

**REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 9.12AM ON
WEDNESDAY 19 MAY 2010 IN MEMORIAL HALL
SUPPER ROOM, ESPLANADE, KAIKOURA**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: S Grant (Chief Executive Officer), S Syme (Executive Officer), M Hoggard (District Planner), D Laughton (Senior Building Control Officer), J Denton (Environmental /Biodiversity Officer).

1. MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE TO BE RAISED AS URGENT BUSINESS

1) Commercial Whaling (Councillor Woods)

2. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORTS

a) Dog/Stock/Noise Control & Security

23 dog complaints were received during April. Most complaints related to wandering and lost dogs. Of the four dogs which were picked up by Dog Control two were returned to the owners, one was relocated out of Kaikoura and one was destroyed.

3 noise complaints were received during the month and all were dealt with by verbal warning and noise levels were reduced.

b) Building

13 Building Consents with a combined construction value of \$825,100 were issued for the month of April. 3 of these were for new dwellings. 11 consents were currently on hold awaiting further information and the majority of these related to new dwellings.

The Senior Building Control Officer advised backflow prevention devices were required at the point of connection or readily accessible within a building as they were required to be tested. He advised any property which was required to have the device would also have a compliance schedule.

c) Resource Planning

The District Planner advised the number of new resource consent applications was still low but were increasing. He advised recent changes to the Resource Management Act had resulted in a discount policy being imposed on Councils. This resulted in a 1% discount on application costs for each day the statutory processing timeframes were exceeded up to a maximum of 50%. Councillor Diver advised a Resource Consent application did not have to be accepted if all the information was not included.

d) District & Environmental Planning
Regional Coastal Environment Plan

The Plan Change for the fuel tanks in South Bay had been publicly notified by Environment Canterbury and submissions had closed on the 20th of April. Further submissions would close on the 26th of May.

Canterbury Regional Policy Statement

The District Planner advised the draft Canterbury Regional Policy Statement had been circulated to territorial authorities for comment. Council staff had met with staff from Hurunui and Waimakariri and it was generally felt the document was not at a stage to be notified.

e) Biodiversity & Environmental Projects
International Year of Biodiversity

The Biodiversity Officer advised the International Day of Biodiversity would be promoted in Kaikoura on Saturday 22 May. 'Roam, Rove & Rediscover' was a free guided walk over the peninsula walkway. A native tree planting would also take place on the day.

1080 Working Group

The Biodiversity Officer advised the 1080 working group had met on three occasions with the next meeting scheduled for Thursday 27th of May. The group was currently working towards providing a recommendation to Council in September.

The Biodiversity Officer advised Environment Canterbury had publicly notified a resource consent application for the discharge of 1080 and pindone on predominantly private land, for the control of rabbits, wallabies and possums in the Canterbury region. Submissions closed on 4 June 2010. She suggested as Council did not have a formal stance, Council staff make a submission noting that Council had a working group and would like to be kept informed.

Councillor Diver enquired if the 1080 working group was an authorized group of Council. The Chief Executive Officer advised the working group was set up to report back to Council. He advised the working group was not a Council committee and if it was a committee then individual representatives would be specified. He further advised if Council wished to formalise the members of the working party and provide the appropriate status this could be brought back to Council.

The Chief Executive Officer advised in order for Council to be kept informed of progress with regard to the resource consent application Council needed to make a submission.

Moved by Councillor McChesney, seconded by Councillor Pablecheque that Council staff writes a submission on behalf of Council to Environment Canterbury outlining Council's approach via a working group. Council currently lacked a formal stance and neither supported or opposed the application and wished to be kept informed throughout the process. Council did not wish to be heard.

It was noted the Environment Canterbury application was for a 15 year period and Mayor Heays advised he was opposed to this time period and felt Council should request input prior to each operation. He further advised if the working group came up with a recommendation and Council formed a stance there would be no opportunity for input for 15 years. Mayor Heays believed the community needed to have a say in each application.

The District Planner advised the aim of the blanket consent was to make it easier for land owners and was mainly for use on private land. Councillor Diver enquired if Council wanted farmers to apply for resource consent every time they had 1080 applied on their property. Councillor Woods advised the problem with blanket consent was people were concerned with the flow on effects of 1080 and there were greater impacts than just on the farm and she believed Council needed to err on the side of caution.

Amendment to the Motion:

Moved by Mayor Heays, seconded by Councillor Woods that the motion be amended to state;

Council staff write a submission on behalf of Council to Environment Canterbury outlining the Councils approach via a working group and the lack of a formal stance however Council was opposed to the 15 year period and supported a process by which each operation was dealt with case by case.

Councillor Diver advised the consent had arisen from pest liaison committees and the blanket consent was to assist land owners.

The District Planner advised the resource consent application sought the ability to discharge 1080 and pindone on land outside of the Department of Conservation estate for the whole of the Canterbury region. This included some private and crown land. He advised if the application of 1080 was seen as not to have the potential to enter waterways then it had been suggested no resource consent would be required.

Councillor Diver advised the purpose of the resource consent was to tighten the conditions on the use and application of 1080 in the Canterbury region. The District Planner believed the timeframes and areas of application were likely to be the areas of greatest contention.

At the request of Mayor Heays the Council agreed to the amendment being withdrawn.

At the request of Councillor McChesney the Council agreed to the original motion being withdrawn.

Moved by Councillor Macphail, seconded by Mayor Heays and resolved that the Kaikoura District Council make a submission to Environment Canterbury in respect of Resource Consent Application CRC102944 stating that;

- 1) Kaikoura District Council does not currently have a policy regarding the use of 1080. Council is currently involved in developing a political stance regarding the use of 1080 within the Kaikoura District. Therefore the Kaikoura District Council neither supports nor opposes the use of 1080.*
- 2) Council opposes the 15 year timeframe sought for the consent and the ability for multiple applications of 1080 to a site. This is opposed given the changing nature of pest control and pest control products and continuing advances made in pest control.*
- 3) Kaikoura District Council wish to be heard in support of this submission.*

Against: Councillor Diver, Councillor Pablecheque.

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

3. ENVIROSCHOOLS

A Creighton, Regional Coordinator Enviroschools Canterbury, and J Rodgers, Regional Facilitator plus representatives from the Kaikoura High School were in attendance to present this item. A Creighton advised 57 schools in Canterbury were part of the Enviroschools programme along with seven funding partners of which Council was one. She advised Enviroschools was well established and was about long term sustainability.

J Rodgers provided an overview of the Enviroschools programme and the benefits of the programme for schools and the community. She outlined some of the projects which had been undertaken by schools in the district. Amber and Isobel from the Kaikoura High School gave an overview of Enviroschool projects undertaken at the Kaikoura High School. Projects currently underway and new projects included a wilderness area, native garden, butterfly garden, fish pond, recycling bins and restoration of the glass house.

It was noted with regard to funding for Enviroschools the Ministry for the Environment had taken over from the Ministry of Education however, Canterbury was funded by regional funders.

4. URGENT BUSINESS

Commercial Whaling

Councillor Woods enquired if Council had made a decision on the reintroduction of commercial whaling. Councillor Macphail advised the Tourism and Development Committee had sent a letter opposing the reintroduction of commercial whaling. The Chief Executive Officer

advised Council had not formerly considered the issue. It was decided the matter would be raised as urgent business in Council meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2.43pm