.

Date Confirmed:

Chair: