

MINUTES



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MEMBERSHIP: Pat Seymour (Chair), Craig Bauld, Andy Cranston, Alan Davidson, Gary Hope, Kathy Sheldrake and His Worship the Mayor (ex officio).

MINUTES of the ENVIRONMENT & POLICY Committee

Held in the Committee Room, 15 Fitzherbert Street on Wednesday 9 June 2010 at 1pm.

PRESENT:

Councillors Andy Cranston (Acting chair), Craig Bauld, Alan Davidson, Gary Hope and Kathy Sheldrake

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive Lindsay McKenzie, Environment & Planning Manager Hans van Kregten, Principal Planner Urban Design Duncan Rothwell, Team Leader District Policy Kim Smith, Construction Inspector Bruce Smith and Committee Secretary Lesley Hillan.

APOLOGY:

Councillor Pat Seymour

1. Apology

MOVED by Cr Bauld, seconded by Cr Sheldrake

That the apology from Councillor Pat Seymour be sustained.

CARRIED

2. Public forum, petitions, deputations and representation from tangata whenua

Nil

3. Confirmation of Minutes

Environment & Policy Committee – 12 May 2010

MOVED by Cr Hope, seconded by Cr Bauld

That the Minutes of 12 May 2010 be accepted.

CARRIED

Action Sheet

Report No. 10/120 Update on on-site wastewater issues at Wainui and Makorori – to be reported back to the next Environment & Policy committee meeting.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Notification of late items, questions and general business

Nil

6. Mayor's and Councillors' Reports

For decision

Nil

For noting

Nil

7. Staff Reports

For decision

7.1 No. 10/401 Proposed Government Assistance Package for Owners of Leaky Homes

Environment and Planning Manager Hans van Kregten advised that there were only six leaky homes in Gisborne. He was not aware of any others but couldn't confirm that.

Construction Inspector Bruce Smith attended the meeting and read an extract from a letter which indicated that Council's insurers would no longer cover leaky homes.

Major cities had a huge number of leaky homes and a large potential liability. They lobbied the Government for an assistance package that included a percentage from Central Government. This was finally successful with the Government announcing a 25% Council, 25% Central Government and 50% homeowner solution proposal early in May 2010.

A Media Statement from Hon Maurice Williamson Minister for Building and Construction was tabled.

MOVED by Cr Bauld, seconded by Cr Hope

That the Committee

1. receives the report
2. endorses the assistance package process with the amendment that it only applies to claims where the Building Consent Authority has issued a Code Compliance Certificate.

CARRIED

7.2 No. 10/402 Heavy Vehicle Restrictions in the Rural Industrial Zone

As a result of submissions on the Annual Plan by Eastland Wood Council and Eastland Port, Council had asked the Environment and Policy Committee to consider whether to initiate a review of rule 19.14.11a) of the District Plan. The rule applies in the Rural Industrial zone and restricts movement of heavy vehicles to and from sites in the zone at night (9pm to 6am).

Councillor Davidson asked how many areas would be affected by a review. Team Leader District Policy Kim Smith replied that it was site specific.

Environment and Planning Manager Hans van Kregten advised that a Resource Consent application had been lodged by Eastland Port for 24-hour access to the site.

MOVED by Cr Sheldrake, seconded by Cr Hope

That the Committee

1. receives the report
2. instructs staff initiate a review of rule 19.14.11a) and any associated provisions.

CARRIED

For noting

Nil

8. Late items

There were no late items.

9. Questions

There were no questions.

10. General Business

- a) Application granted for Exploration of Oil on the East Coast: District Conservator Trevor Freeman tabled information on the Petrobras Exploration Permit which stated that on 1 June 2010 Energy and Resources Minister Gerry Brownlee awarded a 5 year petroleum exploration permit covering 12,333 sq kms north of East Cape to Petrobras.

Petrobras is a subsidiary of Petroleo Brasileiro and is a major petroleum explorer around the world.

The permit area includes a relatively small area within the 12 nautical mile limit that is also the limit of Council's jurisdiction. Environment Bay of Plenty is also involved as the GDC/Eastern Bay of Plenty boundary is between Cape Runaway and Lottin Point.

Council's Coastal Plan provisions will apply out to 12 miles.

Outside the 12 nautical mile limit, there is little in the way of environmental regulation. The Prime Minister has indicated that Government will be putting in place a regulatory regime.

Environment and Planning Manager Hans van Kregten explained that he had discussed the matter with Eastern Bay of Plenty staff. Seismic work did not need a Resource Consent and at this stage there was no indication that exploration would bear fruit.

11. Public Excluded Business

Readmittance of the Public

MOVED by Cr Davidson, seconded by Cr Bauld

THAT the Committee

- 1. readmits the public.**

CARRIED

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 2.20pm.

Andy Cranston
Deputy Chairperson