

REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 9.32AM ON WEDNESDAY 18 DECEMBER 2013 AT MEMORIAL HALL SUPPER ROOM, ESPLANADE, KAIKOURA.

PRESENT: Councillor D Morgan (Chair), Mayor W Gray, Councillors T Blunt, J Diver, G Harmon, J Howden, C Mackle, D Millton.

IN ATTENDANCE: S Grant (Chief Executive Officer), S Syme (Committee Secretary), R Vaughan (District Planner), K Scattergood (Emergency Management Officer), D Shovel (Environmental Health Officer).

1. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORTS

a) Building

There were 6 Building Consents with a combined construction value of \$229,200 issued for the month of November.

Recent changes had been made to the Building Act. As a result of changes the Building Department would endeavour to obtain producer statements from manufactures for products so that individual applicants would not have to supply the information therefore making it easier for them.

b) Civil Defence

The Emergency Management Officer provided an overview of recent and upcoming activities. A Civil Defence road show was planned in March. Presentations would be made on subjects such as; the latest information on tsunami risk to the district, a realistic look at the threats to Kaikoura and how to prepare for an emergency.

c) Resource Planning

2 applications for land use consent has been received in the reporting period. Plenty of enquiries were still being received for building activities but resource consent applications remained low.

Councillor Millton enquired regarding the number of empty sections in Kaikoura and whether the abundance could affect development in the District. The District Planner guessed there would approximately 90 empty sections in the two large subdivisions. She advised from a planning point of view it was reassuring to have areas for growth already in place. This meant instead of focusing on a growth strategy other areas of work could be focused on. Councillor Millton enquired regarding the process of zoning land either commercial or industrial. The District Planner advised a lot of technical background work needed to be undertaken for Plan Changes.

d) District and Environmental Planning Land and Water Regional Plan

Environment Canterbury had accepted the Hearing Commissioners recommendations and decisions on the Plan would be notified in January 2014.

Walking and Cycling

Construction of the walking and cycling track from Harakeke Mall to Middle Creek had commenced.

Earthcheck

The Earthcheck auditor had been on site for two days in November. The auditor's report had recommended the granting of certification however a few areas where work was required had been identified. A Sustainability Strategy, including a Tourism Strategy, was required before the 2014 audit.

Biodiversity Project

The District Planner advised funding for protection of areas on private land was available from a number of organisations. Landowners interested in protecting area or ecological surveys should contact the District Planners who could provide assistance.

e) Environmental Health

The Environmental Health Officer provided an overview of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 which was fully implemented on 18 December 2013.

The Act brought alcohol related decision-making to a local level through the District Licensing Committee process. The emphasis of the Act was the reduction of harm caused by alcohol. The act aimed to achieve this in a number of ways which included; a more robust legislative requirement around the strengths and type of alcohol which could be sold, people who supplied alcohol to those under 18 years old were to do so responsibly, and all applications for licences had to be considered against "amenity and good order of the area".

Fees were set by legislation and were risk based and included an application fee and annual fees. It was noted fees had changed dramatically. To reduce risk and in turn reduce fees a premise would need to close earlier.

The Chief Executive Officer enquired if any Local Alcohol Plans had been advertised to date. The Environmental Health Officer believed Waimakariri District Council had advertised that day. It was also believed the first Council to advertise its Local Alcohol Policy may be subject to legal action from a number of organisations. The Environmental Health Officer advised however that he believed there was very little in the provisional Kaikoura Local Alcohol Policy which could be contested.

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

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.22am.