

**REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 10.30AM ON
WEDNESDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2007 IN THE MEMORIAL
HALL SUPPER ROOM, ESPLANADE, KAIKOURA.**

PRESENT: Councillor J Ransley (Chair), Mayor K Heays, Councillors B Woods, J Diver, M McChesney, N Pablecheque, D Holmes,

IN ATTENDANCE: S Grant (Chief Executive Officer), L Copping (Executive Officer), M Hoggard, R Vaughan (District Planning Officers), J Denton (Monitoring/Biodiversity Officer), D Laughton (Senior Building Control Officer), K McBride (Food & Health Standards NZ).

APOLOGIES: Councillor J Macphail

Moved by Councillor Woods, seconded by Mayor Heays and resolved that apologies be accepted.

1. MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE TO BE RAISED AS URGENT BUSINESS

1. Party Pills *Public Excluded*

2. MINUTES ACTION LIST UPDATE

Signage at Hapuku Lodge

R Vaughan advised she had requested the Council officer responsible for signage to attend to chasing this matter up.

West End Upgrade plans

R Vaughan advised a sample section of footpath sealing had been completed outside the library for the public to view however the upgrading of the footpaths in the West End would not be undertaken until early autumn 2008.

Councillors McChesney and Holmes requested a copy of the West End upgrade plans.

3. REPORTS

a) Building

The Senior Building Control Officer presented a report for the months of September and October advising a total of 42 building consents with a combined construction value of \$4,263,739 were issued for the period. 32 Code Compliance Certificates were issued for completed projects throughout the period.

b) Resource Planning

13 new resource consents were received for the period 11 September to 12 November and staff were being kept busy with titles now being sought for larger subdivision consents and public enquiries.

c) Monitoring/Biodiversity

The Monitoring Officer advised she had been working more closely with the Building Control Unit by way of Section 37 of the Building Act in order to tighten the loop on conditions and consents in general.

Biodiversity Contestable Fund

Due to elections, minor changes were made to the Biodiversity Contestable Fund panel as follows: Councillor B Woods, Councillor J Ransley, M Ward, R Solomon and T Blunt. The Biodiversity Officer advised the third and final round of the Biodiversity Contestable Fund was currently open and would be required to be reviewed after closure of the round.

Council's Biodiversity Officer was approached by Kyoto Forests New Zealand, a Wellington based company who's role it was to assist landowners in carbon credits. Kyoto Forests New Zealand were eager to build a no obligation partnership with Council and it was felt they could offer another option for landowners to consider in protection mechanisms for their properties. It was hoped Kyoto Forests New Zealand could work in line with the Significant Natural Areas Project.

d) District Planning

District Plan

The matter of height restrictions in South Bay was resolved with the recent decision issued by the Environment Court upholding Council's submission to the court. The District Plan had been finalized and was currently in the process of being printed.

e) Environmental Development

The Environmental Development report was taken as read in the absence of the Environmental Development Officer. The Chief Executive Officer advised Council it may not see a specific Environmental Development report in future agendas due to the Environmental Development Officer's departure and many of the tasks of that position being undertaken by existing staff.

Independent Camping Awareness

Support was received from 9 rental van companies for the distribution of approximately 8000 educational flyers over the upcoming summer season.

The Chief Executive Officer advised independent camping was a national level problem and further advised the Environmental Development Officer had been invited to attend a discussion with Department of Conservation, Transit, Tourism New Zealand, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry for Cultural Affairs, Ministry for the Environment, Regional Tourism Organisations and Local Government to develop a national management approach for independent camping coordinated by Tourism Industry Association of New Zealand.

Naming of West End Bridge

It was suggested that the new bridge, which replaced the former bridge, colloquially known as “The Lions Bridge”, would benefit from being named officially and further suggested that ownership of the new bridge could be generated by inviting the community to suggest suitable names.

Moved by Councillor Diver, seconded by Councillor Pablecheque and resolved that the Road Naming Sub-Committee be given the task of recommending a name to Council for the West End bridge.

Discussion:

Councillor Woods advised she would be voting against the motion as she felt it was not all inclusive in terms of inviting the community to submit names.

The motion was put and carried.

Against: Councillor B Woods

f) Environmental Health

The Environmental Health report was presented by K McBride of Food & Health Standards NZ.

Seafest

Two events, Seafest and Race Day, were held in the district during the reporting period and it had been brought to the attention of Environmental Health Officer, K McBride, that there appeared to be too much focus on alcohol at both events. She advised she would like to work with Policy and the local community in order to take a harder stance on the matter. The Chief Executive Officer advised Seafest had been a well run event however most of the problems occurred after the event and suggested Council could look at providing additional taxis or some form of outdoor entertainment after the event.

Race Day

A visit was made to the Kaikoura races by the Environmental Health Officer where it was found general standards in relation to food hygiene and liquor provision were high. She advised there was a large contingent of buses and visitors from outside the district, with the occupants of some buses mildly intoxicated upon arrival at the races.

Party Pills

The Environmental Health Officer advised she had been alerted to the fact that Betty’s Liquor Store was continuing to sell Party Pills following an earlier investigation and request to remove stock. She advised the sale of party pills alongside alcohol, placed the suitability of the general manager in question and asked that this matter be discussed later in the day in public excluded as urgent business.

Moved by Councillor Woods, seconded by Mayor Heays and resolved that the Environmental Services Reports be received.

Moved by Mayor Heays, seconded by Councillor Pablecheque and resolved that the Resource Consent Update List be received.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.40am