

**REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 10.27AM ON  
WEDNESDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2008 IN THE MEMORIAL  
HALL SUPPER ROOM, ESPLANADE, KAIKOURA.**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** G Saily (Acting 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).

**1. MINUTES ACTION UPDATE LIST**

**Hapuku Lodge Signage**

The District Planner advised she expected the sign to be removed as a designation was currently being looked at for a passing lane and the sign was in the vicinity of the passing lane.

**Recognition system for recyclers**

The District Planner advised she had spoken to the manager at Innovative Waste who had advised it would be very very difficult to quantify and manage recognizing individuals for their efforts in recycling. Councillor Ransley suggested it may be better to recognize streets rather than individuals. Councillor Woods, who had made the initial request for a recognition system, advised she personally did not believe it was unachievable and advised she would like to see this matter progressed further.

**2. REPORTS**

**a) Building**

The Senior Building Control Officer presented the report advising there were 11 Building Consents issued for the month of December and 8 for the month of January with a total combined construction value of \$3,355,800.00.

14 corrective actions were identified throughout the recent accreditation assessments which were required to be rectified in order to achieve accreditation status. These corrective actions were currently being addressed and an assessment re-visit was expected to occur toward the end of March. Mayor Heays asked what impact the accreditation would have on the average person seeking to build a house. The Building Control Officer advised there were a lot of new procedures required and estimated building consent fees would cost approximately 12-13% more. He advised some Councils had huge costs because of shortfalls in resources and were looking at increases of 35%.

***b) Monitoring/Biodiversity/Environmental Projects***

There was an increase in the number of complaints received over the December/January period with most complaints being referred to Food & Health Standards NZ Ltd.

**Biodiversity**

***Regional Weedbuster Awards 2008***

The Biodiversity Officer advised nominations for Weedbuster Awards were currently open and she was looking at putting together nominations for two locals.

The Biodiversity Contestable Fund was currently open for another round of funding until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008.

***Seaweek***

Preparations with Department of Conservation for Seaweek, scheduled to take place early March, were busy taking place.

**Environmental Projects**

***Kiwa Road Toilet***

Kiwa Road toilet was installed and had been operational since 21 December 2007 and a local surfing club had taken responsibility for cleaning of the facility on a three month trial period. Plants had been donated from Kaikoura Nursery and the area had been landscaped by local landscape gardener, R Daly. Signage was being considered for the area advising users of the community and joint venture nature of the project.

***c) District Planning***

The District Plan was effectively operation and it was hoped it would be adopted at a special launch following the return of the Chief Executive Officer.

***Regional Policy Statement***

A presentation to Council of Environment Canterbury's Regional Policy Statement was scheduled to take place 9<sup>th</sup> April, in Kaikoura.

***Te Korowai***

A successful open day was held at Takahanga Marae, attended by the Minister of Fisheries, to launch a characterization report prepared by Te Korowai and comment on the report was being sought.

***Solar Street Lights***

The solar street light being trialed at Whitby Place was being replaced with a brighter model and an existing pole near Tom's Track would be retrofitted with a solar light. Councillors advised why a trial was not being undertaken in the West End as had originally been agreed to. Councillor Diver advised a very large hole would have had to be dug up in the concrete footpath in the West End to accommodate the battery as it was much larger than expected. The Asset Manager

advised Whitby Place and Toms Track were ideal sights as solar lights were designed for use in isolated areas.

**d) Resource Consent Update List**

The District Planner advised the applicant for a subdivision within Seaview Kaikoura had been written to requesting more information following withdrawal of support from the developer. It was noted any issues with existing covenants was not a Council issue and would be a matter between the landowner and the developer.

**e) Environmental Health**

The Environmental Health Officer presented the report advising December had been a busy month with a number of liquor applications being processed.

The Environment Health Officer advised a sign had been erected earlier in the day at the Kahutara River following water samples exceeding recommended levels. It was noted this was likely to have been caused from the river being high due to recent rainfall as most rivers in Canterbury were subject to contamination following rainfall. Councillor Diver asked why Council was placing signs at Kahutara when it was in fact an Environment Canterbury problem. The Environmental Health Officer advised under the signed accord it was Council's mandate to put signage up regarding water. The reasoning behind that was that the Council had closer links with the community as opposed to Environment Canterbury.

The Environmental Health Officer advised public health issues at an accommodation provider had largely been resolved and issues surrounding the swimming pool had been dealt with by Councils building control unit.

Mayor Heays asked for an update on the state of Lyell Creek as it appeared rather dirty and stagnant and was in a lot cleaner state some 5 years ago. The Asset Manager advised Environment Canterbury were currently investigating septic tanks within the surrounding areas. It was noted there was a lot less flow in the river than there had been 4 years ago which would be contributing to the problem. Mayor Heays suggested Environment Canterbury attend a Council meeting and update Council on the state of Lyell Creek.

***Moved by Councillor Woods, seconded by Councillor McChesney and resolved that Environmental Services Reports be received.***

***There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.37am.***