



greater WELLINGTON
THE REGIONAL COUNCIL

Report 04.557

12 August 2004

File: E/6/18/2

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held in the Council Chamber, The Regional Council Centre, 142 Wakefield Street, Wellington, on Tuesday, 14 September 2004 at 9.30am

Present

Councillors Buchanan (Chairperson), Barr, McDavitt, Shields and Turver

Officers Present

Messrs Clarke, Croucher, Darroch, Sonia Ellis, Karaitiana Markland, Pryce, Sherriff, Skene, Waddy, Nicola Shorten, Luci Ryan and Dr Bradbury

Public Business

Procedural Items

E 341 **Apologies**

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr McDavitt)

That the apology from Councillor Evans be confirmed.

E 342 **Public Participation**

There were no members of the public who wished to participate in the meeting.

E 343 **Confirmation of Minutes**

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Barr)

That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 August 2004, Report 04.514, be confirmed.

Harbour Matters

There were no Harbour matters for consideration.

Civil Defence Matters

Matter for Information

E 344 **Presentation from NIWA – New Submarine Fault Discoveries and Revised Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Assessment**

Dr Phil Barnes gave a presentation on the new submarine fault discovery and revised probabilistic seismic hazard assessments according to recent work carried out by NIWA in conjunction with the Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences Limited.

Mr R Van Dissen, Geologist, Hazards Group, Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences Limited, and Mr N P Ching, Contracts Manager, NIWA were also present.

Mr Barnes said the natural phenomena on the sea floor of the waters in Cook Strait were now more clearly understood following recent research work. While the hazards were not greater than previously thought there was now a better awareness and understanding of the terrain under the sea.

It was agreed that GW needed to give further consideration to the nature and degree of partnership with NIWA during the next few years including additional work on tsunamis. This will be considered in depth when Council reviewed the LTCCP in the new year.

Councillor Buchanan thanked Dr Phil Barnes and his team for their presentation.

Resolved

(Cr McDavitt/Cr Turver)

That the oral presentation be received.

Environmental Matters

Matters for Decision

E 345 **Whitby Coastal Estates – Objection to Charges under S357 of the Resource Management Act**

Report 04.487

File: WGN030036

Councillor Buchanan said that the Committee had a judicial responsibility to review the objection to charges under Section 357 of the Resource Management Act regarding the Whitby Coastal Estates by Whitby Coastal Estates Limited and the Company had a right to be heard by members.

Councillor Buchanan then welcomed Mr David Bradford, Managing Director, Whitby Coastal Estates Limited who then presented and read a submission dated 14 September 2004 on the excessive Resource Consent application fees.

During question time a copy of Mr Bradford's submission was circulated.

Councillor Buchanan thanked Mr Bradford for taking time to make his presentation to the Committee.

Following discussion the Committee resolved as follows:

Resolved (Cr Buchanan/Cr Shields)

- (1) *That the report be received.*
- (2) *That a revised charge of \$8,900 (before GST) be sought.*

E 346 **Recreational Water Quality Report 2003/2004**

Report 04.520

File: ENV/05/03/01

Resolved (Cr Barr/Cr Turver)

- (1) *That the report be received.*
- (2) *That the Chairperson, Environment Committee, write to the Region's territorial authorities, in particular the Kapiti Coast District Council, Porirua City Council, Hutt City Council and Wellington City Council, and thank them for their continued support of the Region's recreational water quality monitoring programme.*

Matters for Information

E 347 **Divisional Manager's Report**

Report 04.529

File: E/06/18/03

Councillor Barr apologised for his early departure from the meeting.

Divisional Accountant's Report

Following an oral report from Mr Waddy Councillor McDavitt said that it was difficult to interpret surpluses as they were traditionally reported to the Environment Committee and requested that future reporting include a surplus percentage variance in order to better assess the context and degree of importance to be given to the surplus. Councillor McDavitt said his comments were also valid for the other Standing Committees.

Resolved

(Cr Turver/Cr Buchanan)

That the report be received and the contents noted.

E 348 **WREA Update**

Report 04.526

File: ENV/15/02/03

Resolved

(Cr Shields./Cr McDavitt)

That the report be received and the contents noted.

E 349 **Aquaculture Reform Bill**

Report 04.531

File: X/09/10/01

Resolved

(Cr McDavitt/Cr Shields)

- (1) That the report be received and the contents noted.*
- (2) That members note the matters that Greater Wellington will highlight in its submission.*
- (3) That members agree that the final draft, after Councillors have had an opportunity to comment, be approved by the Chairperson of Council and the Chairperson of the Environment Committee.*

E 350 **Sheep Dips in Selected Areas of Porirua and Wellington**

Report 04.503

File: ENV/04/03/01

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr McDavitt)

That the report be received and the contents noted.

Councillor Buchanan noted that once the guidelines had been developed for sheep dips, the information could be communicated to ratepayers especially in the Wairarapa and other farming areas through an education programme.

E 351 **Take Care and Corporate Volunteer Programmes – A Progress Report**

Report 04.489

File: ENV/15/03/01

Resolved

(Cr Shields/Cr Turver)

That the report be received and the contents noted.

E 352 **Decisions on Non-notified Resource Consent Applications**

Report 04.502

File: ENV/01/08/04

Resolved

(Cr Shields/Cr Buchanan)

That the report be received and the contents noted.

E 353 **Pollution Control Report for the Period 13 July to 20 August 2004**

Report 04.488

File: ENV/17/02/01

Resolved

(Cr McDavitt/Cr Turver)

That the report be received and the contents noted.

Other Matters

E 354 **Questions**

There were no questions.

E 355 **General**

Councillor Buchanan said the Environment Committee had now met for the last time in the triennium and thanked members and officers for a good three years. Councillor Buchanan noted the good working relationships with staff. The Committee had given a strong direction for the next LTCCP review and had underpinned certain priorities for the next three years. Councillor Buchanan wished all members the best of results in the forthcoming election.

Councillor Turver said he had often referred to communications through the triennium and was now well pleased at the number of brochures and the way matters environmental were being communicated across the region.

The meeting closed at 11.40am.

CR I BUCHANAN
Chairperson

Date: