

Minutes of the fourth meeting of the eleventh triennium of the Environment Committee held at 9.30am on Wednesday 12 August 2020, in the Tararua Room, Horizons Regional Council, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North.

PRESENT Crs NJ Patrick (Chair), AL Benbow, EM Clarke, DB Cotton (via audio

visual link), SD Ferguson, EB Gordon, FJT Gordon (via audio visual link), RJ Keedwell, WM Kirton, JM Naylor, WK Te Awe Awe, and

GJ Turkington.

IN ATTENDANCE Chief Executive Mr MJ McCartney

Committee Secretary Mrs JA Kennedy

**ALSO PRESENT** At various times during the meeting:

Dr J Roygard (Group Manager Natural Resources & Partnerships), Dr N Peet (Group Manager Strategy & Regulation), Mr R Strong (Group Manager River Management), Mr R Smillie (Biodiversity, Biosecurity & Partnerships Manager), Mr G Bevin (Regulatory Manager), Ms C Morrison (Media & Communications Manager), Mr G Kane and Farm Trustees (Deputation), Mr T Gray and Mr M McCord (NZ Deer Farmers Association), Mr P McKenzie and

Mr L Fung (Deer Industry NZ).

The Chair welcomed everyone and invited Cr Te Awe Awe to open the meeting with a Karakia.

#### **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

# **PUBLIC FORUMS / DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS**

Mr Geoff Kane had been granted a deputation.

He highlighted the aims of the Arawhata Wetland Project and outlined the effect it had on his farming operation.

# SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

There were no supplementary items to be considered.

# **MEMBERS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Cr Turkington noted a potential conflict of interest in Item 9, Regulatory Management Report.

During discussion of Item 9, Regulatory Management Report, Cr Clarke noted a conflict of interest to the proposed additional recommendation as she had a consent with Horizons which was currently being processed.

# **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

# ENV 20-18 Moved Turkington/Keedwell

That the Committee:

**confirms** the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 9 June 2020 as a correct record, and notes that the recommendations were adopted by the Council on 23 June 2020.

**CARRIED** 



# TE KĀURU PLANTING ACTIVITY

Report No 20-96

This item was rescheduled to a future date.

### **REGULATORY MANAGEMENT REPORT - MAY TO JULY 2020**

Report No 20-98

This report updated Members on regulatory activity, for the period May to July 2020. Dr Peet (Group Manager Strategy & Regulation) and Mr Bevin (Regulatory Manager) summarised outputs from the 2019-2020 year, gave an update on the regulatory programme and key operational issues for the 2020-2021 year, presented a review of compliance and enforcement across the regional sector, and clarified Members' questions.

In discussing Horizons consenting processes, Cr Cotton (via audio visual link) proposed a new motion and explained its intent. Members expressed their views around the proposed motion and their preferences for a way forward. A division was requested for the proposed recommendation.

#### ENV 20-19 Moved

#### Cotton/Kirton

That the Committee recommends that Council:

a. receives the information contained in Report No. 20-98 and Annexes.

# **CARRIED**

b. requests that the Chief Executive urgently undertakes a review of Horizons consenting processes and identifies areas in agreement with Council that need an external peer review (suggesting starting with water take consents).

For: Crs Cotton, Kirton, Turkington, B Gordon, Te Awe Awe, Benbow

Against: Crs Patrick, Keedwell, F Gordon, Ferguson, Naylor

Abstain: Cr Clarke

**CARRIED** 

A further recommendation was then proposed to instigate a workshop with elected members as below.

# ENV 20-20 Moved

#### Navlor/Benbow

That the Committee recommends that Council:

requests the Chief Executive to instigate a workshop with elected members to improve their understanding of consenting processes, and to identify the scope and purpose of the review.

**CARRIED** 

#### SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 4.2

# ENV 20-21 Moved

#### Naylor/Keedwell

That the Committee suspends Standing Order 4.2 in order that the meeting can continue to sit beyond the two hour limit, without a ten minute break.

# **CARRIED**



The meeting adjourned at 11.36am

The meeting reconvened at 11.40am.

# DEER INDUSTRY ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP IN THE MANAWATŪ-WHANGANUI REGION

Report No 20-99

Dr Peet (Group Manager Strategy & Regulation) introduced representatives from Deer Industry New Zealand and the New Zealand Deer Farm Association who presented on the New Zealand Deer Industry presence in the Manawatū-Whanganui region, environmental issues and awareness, and the industry collaboration.

# ENV 20-22 Moved

B Gordon/Te Awe Awe

That the Committee recommends that Council:

a. receives the presentation from Deer Industry New Zealand and the New Zealand Deer Farm Association.

#### **CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 12.10pm

The meeting reconvened at 12.24pm.

# NATURAL RESOURCES & PARTNERSHIPS PROGRESS REPORT

Report No 20-97

This item updated Members on the progress made in the Natural Resources & Partnership Group's activity over the period 1 April to 30 June 2020. Dr Roygard (Group Manager Natural Resources & Partnerships) provided an update on progress against the Annual Plan targets and aspects of the Natural Resources & Partnerships Group Operational Plan 2019-20. He also provided some updates on work that would be completed or underway as a part of the new financial year.

ENV 20-23 Move	Þε
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& PARTNERSHIPS

Naylor/Te Awe Awe

That the Committee recommends that Council:

a. receives the information contained in Report No. 20-97 and Annexes.

# **CARRIED**

The meeting closed at 12.48pm.	
Confirmed	
CHAIR	GROUP MANAGER STRATEGY & REGULATION
GROUP MANAGER NATURAL RES	 SOURCES