



CHAIR'S REPORT

TO: Environment & Planning Committee

FROM: Stuart Borlase, Acting Environment & Planning Committee Chair

REFERENCE: S611

SUBJECT: **CHAIR'S REPORT – REPORT EP08/11/23** - Report prepared for meeting of 20 November 2008

Welcome to the Environment & Planning Meeting; our Agenda for today is huge so I would ask that we keep questions and comments focused on the topic in hand so that we can complete the work before us today in a timely manner.

Today we will be having a slightly more 'swept up' morning tea as our own celebration to acknowledge the fact that Parts 1 and 2 of our Resource Management Plan are now operable. This is a great achievement and has meant a lot of hard work on the part of Steve Markham and his team. Staff from other departments have also been involved and to you all we say a sincere 'thank you'. I guess this will mean that as Councillors we will have to learn the methodology of dealing with Private Plan Changes rather than Variations.

Many of us will no doubt be involved in the Environmental Awards. These Awards are a really good opportunity for Council to celebrate the achievements of individuals, groups, farms and businesses in helping to keep our environment as pristine as possible. Personally, it always comes as a challenge to me in my own efforts in this regard when I see the very real effort that has been made by so many in our communities.

I am writing this report a couple of days after Election Day. The Hon. Nick Smith has already promised that the Resource Management Amendment Bill will be in front of the new Government within 100 days from now. I guess we will just have to watch this space.

Stuart Borlase
Acting Chair, Environment & Planning Committee