



REPORT OF THE ORDINARY MONTHLY MEETING OF THE REGULATORY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE ON TUESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER, AT 4:33 pm.

PRESENT His Worship the Mayor (Mr Tracy Hicks JP) (Chairperson), Crs Bolger, Davis, Harvey, Hellier, McLennan, Sutherland and Turnbull.

IN ATTENDANCE The Chief Executive (Mr Steve Parry), General Manager, District Assets (Mr Neil Jorgensen), General Manager, Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper), Roading Manager (Mr Murray Hasler), Asset Manager, Utilities (Mr Ross Haslemore), Arts and Heritage Curator (Mr Jim Geddes), Office Manager (Mrs Margaret Evans), Corporate Support Officer (Mrs Jo Waddell) and 12 members of the public in the Gallery.

His Worship welcomed the candidates in the forthcoming election to the meeting and wished them all the best at election time. He hoped their experience would be enriching and he hoped to be working with them in the future.

1. IMPROVEMENTS TO DOG CONTROL LEGISLATION (34.2)

A memo from the Chief Executive had been received about the discussion regarding the letter from the Associate Minister of Local Government, Hon Nanaia Mahuta considered after the Council's Extraordinary meeting on 17 August seeking Councils input in improving dog control in New Zealand. A copy of the letter forwarded to the Department of Internal Affairs with the Council's views, had been circulated.

His Worship said there were some unpopular ideas expressed in the letter sent, but the Council needed to be able to have a very firm control over dogs in some areas. As a dog owner and lover, he knew it was important to not let dogs wander.

The Chief Executive hoped the letter reflected the Council's viewpoint. The media had picked up on the issue and had not mentioned some of the qualifications in regard to euthanasia of

wandering dogs. He said the key point was that unless the Council had the armour in the Dog Control Act, it could not deal with repeat offenders effectively. He hoped the DIA would not dismiss the desperate plea as being too hard to implement. In the past, the Act had been the victim of being watered down. He noted that every week there were dog attacks on innocent people. He had received a letter from an Invercargill resident who was upset with the letter and he would be responding to it.

Cr Davis said the Council sometimes needed to be provocative to be noticed.

Cr Davis recommended THAT the report be received,

AND THAT the enclosed letter forwarded to the Department of Internal Affairs be endorsed.

The recommendation was seconded by Cr Turnbull.

Cr Harvey had been contacted by a resident about it and he did not believe that it would be taken to the extreme but he would like to see the use of a leash being emphasised in the future. He believed unregistered dogs were a big problem and agreed that sterilisation was necessary for those species that were banned in New Zealand.

His Worship said a concept that was gathering momentum was a fenced dog park where dogs could run. It could possibly be investigated in the future.

Cr Hellier said education was also needed for the owners as they were the ones often at fault.

The recommendation was put and it was carried.

2. REGULATORY BULLETIN (11.5.1/2.14.2)

The Committee perused a summary of building consents issued for August 2007 together with comparisons for the previous two years. Also circulated, was a schedule of resource consents issued to 31 August 2007.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr McLennan, seconded by Cr Harvey, THAT the information be received.

The meeting concluded at 4:43 pm.