

## **Minutes of a meeting of the Nelson City Council**

**Held in the Council Chamber, Civic House, 110 Trafalgar Street,  
Nelson**

**On Friday 28 November 2014, commencing at 9.00am**

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Present: Her Worship the Mayor (R Reese), Councillor I Barker, E Davy, K Fulton, M Lawrey, P Matheson (Deputy Mayor), B McGurk, G Noonan, P Rainey, T Skinner and M Ward

In Attendance: Contractor, Debra Bradley; Manager Planning, Matt Heale; Environmental Officer, Brent Edwards; Manager Administration, Penny Langley; and Administration Adviser, Fiona O'Brien

Apologies: Councillors L Acland and R Copeland

Attendance: The meeting opened and adjourned at 9.00am to allow the Planning and Regulatory Committee to reconvene the adjourned meeting of 27 November 2014. The meeting then reconvened at 9.12am.

### **Opening Prayer**

Councillor Davy gave the opening prayer.

#### **1. Apologies**

Resolved

***THAT apologies be received and accepted from  
Councillors Acland and Copeland.***

Her Worship the Mayor/Matheson

Carried

#### **2. Confirmation of Order of Business**

##### **2.1 Urban Environments Bylaw**

The urgency of reviewing the bylaw was stressed as they were near expiry and required a long consultative period. It was noted that if a bylaw was not reviewed within a seven year period then it expires but if reviewed within 5 years then it would become a 10 year review.

Resolved

***THAT the item regarding Draft Urban Environments Bylaw be considered at this meeting as a major late item not on the agenda, pursuant to Section 46A(7)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, to enable the special consultative procedure to begin in a timely manner.***

McGurk/Fulton

Carried

**3. Interests**

There were no updates to the Interests Register, and no interests with agenda items were declared.

**4. Public Forum**

There were no public forum presentations.

**5. Mayor's Report**

There was no Mayor's report.

**6. Urban Environments Bylaw**

Contractor, Debra Bradley; Manager Planning, Matt Heale; and Environmental Officer, Brent Edwards spoke to a presentation (A1281092). Regarding the proposed three cat limit per private property Mr Heale noted that a limit would only be set in the case of nuisance complaints and that biodiversity was not relevant to the debate.

In response to a query whether micro chipping of cats should be mandatory and subsidised and it was noted that this would be expensive and that no other Council had taken such a major step. It was clarified that enforcement officers would assess nuisance complaints individually but that enforcement issues would likely arise. Councillors discussed whether a clearly outlined nuisance definition could be clarified in the bylaw.

In response to a query regarding public support of this provision it was clarified that although only two to three complaints were received per year, a "Peoples Panel" had been carried out with approximately four hundred participants and eighty per cent were in support of the proposed three cat limit. Mr Heale clarified the importance of recognising the consultation that had taken place and clearly identifying the reasons for opting against each bylaw. After much consideration the provision relating to cats was not approved.

Regarding the provision relating to barbed wire, "razor wire" was added to this section and all the Council approved this.

The provision relating to poultry was approved.

The provision relating to rabbits was not approved.

Regarding the bylaw relating to bees it was noted that Environmental Inspections Ltd received at least one complaint per month and this number was rising due to an increase in the amount of amateur bee keepers. Historically these issues had been resolved simply by speaking with owners and relocating hives.

Councillors noted a request for a register/permit option to assist those with a severe bee allergy however the resulting high administration cost was considered against the likely usefulness of such an option.

Her Worship the Mayor noted that there were no bee keeping restrictions, just effect management and queried if changes needed to be implemented for Council assistance in case of issues and stated that this would need to be drafted carefully.

Attendance: The meeting adjourned from 11.00am to 11.15am during which time Councillor Noonan and Lawrey left the meeting.

Attendance: Her Worship the Mayor left the meeting at 11.00am and the Deputy Mayor, assumed the chair at 11.15am.

Attendance: Due to a health issue the Deputy Mayor was unable to chair the meeting and Councillor McGurk in his role as Chairperson of Planning and Regulatory Committee assumed the chair at 11.18am.

Group Manager Strategy and Environment, Clare Barton, noted that removal of beehives would be a last resort and only in severe nuisance circumstances.

Attendance: Councillor Noonan returned at 11.21am and Councillor Lawrey returned 11.22am.

Councillors queried bee allergy figures and it was clarified that they could be added to the bylaw. Following discussion, all agreed with introduction of the bee provision as stated.

It was agreed that there should be no change to the provision relating to stock.

The provision relating to caravans was approved.

It was agreed that there should be no change to the provision relating to stock.

The provision relating to trading in public places was approved.

The provision relating to busking was approved.

The provision relating to begging was approved.

The position of sandwich boards on footpaths was discussed and Councillors felt they should be displayed near to the kerb to assist those who are visually impaired.

Ms Bradley clarified that illuminated signs were a requested addition. Councillors felt that electric cords would be distracting and a health and safety hazard.

Concern was noted about possible strong winds and competition between neighbouring businesses drawing complaints and the need to be proactive and consistent.

Attendance: Councillor Noonan left the meeting at 12.12pm and returned at 12.18pm.

After reviewing other Councils' approaches to the subject, a suggestion was made to state objectives to accompany provisions and it was noted that legal advice would then need to be sought.

Attendance: Her Worship the Mayor resumed the chair at 12.28pm.

Her Worship the Mayor discussed the need for further information and suggested an adjournment.

Resolved

***THAT the item Draft Urban Environments Bylaw be adjourned to a Council meeting in December 2014.***

Mayor/Barker

Carried

## **7. Council Representation Reporting on External Organisations**

Document number A1278708, agenda pages 4-7 refer.

Resolved

***THAT the item Council Representation Reporting on External Organisations be adjourned to a Council meeting in February 2015.***

Mayor/Barker

Carried

There being no further business the meeting ended at 12.43pm.

Confirmed as a correct record of proceedings:

\_\_\_\_\_ Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_ Date