MINUTES OF THE DISTRICT PLANNING AND REGULATION COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA ON TUESDAY 21
AUGUST 2018 1.00PM.

PRESENT
Councillor D Gordon (Chair), Mayor D Ayers, Councillors N Atkinson, W Doody, J Meyer
and S Stewart.

IN ATTENDANCE
Councillors A Blackie, P Williams, K Barnett and K Felstead.
J Palmer (Chief Executive), N Harrison (Manager Regulation), M Bacon (Team Leader
Resource Consents), W Taylor (Building Unit Manager), B Wiremu (Emergency
Management Advisor), S Stevenson (ESU Acting Manager), S Markham (Manager Strategy
and Engagement), T Ellis (Development Planning Manager), B Bray (Principal Policy
Planner) A Benbrook (Development Planning Administrator), C Wood (Senior Policy
Planner), A Willis (Planner), J Manhire (Policy Planner), P Kloosterman (Senior Policy
Planner), K Pierson (Communications Consultant) and E Stubbs (Minute Secretary).

1. APOLOGIES
There were no apologies.

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
There were no conflicts of interest.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
3.1 Minutes of a meeting of the District Planning and Regulation
Committee held on 19 June 2018
Moved J Meyer seconded W Doody
THAT the District Planning and Regulation Committee:
(a) Confirms as a true and correct record the minutes of a meeting of
the District Planning and Regulation Committee held on 19 June
2018.
CARRIED

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
There were no matters arising.

5. DEPUTATION
There was no deputation.
6. REPORTS

6.1 Annual Report to the Alcohol Regulatory and Licensing Authority 2018 – Malcolm Johnston (Environmental Services Manager)

N Harrison spoke to the report noting that the statistics from the previous year to this year were similar, which reflected reasonably mature business across the district. The report reported on the activity of the District Licensing Committee (DLC) and the performance of the Local Alcohol Policy (LAP). N Harrison noted that there was currently a review of the LAP and that would be brought back to Council in the future.

N Harrison noted there was an increasing trend in the number of DLC hearings which he suggested was a reflection of the community’s acceptance of the wider alcohol policy, and growing confidence in the DLC as a means for matters to be heard.

There was a recommendation for change to Section 25 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act where it related to Special Licence events. It was believed the restrictions were unworkable for low risk events such as fairs and fetes.

Regarding the recent review of the Local Alcohol Policy and Alcohol Control Bylaw, it has been established that there was no conflict of interest for those Councillors on the hearing panel that are also members of the District Licencing committee. N Atkinson advised that when the review of the LAP report is considered by Council, these members would be able to take part in the discussion, however they would abstain from voting. In addition there was no conflict of interest in today’s report as the recommendation was to approve an activity report.

N Atkinson agreed that the DLC process was starting to work. People were aware they had powers around the control of alcohol and he raised the Silverstream off-licence application as an example. Community input to the development of the LAP provided a guide for where the district wanted premises selling alcohol to be.

N Atkinson commented that he was interested in feedback from ARLA to see what the rest of the country was doing and whether the process was working for them, he believed that in the Waimakariri District, the legislation was working.

K Barnett noted the reference to ‘mums and dads’ in the report and suggested that should be generalised. N Harrison agreed.

Moved N Atkinson seconded W Doody

THAT the District Planning and Regulation Committee

(a) Receives report No. 180731085418.
(b) Approves the attached 2017 2018 Report to ARLA.
(c) Circulates a copy of this report to the Boards.

CARRIED

N Atkinson acknowledged the help of staff who were extremely active with the DLC and ARLA in this role. There was great liaison between ARLA, DLC and public inspectors.
W Doody concurred and appreciated the help of staff.

D Gordon agreed with the comments made, and supported the report. In addition he believed that they were well served by the District Licencing Committee. Feedback from the community was that N Atkinson as Chair had a good common sense approach.

K Barnett was pleased that the comments related to Section 25 and low risk community fundraisers had been included.

D Ayers commented that at a recent opening of a licensed facility he had received positive feedback regarding the assistance of Council staff.

6.2 Annual Report: Dog Control 2017/2018 – Malcolm Johnston (Environmental Services Manager)

N Harrison advised that the Dog Control report was an annual statutory requirement and summarised statistics regarding animal control officer’s work through the year. The report would be forwarded to the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA).

There was an increasing trend in the number of dogs and dog owners which reflected district growth. The number of complaints for barking and roaming dogs was the same as previous years. There had been one prosecution relating to a dog attack on a girl in the Good Street Reserve.

K Barnett noted that there had been a decrease in the reports of roaming and barking dogs and asked as dog numbers had been increasing would it not be expected those numbers stay the same and was it a reflection of the public having lost faith in reporting? N Harrison did not think so. There had been a decreasing trend since microchipping was introduced in 2005 and it had become easier to identify a dog’s owner and address so matters could be addressed quickly. K Barnett commented that would still involve reporting a dog and N Harrison replied that it was the same message about increasing responsible dog ownership.

W Doody referred to messaging regarding lost dogs on Facebook and once dog owners were located were they asked to pay for microchipping? N Harrison replied yes, dog owners were required to pay for the microchip. In addition, where dog owners could not be located, Facebook was a successful means of rehoming dogs.

S Stewart asked if there were issues with dual microchip databases in particular in the case of injured animals that needed vet attention. N Harrison advised that they did not have direct access to secondary databases, however they could call a vet clinic to access. In the case of an injured animal staff would not wait and seek vet assistance immediately.

Mayor Ayers asked if it were possible to drill down into the statistics to see how many complaints were related to individual dogs. N Harrison was not sure how easy it was to extract that figure. The focus should be on recidivist owners.
Moved N Atkinson seconded J Meyer

THAT the District Planning and Regulation Committee recommends:

THAT the Council:

(a) Receives report No. 180704074535.

(b) Approves the attached 2017/2018 Annual Report on Dog Control to the Department of Internal Affairs.

(c) Circulates a copy of this report to the Boards. CARRIED

N Atkinson believed from feedback from the community and from viewing the work of the three animal controllers in the district that there was no question that there had been an improvement in animal control. In the past he had been critical of the work that was being done however there had been significant improvements and he congratulated staff on those improvements and the care they took of animals.

J Meyer agreed with N Atkinson, he had had experience with the staff as a dog owner. The statistics showed animal control was improving.

7. PORTFOLIO UPDATES

7.1 District Planning Development - Councillor Neville Atkinson

N Atkinson commented that updates would be covered by the team in the upcoming briefing.

7.2 Regulation and Civil Defence – Councillor John Meyer

Councillor John Meyer noted the reports related to regulation covered in the meeting.

Councillor John Meyer referred to the recent Civil Defence exercise and the challenges that were involved. He commented that addressing those issues that arose, and how they were handled, was the purpose of the exercise.

Mayor Ayers advised that Les Pester was in the process of retiring. He acknowledged the service of Les Pester in Civil Defence in the district over many years and noted that he had been the Regulatory Manager at Waimakariri District Council also. Civil Defence had been taken to a new level when he had taken on the role and he was recognised throughout the community as one of the leaders. During the earthquakes he had played an important role in checking buildings. D Gordon suggested that Les Pester be invited to a District Planning and Regulation Committee in order that his service to the district be formally acknowledged.

7.3 Business, Promotion and Town Centres – Councillor Dan Gordon

D Gordon advised that all Service Level Agreements with Promotions Associations had been signed and returned. He had attended a number of Promotions Association meetings as well as meeting the previous week to explore the possibility of a Promotions Association for Ravenswood/Pegasus/Woodend. The idea was in its early stages. D Gordon had advised that existing groups including community associations should be respected and involved.
D Gordon noted there had been a number of recent successful events highlighting The Kaiapoi Art Expo, Blackwell’s Fire and Ice, Waimakariri Winter Festival and Oxford Light Festival. He noted the recent appointment of Vanessa Thompson as Business and Centres Advisor, working with Simon Hart.

8. QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

9. URGENT GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no urgent general business.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1.31pm.

CONFIRMED

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Chairperson

______________________
Date

• Briefing

• At the conclusion of the meeting there was a briefing to the Committee. A separate agenda was circulated for this. Speakers were:
  o W Taylor (Building Unit Manager)
  o M Bacon (Team Leader Resource Consents)
  o B Wiremu (Emergency Management Advisor)
  o S Stevenson (ESU Acting Manager)
  o B Bray (Principal Policy Planner)
  o A Willis (Planner)
  o C Wood (Senior Policy Planner)
  o P Kloosterman (Senior Policy Planner)