
Minutes of a meeting of the Planning and Regulatory Committee

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

On Tuesday 28 January 2014, commencing at 1.00pm

Present: Councillor B McGurk (Chairperson), Her Worship the Mayor R Reese, Councillors I Barker, E Davy, M Lawrey, and M Ward

In Attendance: P Matheson, Acting Group Manager Strategy and Environment (C Ward), Group Manager Infrastructure (A Louverdis), Chief Financial Officer (N Harrison), Manager Administration (P Langley) and Administration Adviser (L Laird) , C Lindley and H Malpas (Youth Councillors)

Apologies: Councillors R Copeland and K Fulton (Deputy Chairperson)

1. Apologies

Resolved

THAT apologies be received and accepted from Councillors Copeland and Fulton.

Davy/Barker

Carried

2. Interests

There were no updates to the Interests Register, and no conflicts of interest with agenda items were declared.

3. Confirmation of Order of Business

It was noted that the public forum from Nicole Begg, as per the agenda, had been postponed.

4. Public Forum

There was no public forum.

5. Confirmation of Minutes – 21 November 2013

Document number A1107833, agenda pages 7-12 refer.

Resolved

THAT the minutes of a meeting of the Nelson City Council – Planning and Regulatory Committee, held on 21 November 2013, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Davy/Lawrey

Carried

6. Chairperson's Report

Chairperson, Councillor McGurk, gave a brief verbal report. He mentioned the current water quality issues of the Maitai River and the general discussions about water quality that these issues had initiated in the community.

REGULATORY

7. Freshwater Reforms

Document number A1120162, agenda pages 13-31 refer.

The Acting Group Manager Strategy and Environment, Chris Ward, presented the report and outlined the key points. He said the proposal provided a staged approach to meet the requirements of the reform package issued by central government by 2030.

Mr Ward said the basis of this package was to improve water quality with monitoring and actions, however this required a significant commitment of additional resources by the Council.

The Committee discussed sharing resources with other councils, particularly Tasman District Council. Mr Ward confirmed that this was already taking place and Tasman District Council scientific staff performed roles on behalf of Nelson City Council on a contract basis.

In response to a question, Mr Ward said the additional resource equated to approximately one extra Council officer (1 FTE). It was agreed that the submission (section 2) should reinforce this additional resource required.

Resolved

THAT the report Freshwater Reforms (A1120162) and its attachments (A1115587 and A79281) be received;

AND THAT the attached submission (with any amendments made by the Committee) is forwarded to the Ministry for the Environment by 4 February 2014.

Barker/Davy

Carried

8. Reserves Bylaw

Document number A1126619, agenda pages 32-54 refer.

Planning Adviser, Debra Bradley, spoke to the report.

Ms Bradley said informal consultation used to inform the Statement of Proposal had revealed that there was concern in the community as to the lack of regulation of the development of formal mountain biking tracks. She added that officers sought the Committee's direction on how the practising of golf in Council reserves should be regulated.

The Committee were advised that any changes to the proposed draft bylaw should be made at this meeting, before any special consultative procedure began.

The Committee discussed the golf issue and there was general agreement that the practising of golf should not be prohibited. There was a view that other sports, including cricket, were not being considered in this bylaw and it would be unfair to include only golf.

Resolved

THAT the report Reserves Bylaw (A1126619) and its attachments (A916989, A915962, A917532 and A10978) be received;

AND THAT the Statement of Proposal in document A916989 be approved and advertised using the Special Consultative Procedure (section 83 of the Local Government Act), subject to the removal of paragraph 10 'Golf' on page 49 of the agenda;

AND THAT the Planning and Regulatory Committee hear submissions on 20 March 2014;

AND THAT the Planning and Regulatory Committee deliberate on submissions and make recommendations to full Council.

Davy/Barker

Carried

9. Update – Draft Local Approved Products Policy (Psychoactive Substances)

Document number A1131745, agenda pages 55-56 refer.

Policy Adviser, Sarah Yarrow, joined the meeting and presented the report. She said this was an opportunity to reconsider whether the Committee wanted to progress with the special consultative procedure as planned or prolong the timeline to enable time to consider further information from the Ministry of Health.

There was agreement that it was preferable to delay the process, however concern was expressed that Council had received submissions and it was agreed that these should be heard as planned.

Resolved

THAT the report Update – Draft Local Approved Products Policy (Psychoactive Substances) (A1131745) be received;

AND THAT deliberating of submissions to the draft Local Approved Products Policy by the Planning and Regulatory Committee be delayed until further information is available from the Ministry of Health;

AND THAT submitters be invited to make their submissions to the Planning and Regulatory Committee on 20 February 2014, and that they be advised of the option to resubmit at a future date if new information comes to light.

Ward/Lawrey

Carried

ENVIRONMENT

10. Review of Council’s Resource Management and Strategic Planning Functions

Document number A1131986, agenda pages 57-58 refer.

Resolved

THAT the report Review of Council’s Resource Management and Strategic Planning Functions (A1131986) be received;

AND THAT the Catalyst Group report "Nelson City Council Review of The Resource Management and Strategic Planning Functions June 2013" be endorsed, in particular the

simplification of the resource management policy platform.

Barker/Davy

Carried

11. Tasman Nelson Environment Awards and Ecofest Options

Document number A1120552, agenda pages 59-65 refer.

Acting Group Manager Strategy and Environment, Chris Ward, presented the report.

Attendance: Her Worship the Mayor Rachel Reese joined the meeting at 1.58pm.

In response to questions, Mr Ward confirmed that the sponsors had not yet been consulted on the proposed changes to Ecofest, particularly the required change of venue. There was agreement that sponsors should be consulted at all steps of this process, and should remain central to any decision about the event.

Mr Ward also clarified that the proposed changes had come from a number of reasons, including:

- closure of the Trafalgar Centre,
- a decrease in funding from Tasman District Council, and
- a lack of staffing at both at Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council to carry out the events to their previous capacity.

Mr Ward said that no venue had been confirmed at this stage. There was general agreement that officers should further investigate possible venues that would achieve the objectives of Ecofest, particularly the 'wrap around' activities of the festival, and that all options would be considered. Mr Ward said the event would resemble a 'mini-Ecofest' including activities similar to those currently carried out, with another event replicated in Motueka.

Attendance: Councillor Barker left the meeting at 2.11pm.

It was recognised that the feeling from the community was that Ecofest was moving away from a community event to a 'trade show'. The Committee agreed that a refreshed approach was required. There was also agreement that integrating an awards component into Ecofest would help achieve a refreshed approach, thereby also refreshing how Council recognised outstanding environmental contributions in the community.

Attendance: Her Worship the Mayor Rachel Reese left the meeting at 2.20pm.

The Committee debated whether to take a break this year from delivering either event, and prepare for a 'refreshed' event in 2015. It

was agreed that the community would expect Ecofest this year and that it should still be delivered. The Committee considered it important to maintain momentum and retain sponsors by delivering Ecofest in 2014.

Resolved

THAT the report Tasman Nelson Environment Awards and Ecofest Options (A1120552) and its attachments (A115950 and A1126202) be received;

AND THAT the Ecofest event will occur and include a people's choice environment award to replace the Tasman Nelson Environment Awards scheduled for March 2014;

AND THAT officers report back to the 20 February 2014 Planning and Regulatory Committee meeting with options for a location that will achieve the objectives of the Ecofest event for 2014.

Davy/Ward

Carried

There being no further business the meeting ended at 2.31pm.

Confirmed as a correct record of proceedings:

_____ Chairperson _____ Date

Planning and Regulatory Committee
28 January 2013