

MINUTES



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MEMBERSHIP: Tony Robinson (Chair), Debbie Gregory, Nick Tupara

MINUTES of the BYLAW SUBMISSIONS PANEL/KĀHUI TĀPAETANGA TURE Ā-ROHE Committee

Held in Te Ruma Kaunihera (Council Meeting Room), Awarua, Fitzherbert Street, Gisborne on Wednesday 26 April 2023 at 9:00AM.

PRESENT:

Tony Robinson (Chair), Debbie Gregory, Nick Tupara.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Strategic Planning Manager Charlotte Knight, Policy Advisor Makarand Rodge, Democracy & Support Services Manager Heather Kohn and Committee Secretary Jill Simpson.

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and introduced the Panel members.

Secretarial Note: Submitter No. 10 Jennie Harre Hindmarsh attended the meeting via audio visual link.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

3. Leave of Absence

There were no leaves of absence.

4. Acknowledgements and Tributes

There were no acknowledgements or tributes.

5. Public Input and Petitions

There were no public input or petitions.

6. Extraordinary Business

There was no extraordinary business.

7. Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

8. Adjourned Business

There was no adjourned business.

9. Reports of the Chief Executive and Staff for DECISION

9.1 23-13 Draft Dog Control Policy and Bylaw 2023 - Hearings Report

The following submitters were in attendance or attended via audio visual link and spoke to their submission.

Terrence & Jean Loomis

Points of clarification:

- Barking dogs are reported however the information is not recorded. The Animal Control Officer will show up to an address and listen for 15 to 20 minutes and record if they hear the barking dog.
- There does not appear to be a lot of conversation happening between Animal Control, the complainants, and the owners.

Jacky Graham

There were no questions from the Panel.

Shelley Hunt & Belinda Hannah

Points of clarification:

- Both submitters support dogs being off lead before 9.00am in the Fox Street Reserve. Would also like to see a time in the afternoon when dogs could be off lead in the same reserve. The bikers would be aware that dogs are off lead during these times.
- Some bikers also have dogs off-lead while they are biking through the reserve.
- Neither submitter was aware of accidents involving a bike while dogs were off lead in the Reserve.
- The summer solstice event is a BBQ at the lookout, and it commences at 7am. All attendees take their dogs. Usually, 8 to 9 people attend and includes a variety of age groups.

Anne Pardoe

Points of clarification:

- Would like to see an area designated off-leash without a fence at Waiteata Park and monitor the community's response.
- There are extreme differences between Waiteata Park and Nelson Park when it comes to noxious weeds. Noxious weeds should not be present and a tidy up around the boundary is needed.
- A lot of socialisation happens when walking dogs.

Secretarial Note: The meeting adjourned at 9.55am for morning tea and reconvened at 10.14am.

Helen Evenbly

Points of clarification:

- Concern about the number of vehicles on Kaiti Beach.
- Slash is an issue at Waikanae Beach, and it has become too dangerous to walk the dog.
- Very happy to walk dog on lead at Kaiti Beach.

Margaret Bailey

Points of clarification:

- Save Kaiti Beach Action Group asking for petition to be signed.
- Back up information re 70 penguins displaced arising from Port activity.
- Would not walk dog on Waikanae Beach as there are too many people and too much activity.
- Does not walk dog on Midway Beach as the area is quite large and not the same ambience as Kaiti Beach.

Tracey Panton

Points of clarification:

- Socialisation is very important for many dog owners walking their dogs and it is a good way to connect as a community.

Jamie Quirk - Department of Conservation

Points of clarification

- The threshold for a penguin to be analysed is 600 grams. Penguins under this weight are normally in poor condition which could be the result of a feeding issue. This is probably due to global warming and changing sea temperatures as the birds need to go further to find food.
- Staff are not at Kaiti Beach every day so rely on the public for information.
- The Massey University report is a public record.
- The nesting boxes on the southern facing block wall at Kaiti Beach contain approximately 10 penguins. The Port Company are bringing in a specialist dog for tracking the penguins and they would have more of an idea of the total number of penguins on Kaiti Beach.
- There are several birds all along Wainui Beach and people fence off the bottom of their houses to exclude the penguins. Penguins also nest at Makorori Beach. Some penguins have been captured and taken to Mahia however they have a very strong homing instinct, and they will return.
- It is not just about penguins but all wildlife.
- The little blue penguin population is at risk and declining.

Jennie Harre Hindmarsh attended via audio visual link

Points of clarification:

- Wainui Beach is a wonderful place to live and visit and the dog control problem is disturbing a lot of people.
- Dog faeces on grass verges is also a problem.
- Should Council decide to designate an off-leash area on Wainui Beach it is important that the decision is made collaboratively with the Wainui Beach community.

Lois Easton

Clarification from the Panel was sought around the area from Roberts Road excluding the flagged area at Midway Surf Club through to Pacific Drive. Strategic Planning Manager Charlotte Knight confirmed that any area that is not deemed prohibited or off-leash in the Bylaw, the default is on-leash for dogs.

Craig Bauld

There were no questions from the Panel.

MOVED by Cr Robinson, seconded by Cr Gregory

That the Bylaw Submissions Panel/Kāhui Tāpaetanga Ture ā-Rohe Committee:

1. Receives and hears submissions on the Draft Dog Control Policy 2023 and Draft Dog Control Bylaw 2023.

CARRIED

10. Close of Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 11:36 am.

Tony Robinson

CHAIR