

# MINUTES

**TITLE:** Environment & Planning Committee  
**DATE:** Tuesday, 20 January 2009  
**TIME:** 9.30 am  
**VENUE:** Tasman District Council Chamber, 189 Queen Street, Richmond

**PRESENT:** Cr M J Higgins (Chairman), Mayor R G Kempthorne, Crs T B King, S J Borlase, R G Currie, B F Dowler, B W Ensor, G A Glover, J L Inglis, N Riley & E J Wilkins

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Environmental Information Manager (R Smith), Policy Manager (G S Markham), Administration Officer (B D Moore)

## APOLOGIES

Moved Crs King / Dowler  
EP09/01/05

THAT apologies for absence from Crs Bryant, Edgar and Norriss, and Dennis Bush-King be sustained.

CARRIED

## 1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

### 1.1 Environment & Planning Committee - 29 October 2008

Moved Crs Borlase / Kempthorne  
EP09/01/06

THAT the minutes of a meeting of the Environment & Planning Committee held on 29 October 2008, containing resolutions EP08/10/14 to EP08/10/18, be approved as a correct record.

CARRIED

### 1.2 Environment & Planning Committee - 3 November 2008

Moved Crs Ensor / Glover  
EP09/01/07

THAT the minutes of a meeting of the Environment & Planning Committee held on 3 November 2008, containing resolutions EP08/11/01 to EP08/11/03, be approved as a correct record.

CARRIED

### **1.3 Environment & Planning Committee - 17 November 2008**

**Moved Crs Riley / Ensor  
EP09/01/08**

**THAT the minutes of a meeting of the Environment & Planning Committee held on 17 November 2008, containing resolutions EP08/11/04 to EP08/11/06, be approved as a correct record.**

**CARRIED**

### **1.4 Environment & Planning Committee - 20 November 2008**

**Moved Crs Riley / Glover  
EP09/01/09**

**THAT the minutes of a meeting of the Environment & Planning Committee held on 20 November 2008, containing resolutions EP08/11/07 to EP08/11/22, be approved as a correct record.**

**CARRIED**

### **1.5 Environment & Planning Committee - 1 December 2008**

**Moved Crs Riley / Glover  
EP09/01/10**

**THAT the minutes of a meeting of the Environment & Planning Committee held on 1 December 2008, containing resolutions EP08/12/01 to EP08/12/03, be approved as a correct record.**

**CARRIED**

### **1.6 Environment & Planning Committee - 16 December 2008**

**Moved Crs Glover / Borlase  
EP09/01/11**

**THAT the minutes of a meeting of the Environment & Planning Committee held on 16 December 2008, containing resolutions EP08/12/04 to EP08/12/13, be approved as a correct record.**

**CARRIED**

## **2. ENVIRONMENT & PLANNING MANAGER'S REPORT – REPORT EP09/01/07**

Environmental Information Manager, R Smith, spoke to the report in the agenda.

### **2.1 Final Aquaculture Decision – Tasman Interim Aquaculture Management Areas**

The agenda contained a copy of a letter of 17 December 2008 from the Ministry of Fisheries providing the Ministry's final aquaculture decision on the Tasman Interim Aquaculture Management Areas. Public notices had been provided by the Ministry of Fisheries, in the Nelson Mail on Thursday 18 and Saturday 20 December 2008.

Mr Smith commented that assuming there are no appeals, further steps involved will be the consideration of the iwi share.

## **2.2 Building Consent Authority Accreditation Scheme, Phase II**

The agenda contained a copy of the Department of Building and Housing briefing on Phase II of the Building Act's building consent authority accreditation scheme. This phase involves the management and adherents to quality assurance systems by staff and contractors and councils are to be accredited against the standards by 1 December 2010.

## **2.3 National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management**

A copy of Council's proposed submission on this policy document had been circulated to members.

**Moved Crs Currie / Glover**  
**EP09/01/12**

**THAT the Environment & Planning Committee endorses the submission on the proposed National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management.**  
**CARRIED**

## **2.4 Mapua Former FCC Site Validation Report**

The Ministry for the Environment had released a copy of the site validation report for the cleanup of the former Fruitgrowers Chemical Company site at Mapua. Mr Smith recommended that the Committee waits for the Site Auditors report before further discussion occurs. Council has provided some information to MfE to correct perceived inaccuracies in the validation report.

## **2.5 Earth Hour**

Mr Smith recommended that the Tasman District Council joins with Nelson City Council to promote earth hour, via Newsline and advertising, within the present education budget.

**Moved Crs Glover / Inglis**  
**EP09/01/13**

**THAT Tasman District Council supports the Earth Hour promotion through Council's publicity media.**  
**CARRIED**

## **2.6 Canterbury Regional Council Declaratory Judgement Application**

The agenda contained a copy of a letter of 16 December 2008 from the Chief Executive of Canterbury Regional Council seeking support for its application for a declaratory judgement application of 28 November 2008 to the High Court.

**Moved Mayor Kempthorne / Cr Currie  
EP09/01/14**

**THAT the Tasman District Council expresses its support to Environment Canterbury in its proposed application for declaratory judgement on the basis that duly elected representatives have the right to determine policy matters at all times under the Resource Management Act subject to normal procedures governing disclosure and conflicts of interest and that it is the Council that reserves the right to make those decisions or elect when to delegate those to others.**

**CARRIED**

**Moved Cr Borlase/Mayor Kempthorne**

**THAT the Environment & Planning Manager's Report EP09/01/07, be received.**

**CARRIED**

**3. ENVIRONMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – REPORT EP09/01/06**

Cr Higgins spoke to his report and provided background information regarding the farming methods carried out by Mr George Shuttleworth of 88 Valley, Wakefield.

**Moved Crs Higgins / Inglis  
EP09/01/15**

**THAT the Environment & Planning Committee Chairman's Report EP09/01/06 be received.**

**CARRIED**

**4. PRESENTATION BY MR GEORGE SHUTTLEWORTH REGARDING FARMING SOIL FERTILITY PROGRAMMES**

Mr Shuttleworth spoke to the meeting about farming programmes which can be used to test and improve soil fertility and production. He described how soils are tested for mineral levels and an improvement programme is introduced to correct farm soils over a period of three to five years. He said that in this way nature is assisted with the benefit of increased production, soil warming, reduced chemical input and costs and reduced water usage.

Mr Shuttleworth explained how healthy soils will not require the same amount of herbicides and pesticides. Mr Shuttleworth commented that the traditional system of NPK Soluble Fertilisers were reducing soil quality and creating flow on effects such as nitrogen leaching to waterways. He said that a pH level for good soil should be between 6.2 and 6.4. He provided examples of the use of humate with calcium and potassium together with magnesium as one method used in soil fertility improvement programmes.

Cr Higgins thanked Mr Shuttleworth for his presentation to this Committee and closed the meeting at 11.00 am.

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**Date Confirmed:**

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**Chair:**