

# REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 9.50AM ON WEDNESDAY 19 AUGUST 2015 AT THE MEMORIAL HALL SUPPER ROOM, ESPLANADE, KAIKOURA.

- PRESENT:** Councillor D Morgan (Chair), Mayor W Gray, Councillors T Blunt, J Diver, G Harmon, C Mackle, D Millton.
- IN ATTENDANCE:** S Grant (Chief Executive Officer), M Hoggard, R Vaughan (District Planners), S Syme (Committee Secretary).
- APOLOGIES:** Councillor J Howden.  
***Moved by Councillor Morgan, seconded by Councillor Harmon and resolved that apologies be accepted.***

## 1. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORTS

### **a) Resource Planning**

It was noted a few consents appeared to have been on the resource consent list for a very long time. The District Planner advised Council was waiting for further information regarding these consents. The only other options other than waiting for the information was to force a hearing and decline the consent on the bases that information had not been supplied.

### **b) District and Environmental Planning**

#### **National Legislation**

New legislation had been introduced regarding use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft (Drones). The key aspects of the legislation were;

- Consent was required from the landowner whose property the Drone would be flown over,
- The operator had to be able to see the craft with their own eyes at all times,
- Drones were not to be flown closer than 4 kilometres of any aerodrome.

Council could potentially be approached for consent to allow Drones to fly over land which it owned e.g. parks, and would need to consider policies regarding this. It was not currently considered there was a nuisance from Drones in the district and it was not considered a bylaw was currently justified.

A discussion was held regarding the advantages of using drones over large properties where they would be out of site or for search and rescue situations and the impact of the new legislation.

#### **Canterbury Regional Policy Statement**

The District Planner was currently working with Ngai Tahu and the Runanga regarding Papakainga housing. It was anticipated a proposal would be put forward at the November meeting of the Runanga.

There were a number of areas in Kaikoura which could already be developed as Papakianga housing therefore it was not considered that the rules in the

District Plan were preventing development. The District Planner advised the aim was to try ascertain what road blocks were in the way of development and then Council would endeavor to remove them where possible.

#### **Natural Resources Regional Plan –Air Section**

The hearing of submissions on the Air Plan was scheduled for September. Kaikoura currently had good air quality and as long as Kaikoura remained outside of the “clean air zones” for the region there would be no risk that people would not be allowed fires as a source of heating.

#### **Coastal Erosion**

Erosion on a portion of the Esplanade was now back to the kerb and channel and an enquiry was made as to how long it should be left before re-nourishment was undertaken. It was noted a discussion had been held with the Operations Manager and he was arranging for the work to be done.

#### **Kaikoura Enhancement Group**

J Taggart, Secretary, had resigned from his position. The future of the group was uncertain. The Group had struggled to find funding for the work they wished to undertake. An enquiry was made regarding the plans which had been developed for Beach Road and funded by Council. The District Planner advised a copy of the plans was held at the Council office. The detailed plans had focused on the Northern entrance to the Township.

A discussion was held regarding the Walking and Cycling Strategy and any plans for a cycleway on Beach Road. The District Planner advised the key constraint had been the width of the road. To move the kerb and channel would have been in excess of \$1 million and New Zealand Transport Agency had not been prepared to expend that amount. The District Planner advised a report on cycling on the footpath had been prepared by Abberly. It was requested this be forwarded to the Operations Manager.

#### **Freedom Camping**

Included in the agenda was the draft Freedom Camping Bylaw from the Wairoa District Council.

Councillor Blunt felt freedom camping in Kaikoura was going to put the pristine environment at risk and it had also had an effect on the farming community. An example of this was provided.

A discussion was held regarding enforcement of bylaws, erecting no camping signs and that Council could only create a bylaw for land it owned if there was a nuisance. Council had no jurisdiction on other land. Areas where people could freedom camp had to be provided if a bylaw was put in place.

It was noted the New Zealand Transport Agency actively encouraged people to stop and rest whilst driving to avoid driver fatigue. The Department of Conservation had to specially gazette sites where camping would be prohibited and it was understood they had no appetite to gazette land in the South Marlborough area.

It was generally felt that previous work and information collected on freedom camping should be re-visited and freedom camping included as an item on next month's agenda.

## **2. MINUTES ACTION LIST UPDATE**

### **Proposal for 25 Beach Road**

The Chief Executive Officer advised a small subdivision was underway to square off the back of the site at 25 Beach Road. This back section would then be sold to the adjoining landowner. The front section would then be sold. An earthquake report had been undertaken on the building and it met the requirements as outlined in Council's Earthquake Prone Building Policy.

An enquiry was made as to whether the back portion of the land would be put on the open market to deem best value. The Chief Executive Officer advised his role was to try and obtain the best return for Council. He had talked to valuers and it had been perceived the value would be better by squaring off the land.

Councillor Morgan advised she would like it noted for future that she assumed a report would have come to Council regarding a decision on the best option.

***There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.41am.***