

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HOUSE, TRAFALGAR STREET, NELSON ON THURSDAY 4 DECEMBER 2008 COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

- PRESENT:** Councillor R Reese (Chairperson) Councillors I Barker, A Boswijk, G Collingwood, M Cotton, M Holmes, A McAlpine, A Miccio, P Rainey, D Shaw (Deputy Chairperson) and G Thomas.
- IN ATTENDANCE:** K Marshall (Chief Executive), R Johnson (Divisional Manager Planning and Consents) R Palmer (Administration Adviser).
- APOLOGIES:** Apologies on behalf of his Worship the Mayor, K Marshall, and Councillor D Henigan, and Councillor M Holmes for lateness were received and accepted.
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1.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

28 October 2008

Resolved

***THAT** the minutes of a meeting of the Environment Committee, held on Tuesday 28 October 2008, be confirmed as a true and correct record.*

Shaw/Miccio

Carried

2.0 ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE STATUS REPORT – DECEMBER 2008

Document 662263, agenda 18-15 refer

2.1 Cell Phone Tower Sites

The Chairperson advised that she together with the Mayor and Councillor Boswijk had met with the Play Centre Group regarding the potential Telecom cell phone tower, with advice from Telecom that the site adjacent to the Play Centre was still the preferred location for its Atawhai cell phone tower.

She explained that it was proposed to meet with representatives of Telecom before Christmas to discuss possible options including the possibility of relocating the Play Centre.

2.2 Top of the South Biosecurity Strategy

The Chairperson advised that the meeting on 11 November had been very positive with agreement being reached on the Strategy and that the three local authorities would share the cost of a biosecurity advocate.

She also explained that staff were presently investigating the possibility of one Resource Management Plan across the Top of the South, which would be a major step forward.

It was accepted that the Strategy would come to the Council for ratification in due course.

2.3 Sustainability Forum

The Chairperson advised that at the recent meeting of the Forum, progress had been made toward developing terms of reference and discussion had been held on a Lead Agency in respect of grant funding for a sustainable business adviser.

Resolved

THAT the Environment Committee Status Report for the month of December 2008 be received

Barker/Shaw

Carried

3.0 ENVIRONMENT FINANCE REPORT FOR THREE MONTHS ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2008

Document No 710540 dated 17 November 2008, agenda pages 16-22 refer.

Resolved

THAT the Environment Finance Report for three months ended 30 September 2008 be received and the variations therein be noted.

Reese/McAlpine

Carried

4.0 SUBMISSION ON PROPOSED NPS FOR RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY GENERATION

Document 710634, dated 18 November 2008, agenda pages 23-32 refer

Resolved

THAT the Nelson City Council Submission (document 702242) on the proposed National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation be received.

Shaw/Miccio

Carried

5.0 PROPOSED NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR FRESHWATER MANAGEMENT

Document No 710732, dated 18 November 2008, agenda pages 33-34 refer.

The Divisional Manager Planning and Consents, advised that Local Government New Zealand was leading the move to developing constructive suggestions for the proposed National Policy Statement, however in regard to the recent change in Government, there was no certainty as to whether or not this particular Policy Statement would survive.

Resolved

THAT if required, the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the Environment Committee be given authority to approve a Draft Submission on

the proposed National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management which presently is to be submitted by 23 January 2009

AND THAT *any Draft Submission be considered by the Committee as soon as possible after 23 January 2009 for confirmation.*

Miccio/Rainey

Carried

It was acknowledged that as the issue also had significance for iwi, staff would generally seek their views, recognising that this was a public process.

6.0 INNER CITY NOISE PLAN CHANGE PROCESS

Document No 710065, dated 19 November 2008, agenda pages 40-43 refer.

Attendance: Martin Workman, Manager Environmental Policy and Rueben Petersen, Policy Planner, presented the report.

Mr Workman stressed that the initial stakeholder consultation would enable all affected persons to be involved, including the wider public, who would be given the opportunity to have input at these initial stages via public meetings and other similar initiatives.

He also advised that it was envisaged that the suggested “Steering Group” would oversee the work involved in relation to the change and provide a sounding board for stakeholders and staff. He would anticipate that it would meet on a two monthly basis.

It was noted that this “Plan Change Subcommittee” would not only oversee the Inner City Noise Plan Change but would be used to oversee the development of a large number of other proposed plan changes prior to consideration and recommendation to the Environment Committee prior to formal consultation.

Resolved

THAT *a plan change in respect of the Inner City Noise provisions of the Nelson Resource Management Plan be developed as a priority*

AND THAT *the Noise Plan change be prepared in accordance with the timeline and the process set out in report 710065*

AND THAT *a Plan Change Subcommittee of the Environment Committee be established, having as its function to oversee the development and to recommend plan change proposals to the Environment Committee for approval for formal public consultation*

AND THAT *membership of the Plan Change Subcommittee be Councillor Reese, Councillor Shaw, Councillor Boswijk and Councillor Cotton*

AND THAT *the Subcommittee appoint its own Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson and determine its own procedures.*

Reese/Miccio

Carried

7.0 TOWARDS BETTER URBAN DESIGN: RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION AND DENSITY PLAN CHANGES

Document No 710541, dated 17 November 2008, agenda pages 35-39.

Attendance: Martin Workman, Manager Environmental Policy, Rueben Petersen, Policy Planner and Lisa Gibellini, Policy Planner presented the report.

Resolved

THAT changes to relevant residential subdivision and density provisions of the Nelson Resource Management Plan and related Council procedures be developed on the following basis:

- i. that the project be run as an open and collaborative process involving the public and relevant sectors*
- ii. that plan changes be prepared in accordance with the timeline and the process as set out in document 710541*
- iii. that development of the plan changes be overseen by the Plan Change Subcommittee supported by the relevant staff and an appropriate number of sector representatives.*

Shaw/McAlpine

Carried

8.0 HARBOUR SAFETY – VESSEL FOR THE HARBOURMASTER

Document No 710136, dated 18 November 2008, agenda pages 44-62 refer.

The Divisional Manager, Planning and Consents stressed that the harbour safety function of the Council was an area of responsibility which needed to be given more attention particularly in light of the Nelson Harbour Port and Harbour Marine Safety Code Navigational Risk Assessment Report recently completed by Marico Marine New Zealand Ltd.

The meeting discussed the hours which the Harbourmaster was able to devote to the harbour safety functions for the Council and whether he had cover for those times when he was otherwise on holidays.

The Divisional Manager, Planning and Consents advised that under his terms of contract the Harbourmaster was on call 24 hours seven days a week, however he did have a Launch Warden to assist him in his duties and additional Launch Wardens were also a possibility.

Attendance: Roy Skucek, Nelson Harbourmaster entered the meeting.

Mr Skucek advised that in his opinion it was vitally important to have a presence on the water and it was his intention over the summer period to carry out an educational role in the initial stages, however there was no doubt that more would be required in due course.

The Committee discussed the possibility of the Harbourmaster making use of a leased vessel however it was generally accepted that there was a need for him to have

a vessel available when needed and at this stage there was no indication that a leased vessel would provide the same operational flexibility.

Recommendation to the Council

THAT the Chief Executive be authorised to arrange in consultation with the Harbourmaster for the purchase of a suitable vessel for carrying out harbour safety functions

AND THAT the funds held by Port Nelson Ltd on behalf of the Council be applied to that purchase

AND THAT appropriate operational costs for the Harbourmasters vessel be provided in the 2009-19 LTCCP.

Shaw/Cotton

Carried

Attendance: Councillor Holmes entered the meeting.

The meeting closed at 10.30am.

CONFIRMED AS A CORRECT RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

_____ CHAIRPERSON

_____ DATE