



# **MINUTES**

## **Environmental Services Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday, 30 July 2024**

**Ref: 1689311**

**Minutes of Timaru District Council  
Environmental Services Committee Meeting  
Held in the Council Chamber, District Council Building, King George Place, Timaru  
on Tuesday, 30 July 2024 at Following Council Meeting**

**Present:** Clrs Michelle Pye (Chairperson), Owen Jackson (Deputy Chairperson), Sally Parker, Gavin Oliver, Stu Piddington, Stacey Scott, Scott Shannon, Mayor Nigel Bowen

**In Attendance:** **Community Board Members:** Michael Thomas (Pleasant Point Community Board)

**Officers:** Nigel Trainor (Chief Executive), Andrew Dixon (Group Manager Infrastructure), Paul Cooper (Group Manager Environmental Services), Stephen Doran (Group Manager Corporate and Communications), Andrea Rankin (Chief Finance Officer), Beth Stewart (Group Manager Community Services), Nicole Timney (Group Manager Property Services), Aaron Hakkart (Planning Manager – District Plan Review), Jayson Ellis (Building Control Manager), Maddison Gourlay (Communications and Marketing Advisor)

## **1 Apologies**

### **1.1 Apologies Received**

Moved: Clr Gavin Oliver

Seconded: Mayor Nigel Bowen

That the apology received of Clr Booth and Clr Burt be received and accepted.

## **2 Public Forum**

There were no public forum items.

## **3 Identification of Items of Urgent Business**

No items of urgent business were received.

## **4 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature**

No matters of a minor nature were raised.

## **5 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

Clr Stacey Scott declared a conflict of interest in relation to item 8.2, due to a her sitting on the district hearings panel.

## **6 Chairperson's Report**

### **6.1 Presentation of Chairpersons Report**

The Chairperson has attended a number of meetings including;

- An OTOP meeting
- Met a number of times with GM Mr Cooper to discuss various things including a proposed workshop on local leadership in the Fresh Water space and the role of Zone committees and Environment Canterbury's draft RPS.
- Met with Mr Ellis (Building Control Manager) regarding our submission on the changes to the Building act around granny flats which a report for discussion and decision in this meeting.
- Attended an online session for Zone Committees to provide feedback on Environment Canterbury's draft Regional Policy Statement.

#### **Resolution 2024/16**

Moved: Chairperson Michelle Pye

Seconded: Clr Gavin Oliver

**Carried**

## **7 Confirmation of Minutes**

### **7.1 Minutes of the Environmental Services Committee Meeting held on 11 June 2024**

#### **Resolution 2024/17**

Moved: Clr Scott Shannon

Seconded: Clr Sally Parker

That the Minutes of the Environmental Services Committee Meeting held on 11 June 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson's electronic signature be attached.

**Carried**

## **8 Reports**

### **8.1 Actions Register Update**

Additional discussion was had around the water wone committee workshop, noting that it is set for 5 August, closing off this action.

#### **Resolution 2024/18**

Moved: Mayor Nigel Bowen

Seconded: Cllr Stu Piddington

That the Environmental Services Committee receives and notes the updates to the Actions Register.

**Carried**

## **8.2 District Plan Review Project Update**

The Planning Manager – District Plan Review spoke to his report noting that since writing they have held Hearing B, and have had feedback that those speaking felt engaged with in the preparation of the hearing. There may be changes to make better outcome for the hearings, but there is a desire to continue them on the same timeline.

Discussion was had around the extension of time to complete the review. An application is drafted and a meeting has been held with Ministry for the Environment (MfE) officers. A draft application has been sent to MfE for comment prior to lodgement, which officers are currently waiting for.

Intention is to lodge an application formally in the next couple of weeks. Staff are working hard to mitigate the risks within the application, the major risk is that the minister declines the extension, but this is seen as unlikely.

Discussion around approach to industrial growth. It is noted that the proposed district plan provides growth in the format it is notified. Changing this now during the process would be challenging, but 18 offers detail of a path in which growth could be accommodated in a future process.

### **Resolution 2024/19**

Moved: Cllr Gavin Oliver

Seconded: Cllr Scott Shannon

That the Environmental Service Committee receive and note this report.

**Carried**

## **8.3 Submission to the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE) on “Making it easier to build granny flats”**

The Building Control Manager spoke to his report. Their view being presented in the submission is has two aspects where they acknowledge that this change will have some challenges to make work, but also guidance for ways in which the industry can come to terms with them. It was noted that Government is keen to make changes and with that in mind it's clear that the proposal is likely to go ahead, so council staff need to work out how can they make a fit for purpose and robust a process.

Discussion included support for the tone of the submission, outlines the positive but also the negatives, as well as financial impact on council income from not having to issue consents.

It was noted that there are still a long list of things that need to be met for that building not to require a consent and that loss of revenue would not be significant, as there isn't currently a lot of

revenue from secondary dwellings.

There was further discussion about modular building systems being underutilised, and that the council tried highlight and raise awareness of this through the submission. If central government can help promote and set a pathway for businesses to provide this service it will have more robust results than people trying to go it alone.

Discussion over issues with utilities is an area of risk, concern was raised over the risk of the non-consented status encouraging corner cutting at other parts of a project. It was noted there will be less oversight over this, so this will be challenging.

### **Resolution 2024/20**

Moved: Mayor Nigel Bowen

Seconded: Cllr Owen Jackson

That the council approve this draft submission to the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE) on "Making it easier to build granny flats".

**Carried**

## **9 Consideration of Urgent Business Items**

No items of urgent business were received.

## **10 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters**

No matters of a minor nature were raised.

## **11 Public Forum Items Requiring Consideration**

There were no public forum items.

**Meeting closed at 1.55pm.**

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Cllr Michelle Pye  
**Chairperson**