



**Minutes of a Meeting of the
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
held in the Council Chambers, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim
on THURSDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2020 commencing at 9.00 am.**

Present

Mayor J C Leggett (Chairperson), Councillors D D Oddie (Deputy), G A Hope (Deputy), J A Arbuckle, J D N Croad, B A Faulls and T P Sowman, and Mr E R Beech (Rural representative)

Also Present

Councillors J L Andrews, F D Maher (to 9.50 am) and N P Taylor.

In Attendance

Mr H R Versteegh (Environmental Science and Policy Group Manager) and Mr M J Porter (Democratic Services Manager)

Apologies

The Mayor/Clr Arbuckle

That the apologies for non-attendance from Clrs C J Brooks and M A Peters be noted.

Carried

Env-1120-165 Declaration of Interests -

No interests with items on the agenda were declared.

ATTENDANCE: Mr Jono Underwood, Council's Biosecurity Manager, and Mr Peter Lawless, TOSMBP Coordinator, were present for the following item.

**Env-1120-166 Top of the South Marine Biosecurity Partnership
- update E315-004-001**

Mr Underwood advised that the purpose of the report was for the Committee to receive an update on the work of the Top of the South Marine Biosecurity Partnership (TOSMBP) and to signal a pending review of the 2009 TOSMBP Strategic Plan. Mr Lawless spoke to the meeting and highlighted the report with a presentation (presentation filed in CM: Record No. 20219250).

Mr Underwood reported that the three Top of the South (TOS) unitary authorities - Tasman District Council (TDC), Nelson City Council (NCC), Marlborough District Council (MDC) and the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) have operated in partnership. The four agencies pool funding to engage a coordinator who both undertakes the coordination of the TOSMBP and also delivers an agreed work programme. There is engagement with tangata whenua iwi through the Iwi8 fisheries forum. Key outputs by the contractor include the coordination of the TOSMBP committee, building engagement and awareness across the TOS, and delivering an on-water summer surveillance/survey. In the earlier years, marine biosecurity was a very new issue/challenge and the TOSMBP approach was the first such model used to bring players together. Even though the councils are now building capacity (predominantly in response to imminent threats), the TOSMBP still provides a platform to collaborate, share learnings and seek efficiencies.

Mr Underwood further reported that to capture the changes and developments in addressing marine biosecurity risks across the TOS, a review of the TOSMBP Strategic Plan will likely be undertaken over the next 12 months.

Clrs Croad/Sowman:

That the information be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Ms Barbara Mead, Council's Advocacy and Practice Integration Manager, and Ms Sue Bulfield-Johnston, Council's Administrator and Hearing Facilitator, were present for the following two items.

Env-1120-167 Resource Consent Hearings Update R450-004-22

Ms Bulfield-Johnston advised that the purpose of the report was to provide to the Committee a summary of the hearings undertaken since the previous report was provided, together with an update as to changes in practice following COVID-19.

Members were aware that the report provides a rolling summary of hearings scheduled and completed for applications for resource consent. Since the onset of COVID-19 and the Level 4 lockdown a practice has been implemented to consider extension of timeframe and online hearings where appropriate.

Ms Bulfield-Johnston's report covered detailed information on: Resource Consent Hearing Facilitation Services Survey to Hearing Commissioners; and applications that have been scheduled for hearing.

Cirs Oddie/Croad:
That the information be received.

Carried

Env-1120-168 Appointment of Hearings Commissioners R450-004-02

Ms Bulfield-Johnston advised the purpose of the report was to present David Randal for inclusion on the list of Hearings Commissioners. Mr Randal's Summary CV was attached to the item for members' information.

Members were advised on David Randal's experience and it was noted that whilst he has yet to serve as a Commissioner, this is an opportunity to bring on and develop a new commissioner who will in time become a useful addition to the Commissioner list.

Cirs Arbuckle/Oddie:

- 1. That the report be received.**
- 2. That David Randal is appointed to act as a Hearings Commissioner as and when required and that he be advised accordingly.**

Carried

Ms Mead spoke to the meeting giving an update on Appeals. Ms Mead is to circulate her written report to members.

ATTENDANCE: Mr Oliver Wade, Council's Environmental Scientist - Coastal, was present for the following two items.

Env-1120-169 Ecologically Significant Marine Site Programme - Recommendations of the Expert Review Panel 2020 E325-002-004-01

Mr Wade advised that the purpose of the report was to present to the Committee a summary of the report 'Expert panel review of selected significant marine sites surveyed during the summer of 2019-20'. The report was available on Council's website with a link included in the agenda item for members' information.

In summary Mr Wade reported that in July 2020, the findings of the 2019/20 ecologically significant marine site (ESMS) programme summer monitoring were reported to the Environment Committee. Since then the ESMS expert panel has met to review the findings of this report and assess the sites against the ESMS significance criteria. The ESMS expert review panel has recommended that all new sites and boundary adjustments recommended by Davidson et al (2020) are accepted.

Members discussed the consultation process. It was noted that the findings of this report will be communicated to the policy team for inclusion in the existing draft ESMS plan variation.

Cirs Hope/Arbuckle:

1. That the report be received.
2. That the proposed sites be referred to the Planning and Finance Committee for inclusion in the draft plan variation to the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan.

Carried

Env-1120-170 Pelorus Sound/Te Hoiere Multibeam Mapping Project

E325-017-002-01, C315-18-034

Mr Wade advised that the purpose of the report was to update the Committee on ongoing research and monitoring in the Queen Charlotte Sound/Tōtaranui and Tory Channel/Kura Te Au utilising the multibeam data from the HS51 survey and to present to the Committee some initial maps from the multibeam survey of the Pelorus Sound/Te Hoiere. To highlight this report a presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM: Record No. 20219253).

In summary Mr Wade reported that due to the open source nature of the data collected during the HS51 survey, a number of research institutions have developed research work utilising the Queen Charlotte Sound/Tōtaranui and Tory Channel/Kura Te Au survey data. This research will assist Council with the management of Queen Charlotte Sound/Tōtaranui and Tory Channel/Kura Te Au. The hydrographic surveyors completed the multibeam survey (HS66) of Pelorus Sound/Te Hoiere in June 2020. Data processing occurred between June and September 2020. LINZ provided the raw data and collated bathymetric layers to Council in late October 2020. This work does not include the habitat layers provided as part of the HS51 Queen Charlotte Sound/Tōtaranui and Tory Channel/Kura Te Au survey.

Cirs Hope/Oddie:

That the report be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: The meeting adjourned at 10.21 am and reconvened at 10.32 am.

ATTENDANCE: Ms Sarah Brand, Council's Environmental Scientist - Land & Air, was present for the following item.

Env-1120-171 Rural Ambient Air Quality and Agrichemical

E300-003-001

Ms Brand advised that the purpose of the report was for the Committee to receive a report by Lincoln Agritech Limited on Spray Drift Monitoring Systems. The report was available on Council's website with a link included in the agenda item for members' information.

In summary Ms Brand reported that in late 2019 the Council was successful in obtaining an Envirolink grant to gain advice from Lincoln Agritech on the establishment of an ambient rural air monitoring programme focusing on agricultural pesticides. The aim of such a monitoring programme will be to increase our understanding of how agrichemicals used in the rural environment affect both the ambient air quality and/or have localised impacts. The report provides an overview of the technologies available to establish a monitoring programme and suggestions for future research to enable a viable monitoring solution. The information will be used to undertake a trial pilot study with a single modified high-volume particulate matter (PM) monitoring machine. This will be deployed during the 2020/2021 spray season to start to build a working knowledge of the appropriate methodology and processes to enable the establishment of a rural air quality monitoring for the region in the future.

It was noted that communication of this was very important.

Cirs Hope/Croad:

That the report be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Ms Claire Frooms, Council's Environmental Protection Officer, was present for the following item.

Env-1120-172 Forestry Monitoring Report

E335-003-002-01

Ms Frooms advised that the purpose of the report was to inform the Committee of the Compliance Group's ongoing monitoring programme of forestry activities for the period 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2020. The Forestry Compliance Snapshot 2019-2020 report was appended to the agenda item for members' information. To highlight this report a presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM: Record No. 20219255).

In summary Ms Frooms reported that the report provided an overview of where the Compliance Group monitored, how monitoring was undertaken and the rating system used to determine compliance status with the Resource Management Act 1991, Plan Rules, the National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry and resource consents. The report further discussed the results of the monitoring programme and outlines any observations or improvements noticed during monitoring inspections; and outlined developments and changes to the forestry monitoring programme and strategy.

Cllrs Hope/Fauls:
That the information be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Ms Rachel Neal, Council's Monitoring Programme Co-ordinator, was present for the following item.

Env-1120-173 Winery Wastewater & Grape Marc Monitoring Report

E360-006-02

Ms Neal advised that the purpose of the report was to inform the Committee of the Compliance Group's ongoing monitoring of the discharge of winery wastewater and grape marc to land for the period 1 June 2019 – 31 May 2020. The Winery Waste Compliance Snapshot 2020 report was appended to the agenda item for members' information. To highlight this report a presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM: Record No. 20219258).

In summary Ms Neal reported that Council monitored 38 wineries that discharge winery waste to land within the rural environment for the 2019/20 monitoring period. For the 2019/20 monitoring period 18 wineries (47%) were assessed as fully compliant and no wineries were assessed as significantly non-compliant.

Cllrs Oddie/Fauls:
That the information be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Ms Rachel Mercer, Council's Environmental Health Officer, was present for the following item.

Env-1120-174 Gambling Policy Review

E350-004-009-02

Ms Mercer advised that the purpose of the report was to advise the Committee on the Gambling Policy review that has taken place. The Class 4 Gambling Venues and Racing Board Venues Policy (under the Gambling Act 2003 & the Racing Act 2003) was appended to the agenda item for members' information.

In summary Ms Mercer reported that the Gambling Act 2003 and the Racing Act 2003 state that every territorial authority must complete a review of its policy within three years after the policy is adopted, and then within three years after each subsequent review is completed [Gambling Act s102(5) and Racing Act s65E(5)]. A policy may be amended or replaced only in accordance with the special consultative procedure. The policy was last reviewed in 2017 and adopted in May 2018. Since the policy was adopted there have been no applications made for a new class 4 or racing board venue. As of 10 October 2020 the gambling machine numbers that can operate in the district stands at 213, the policy permits up to 240 machines to operate within approved venues. Consideration was given to the need to amend the policy however it was recommended that the current policy remain in place for another three years.

Cirs Faulls/Oddie:

- 1. That the information be received.**
- 2. That the Committee confirm the Policy remain with no changes at this time.**

Carried

Env-1120-175 Information Package

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The Mayor/Cir Croad:

That the Regulatory Department Information Package dated 19 November 2020 be received and noted.

Carried

The meeting closed at 11.10 am.

Record No: 20224533