

**Minutes of a Meeting of the  
Marlborough District Council  
held in the Council Chambers, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim  
on THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER 2014 commencing at 3.00 pm**

**Present**

The Mayor A T Sowman, Clrs J L Andrews, J A Arbuckle, J P Bagge, G S Barsanti, C J Brooks, B G Dawson, G I T Evans, T E Hook, P J S Jerram, J C Leggett, D D Oddie, L M Shenfield and T M Sloan.

**In Attendance**

Messrs A R Besley (Chief Executive) and M J Porter (Democratic Services Manager).

**Prayer**

The meeting opened with the Council prayer.

The Mayor advised that he had attended the launch of book on the Edwin Fox "Teak and Tide" (by Nigel Costley) in Picton on Tuesday.

**C.14/15.233 Confirmation of Minutes -**

The Mayor/Clr Arbuckle:

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 30 October 2014 (Minute Nos. C.14/15.162 to C.14/15.173) be taken as read and confirmed.

Carried

**Committee Reports**

**C.14/15.234 Resource Hearing Committee Decisions -**

Clrs Oddie/Brooks:

That the Resource Hearing Committee Decisions as contained within the reports dated 23 October 2014 (U130117 & U140615), 28 October 2014 (U130527) and 12 November 2014 (U140713) be received and the recommendations adopted.

Carried

**C.14/15.235 Resource Hearing Commissioner Decisions -**

Clrs Arbuckle/Oddie:

That the Resource Hearing Commissioner Decisions as contained within the reports dated 10 September 2014 (U140175) and 6 November 2014 (U140772) be received and the recommendations adopted.

Carried

**C.14/15.236 Community & Finance Committee -**

The recommendations under Minute No. A.14/15.179 (Blenheim Parking) were debated. Debate centred around the implementation date for changes other than the free-Saturday parking, whether free-Saturday

parking was viable, whether the Railway Station South and Fire Station carparks should be excluded, and whether some form of rates subsidy should remain. Clr Dawson noted that he had circulated a paper to members on his work to date on this issue.

**Clrs Brooks/Andrews:**

**That Council not proceed with carparking charges at the Railway Station South carpark.**

**Lost**

**Clrs Dawson/Bagge:**

**That recommendation 9. under Minute No. A.14/15.179 be amended to:**

**9. That all other changes be implemented from 1 June 2015.**

**Lost**

Members then debated the recommendations under Minute No. A.14/15.183 (Sugar-Sweetened Beverages Policy). Clr Bagge declared an interest in this issue. Members noted the circulated letter in support of a policy from the Kimi Hauora Wairau Marlborough PHO. Two amendments to the recommendations were voted on and lost (detailed below). A third amendment was withdrawn before voting.

**Clrs Shenfield/Dawson:**

**That Council not proceed with developing a policy on sugar-sweetened beverages.**

**Lost**

**Clrs Leggett/Shenfield:**

**That Council promote a position on sugar-sweetened beverages.**

**Lost**

The substantive motion was then voted on.

**Clrs Leggett/Barsanti:**

**That the Committee report contained within Minute Nos. A.14/15.178 to A.14/15.193 be received and the recommendations adopted.**

**Carried**

NB: Clrs Dawson and Shenfield requested that their vote against the above in relation to the Sugar-Sweetened Beverages Policy be recorded.

## **C.14/15.237 Regional Planning & Development Committee -**

**Clrs Hook/Sloan:**

**That the Committee report contained within Minute Nos. D.14/15.194 to D.14/15.203 be received and the recommendations adopted.**

**Carried**

## **C.14/15.238 Assets & Services Committee -**

The recommendations under Minute No. P.14/15.215 (Freedom Camping Bylaw Amendments) were debated at length with a number of votes taken on a variety of amending resolutions. The debate commenced with an acknowledgement that Clr Evans had circulated a paper (containing his comments and suggestions) at the Assets and Services meeting held on 25 November 2014. For reference this paper is attached to these minutes as Appendix 1.

The debate then continued on whether the legislation under the Local Government Act 2002 or the Freedom Camping Act 2011 should be the basis that is used for Council's Freedom Camping Bylaw, and also whether this debate should be a formal part of the review of the 2014/15 trial.

**Clrs Evans/Bagge:**

**That as part of the 2014/15 trial of Council's Freedom Camping Bylaw, there be a vote on whether the legislation under the Local Government Act 2002 or the Freedom Camping Act 2011 should be the basis that is used for Council's Freedom Camping Bylaw.**

**Lost on a show of hands (following a division call) by 7 to 6 (The Mayor, and Clrs Andrews, Barsanti, Hook Jerram, Oddie, and Sloan against, Clrs Arbuckle, Bagge, Dawson Evans, Leggett and Shenfield for).**

A call was made to withdraw the Picton High Street carpark from the trial. This carpark, Picton in general and the associated restriction of numbers at the Collins Memorial/Koromiko Reserve was debated. Suggestions were made to charge for parking at the Picton Foreshore carpark (in line with what other Councils have implemented) and to ensure sufficient consultation is undertaken during the trial. A call was also made to totally prohibit any freedom camping at the Collins Memorial/Koromiko Reserve.

**Cirs Sloan/Hook:**

**That the Picton High Street carpark be removed from the recommendations of the Working Group.**

**Carried**

**Cirs Bagge/Shenfield:**

**That freedom camping be prohibited at the Collins Memorial/Koromiko Reserve.**

**Lost**

The need for good signage and regular enforcement at the Collins Memorial/Koromiko Reserve was noted by staff.

It was agreed that the trial take place from midnight tonight until 17 March 2015.

**Cirs Hook/Sloan:**

**That the recommendations under Minute No. P.14/15.215 be replaced with the following:**

1. **That the recommendations of the Working Group (attached as Appendix 2), with the exclusion of the Picton High Street carpark, be adopted to form prohibited and restricted areas in the draft Freedom Camping Bylaw.**
2. **That a trial of the suggestions is put in place for the 2014/15 summer which will form evidence for the consultation phase of the Bylaw.**
3. **That the trial commence at midnight 11 December 2014 and continue until 17 March 2015.**

**Carried**

The substantive motion was then voted on.

**Cirs Sloan/Andrews:**

**That the Committee report contained within Minute Nos. P.14/15.204 to P.14/15.217 be received and the recommendations, as amended above, adopted.**

**Carried**

## **C.14/15.239 Environment Committee -**

**Cirs Jerram/Oddie:**

**That the Committee report contained within Minute Nos. R.14/15.218 to R.14/15.232 be received and the recommendations adopted.**

**Carried**

## **C.14/15.240 Grants Sub-Committee -**

**The Mayor/Cir Barsanti:**

**That the Sub-Committee report contained within Minute Nos. X.14/15.174 to X.14/15.177 be received and the recommendations adopted.**

**Carried**

NB: It was noted that Cirs Andrews and Brooks had both declared an interest in one or more of the grant applications contained within the Minutes of the Grants Sub-Committee meeting above. Cir Shenfield declared an interest in the above and did not vote on the matter.

## C.14/15.241 Members' Interests

C500-005-11

Members noted that the purpose of the report was for Council to assess the need to review processes for recording pecuniary and other specified interest of members.

It was reported that current Council Policy of recording interests of members where they have some contractual arrangement with Council, and leaving it up to Members to declare any other conflict of interest (pecuniary or perceived) at the time an item is being discussed, is considered to satisfy the minimum requirement of the Act. A way of supporting Members to comply with their responsibilities under the Act is to add a "conflicts of interest" declaration at the beginning of the agenda of Council and standing committees to ensure that this issue is at the forefront of discussions. Another way to support Members is for an "Interests Register" to be maintained, which highlights all relevant interests for themselves and close family members.

### **Clrs Arbuckle/Brooks:**

1. That Council consider adding a "conflicts of interest" declaration at the beginning of the agenda of Council and standing committees.
2. That Council consider the implementation of an "Interests Register" to record relevant interests in Employment, Shareholdings, Trusts, Real estate holdings, and Gifts received by themselves and close family members.

**Lost** on a show of hands (following a division call) by 7 to 6 (Clrs Andrews, Evans, Hook Jerram, Leggett, Oddie, and Sloan against, The Mayor, and Clrs Arbuckle, Bagge, Brooks, Dawson and Shenfield for).

## C.14/15.242 Decision to Conduct Business with the Public Excluded

### **The Mayor/Clr Sloan:**

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

- Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes
- Committee Reports (Public Excluded Sections)
- Appointment of Directors

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General Subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Minutes and Committee Reports	As set out in the Minutes	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under Section 7 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.
Appointment of Directors	In order to protect the privacy of natural persons, as provided for under Section 7(2)(a).	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under Section 7 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

### **Carried**

The meeting closed at 5 10 pm.

Confirmed this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February 2015

A T SOWMAN  
**MAYOR**

Record No. 1524609

### Freedom Camping Comment and Suggestions 20014

The not unexpected large number of submissions means Council should make this review meaningful.

To that end we should consider returning to Freedom camping as being a prohibited activity except where permitted (Local Government sourced Bylaw.)

Council has a duty of care to manage its property in the best interests of ratepayers and for our community

Going back to the LG Act means that Council could effectively control where Freedom camping is a viable option and it would give some certainty to Campers as to where they can source safe pleasant and resourced surroundings

Most (All of ) of the community and staff I have spoken to would like to see Freedom camping being confined to designated areas:

The merit of this is clear when resources can be targeted to high use areas and benefits or problems confined to those areas.

Outside those areas Camping on Council reserves could be permitted on a "permission gained from council "basis.

A charge should be levied for this use of council property. to defray expenses

The benefits of such a regime would be better management of council land.

Cost of management defrayed by charges

Identification of users and areas of interest.

Allow consideration of an areas appropriateness for such use

Assist with managing fire bans

Enable appropriate control of reserves at risk (eg road reserves in forests)

Avoid competition with other ratepayers who are supplying similar services

Prosecutions can still be brought

Geoff Evans

## Appendix 2

### Prohibited Areas

Current Bylaw	Working Group Recommendations
<p><b>Blenheim Urban Area</b>            Encompassing Wither Hills Farm Park, The south side of the Co-op Drain to the intersection of Redwood Pass Road and State Highway 1, from the Riverlands ponds to the stopbank on the north side of the Opawa River through to the bridge at Thompsons Ford Road, Murphys Road, Middle Renwick Road to Severne Street including Sheps Park along David Street to Battys Road, New Renwick Road to Aerodrome Road then along the true left of the Taylor River through to the Taylor Dam Reserve.</p>	<p>To stay the same with amendment to include the area from Middle Renwick Road, Rose Street and Banksia Place to the Westwood shopping complex roundabout except A&amp;P Park and Blenheim Railway Station.</p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> due to the urban nature of the area there is known conflict with day users of Parks and health and safety concerns with urban parking requirements. See spreadsheet "Purposes to Prohibit Area" for more detail. Evidence of issue.</p>
<p><b>Picton Urban Area</b>            Encompassing the Elevation, Wairau Road, Essons Valley, Following the bush line through Waikawa Bay and Victoria Domain through to Shelley Beach, Picton Foreshore through to the Picton Cemetery at Gravesend Place and back to Wairau Road.</p>	<p>To stay the same with additional restricted sites (will expand on this under restricted sites). Picton is unique in that it receives many campervans on and off the ferry. This attributes to some of the overcrowding issues at Koromiko and higher statistics for non-compliant camping. With recommended restrictions at Koromiko additional sites.</p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> due to the urban nature of the area there is known conflict with day users of parks and health and safety concerns with urban parking requirements. See spreadsheet "Purposes to Prohibit Area" for more detail. Evidence of issue.</p>
<p><b>Havelock Urban Area</b>            Encompassing Mahakipawa Road across the estuary to the Marina through to Cook Street then to the intersection with State Highway 6, then following the bush line back to Mahakipawa Road and State Highway 6.</p>	<p>To stay the same.</p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> due to the urban nature of the area there is known conflict with day users of parks and health and safety concerns with urban parking requirements. See spreadsheet "Purposes to Prohibit Area" for more detail. Evidence of issue.</p>
<p><b>Seddon Urban Area</b>            Encompassing Wakefield Street Across State Highway 1 to Marama Road then into Foster Street, including the Domain, commencing into Beaumont Street encompassing Nursery Lane back to the intersection of Simpson Street, Renwick Street and then along Mills Street to Fearon Street.</p>	<p>Allow only self-contained camping, with the exception of the Domain due to conflict with day users and parking.</p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> No evidence of freedom camping being an issue in this area. Non-self-contained are catered for at the Domain campground and Blairich Reserve.</p>
<p><b>Renwick Urban Area</b>            Encompassing the intersection of High Street and Old Renwick Road via State Highway 6 through to the north side of State Highway 63 where it intercepts with Anglesea Street to Boyce Street including River Terrace and from Gee Street to Blicks Road, land including the Domain Area then into Alma Street North to Oudenarde Street then to Brook Street along to High Street back to the intersection of Old Renwick Road.</p>	<p>To stay the same with the exception of Renwick Domain carpark.</p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> due to the urban nature of the area there is known conflict with day users of parks and health and safety concerns with urban parking requirements. See spreadsheet "Purposes to Restrict" for more detail.</p>

Current Bylaw	Working Group Recommendations
<p><b>Queen Charlotte Drive</b> From Picton to Havelock and including the Queen Charlotte lookout.</p>	<p>To stay the same. <b>Explanation:</b> Evidence shows that this area has negative issues with Freedom camping. Health and safety issues regarding roading.</p>
<p><b>Kenepuru Road</b> From Linkwater to the end of Titirangi Road including Manaroa Road, Clova Bay Road, Moetapu Bay Road, Broughton Bay Road, Tara Bay Road, Lawrence Road, Torea Road, Sandy Bay Road, Titirangi Road, Akerbloms Roads, Anakoha Road, Hopai Road, St Omer Road, Crail Bay Road, Elie Bay Road, Williams Road, Te Mahia Road and Onahau Road.</p>	<p>To stay the same. <b>Explanation:</b> Evidence shows that this area has negative issues with Freedom camping. Health and safety issues regarding roading. Figure 4.</p>
<p><b>French Pass Road</b> From Okiwi Bay to French Pass</p>	<p>Allow only self-contained camping with the exception of Tunnicliff Reserve and Okiwi Bay Foreshore area. <b>Explanation:</b> No evidence of Freedom Camping being an issue in this area. Non-self-contained are catered for at both DOC and Commercial Camp grounds along this road. Council has no public facilities in this area other than Tunnicliff Reserve and there is no formed parking so need to park within reserve which would create conflict with day use.</p>
<p><b>Karaka Pont Road Reserve</b> Area adjoining Karaka Point Reserve on Port Underwood Road</p>	<p>Delete this site as prohibited as will be covered by recommendation of addition below.</p>
<p><b>Log Wharf Reserve</b> Havelock</p>	<p>To stay the same. <b>Explanation:</b> Evidence of issue. Conflict with day use.</p>
<p><b>Ocean Bay Foreshore Reserves</b> Port underwood Road Ocean Bay</p>	<p>To stay the same. <b>Explanation:</b> Evidence of issue. Conflict with day use.</p>
<p><b>Upper Spring Creek Reserve</b> Rapaura Road Spring Creek</p>	<p>To stay the same. <b>Explanation:</b> Conflict with day use.</p>
<p><b>Wairau Rowing Club</b></p>	<p>To stay the same. <b>Explanation:</b> Evidence of issue. Conflict with day use.</p>
<p><b>Blenheim Rowing Club</b></p>	<p>To stay the same. <b>Explanation:</b> Evidence of issue. Conflict with day use.</p>
<p><b>Omaka River Reserve</b></p>	<p>To stay the same. <b>Explanation:</b> Evidence of issue. Conflict with day use.</p>



Current Bylaw	Working Group Recommendations
Ferry Bridge Picnic area	To stay the same. <b>Explanation:</b> Evidence of issue. Conflict with day use.
Wairau Diversion Reserve	To stay the same. <b>Explanation:</b> Conflict with day use. Adjoining area restricted use.

### Additional Proposed Prohibited Areas

Current Bylaw	Working Group Recommendations
Freeths Road	Prohibit parking along both sides of Freeths Road via signage. Dependent on adopting changes to Koromiko.
MDC areas adjoining DOC prohibited areas	Introduce (Bluegums, Karaka Point).

## Restricted Areas

### Proposed changes to Restricted Areas

Current Bylaw	Working Group Recommendations
Elterwater Reserve	To stay the same.
Blairich Reserve (Freedom Camping)	Allow tents as there is a toilet.
Collins Memorial/Koromiko Reserve (Freedom Camping)	To stay the same with additional restriction to limit the number of vehicles as permitted to 12. As a result of limited number at this site additional sites are recommended due to demand resulting from Ferries.  Recommend screen planting to limit visual impact.
Double Bay Reserve (Freedom Camping)	Change to allow only self-contained camping.  Put restrictions on recommended six vehicles to allow space for day use and boat trailer parking.
Ohingaroa Reserve (Self-contained only)	To stay the same. Currently no toilets so non-self-contained not an option.  Put restrictions on. Four vehicles only.

<b>Ohauparuparu Reserve</b> (Self-contained only)	To stay the same. Currently no toilets so non-self-contained not an option. Large area so no recommendation to restrict numbers of vehicles.
<b>Wairau Diversion Reserve</b> (Self-contained only)	To stay the same. Current designation is away from toilet to avoid any potential day use conflict therefore recommend continue with self-contained. Large area so no recommendation to restrict numbers of vehicles.
<b>Taylor Dam</b> (Self-contained only)	Open to non-self-contained and tents? Allow entire area (need to consider message as potential to flood.)

### Proposed New Restricted Areas

Current Bylaw	Working Group Recommendations
<b>Wynen Street Carpark</b>	Self-contained only. No toilet. Only to park between 6.00 pm – 9.00 am. One night stay only. No cookers external of vehicle. No washing to be hung. Need to consider Saturday Market for area.
<b>Blenheim Railway Station Carpark</b>	Allow self-contained only. Put restrictions only to park between 6.00 pm – 9.00 am. One night stay only. No cookers external of vehicle. No washing to be hung.
<b>Waitohi Domain</b> As a consequence of recommending restricting numbers Koromiko.	Allow non-self-contained. Need to provide cleaning to toilet, additional cost. Rubbish bins are recommended. Cost: \$2000 pa. One night stay only (intention to provide a parking space for users of the ferry).
<b>Picton High Street Carpark</b> (As a consequence of recommending restricting numbers Koromiko.)	<del>Allow self-contained. Put restrictions only to park between 6.00 pm – 9.00 am. One night stay only. No cookers external of vehicle. No washing to be hung. As a consequence of recommending restricting numbers Koromiko.</del>
<b>A &amp; P Park</b> (Potential conflict with day users)	Allow non-self-contained. Need to consider neighbours and events. Put Restrictions 6.00 pm – 9.00 am.

Current Bylaw	Working Group Recommendations
<b>Seddon Urban Area</b> Excluding the Domain and surrounding carparks	Self-contained only.
<b>Renwick Domain carpark</b>	6.00 pm to 8.00 am Self-contained and non-self-contained
<b>Brown River Reserve</b>	Non-self and self-contained/tent.
<b>Alfred Stream Reserve</b>	Non-self and self-contained/tent.
<b>Picton Foreshore carpark</b>	Self-contained only. 6.00 pm to 9.00 am. Restricted spaces for 10 vehicles.