

Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan

Minute of the Hearing Panel

Minute 8

During the course of the hearing of Topic 5: Natural Character and Landscape (in the week starting 26 February 2018), the Panel heard from landowners who own property in the Wairau Dry Hills Landscape.

Two owners in particular, Levide Capital Ltd (Submission 907) and Vallyn and Diana Wadsworth (Submission 201), while acknowledging the general value of the Wairau Dry Hills Landscape concept, questioned whether the landscape was accurately mapped on their properties or served a practical purpose of protecting views of the Wairau Dry Hills Landscape. They questioned the effects of both the extent of existing modification on their properties (for example caused by forestry, wilding pines, soil conservation planting, houses) and whether the Wairau Dry Hills Landscape on their properties is able to be viewed from public places.

The Section 42A report writer, Mr Bentley, offered to undertake a site visit to consider these two matters further. Both submitters welcomed at the hearing the opportunity for a site visit to occur.

The purpose of this minute is request that Mr Bentley undertake a site visit of the properties and the surrounds to evaluate the following:

1. Have the existing modifications on the property or particular parts of each of the properties in the Wairau Dry Hills Landscape detracted from the values identified in Appendix 1 for the Wairau Dry Hills Landscape to the extent that the property or parts of the property should not be included in the area mapped in Volume 4?
2. Is each property or parts of the property in the Wairau Dry Hills Landscape not able to be viewed by the public?

The Panel requests that Mr Bentley provides the Panel with a report that documents the results of the evaluation identified above, including recommendations on mapping the Wairau Dry Hills Landscape on the submitters' properties.

The Panel has accepted the positive response to the offer of a site visit as landowner endorsement of a proposed visit. None-the-less, Mr Bentley, or Council staff on behalf of Mr Bentley, should contact the landowner to arrange an appropriate date and time.

The Panel accepts that there may be weather or site conditions that may constrain timing of the site visit. We encourage all parties to complete the site visit as soon as practicable to assist the deliberations of the Panel.

Dated 1 March 2018



Councillor Trevor Hook

Chair of the MEP Hearing Panel