



**SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL
EXTRAORDINARY MEETING MINUTES
for
THE HEARING OF THE EASTER SUNDAY
SHOP TRADING PROPOSAL**

2 MARCH 2017

- Present:** Mayor Viv Napier (Chair), Councillors Paora Ammunson, Pam Colenso, Margaret Craig, Dayle Harwood, Brian Jephson (until 10:55am), Pip Maynard, Colin Olds, Colin Wright.
- In Attendance:** Suzanne Clark (Committee Secretary).
- Conduct of Business:** The meeting was held in the South Wairarapa District Council Chambers at 19 Kitchener Street, Martinborough and was conducted in public between 9:00am and 11:10am.
- Submitters:** Frank Cornelissen (Martinborough TOP 10 Holiday Park), Lee Carter, Geoffrey Clark.

1. Apologies

*COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2017/16) to receive apologies from Cr Carter.
(Moved Cr Craig/Seconded Cr Colenso)*

Carried

2. Conflicts of Interest

Mayor Napier declared a conflict of interest with submission 44 from Martin Napier.

3. Submissions hearings

Mr Swapnil Patel had submitted an attendance apology. Councillors heard oral submissions as follows:

Frank Cornelissen, Martinborough TOP 10 Holiday Park

Mr Cornelissen supported the proposed Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy and noted that Easter Sunday was not a holiday for all industry sectors and holiday parks and cellar doors were already open in Martinborough. International tourists found it odd that the retail sector was closed on Easter Sunday, and families were looking for activities to do together. Mr Cornelissen supported staff that chose not to work on Easter Sunday due to beliefs.

Lee Carter

Mrs Carter did not support the proposed Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy and expressed disappointment with central government for handing the Easter Sunday shop trading decision to local authorities. Changes such as this eroded culture, families, relaxation time and our national history. Mrs Carter acknowledged that South Wairarapa was a tourist

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region, but queried whether one additional shopping day would make a financial difference. Mrs Carter wanted to ensure the protection of employees who may feel forced to work.

Geoffrey Clark

Mr Clark did not support the proposed Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy and spoke to dissuade Council from passing the policy. Easter Sunday celebrated the resurrection of Jesus and with no resurrection there would be no Christianity. Shops were only closed for 3.5 days of the year and Mr Clark was especially concerned for employees of supermarkets and smaller shops. Mr Clark tabled an item from the Dominion Post.

4 Easter Sunday Shop Trading Report

Mayor Napier tabled the Shop Trading Hours Amendment Bill and noted that the Bill clearly stated what Councils could and could not do with regards to adopting a policy.

Councillors considered all submissions and noted:

- Central government had handed the Easter Sunday shop trading decision to local authorities.
- That Council 'may' make an Easter Sunday shop trading policy.
- That a policy could cover 'part of the district' or the 'whole of the district'.
- Hours of trading could not be restricted by a policy.
- Wages were outside the scope of the proposed policy.
- The majority of submissions received under the Special Consultative Procedure, Survey Monkey consultation and the National Research Bureau survey were in favour of Easter Sunday shop trading.
- It was up to shop owners to determine whether they wished to open.
- That employee's rights were legislated for and must be respected by employers.
- No submissions had been made by churches or unions.
- Alcohol sales would continue to be regulated by other legislation.
- Market style stalls were different from retail shops and hawkers licenses could be applied for following the normal process.
- NZ society now included a diverse range of religions.
- A policy would not prevent those that wanted to worship from doing so.
- The proposed policy supported 'freedom of choice'.
- That the whole of the South Wairarapa was a tourist destination.
- That our ancestors and unions had fought for employees rights including days off.
- That some councillors were personally opposed to adopting the Easter Sunday Shop Trading policy.

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COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2017/17):

1. To receive the information.
(Moved Cr Olds/Seconded Cr Craig) Carried
2. That after considering all submissions, to adopt the Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy for the whole of the South Wairarapa district, with the addition of the words 'or shop' in paragraph 3.1.3 after 'choose not to work'.
(Moved Cr Wright/Seconded Cr Jephson) Carried
3. To review the Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy during the current term of office.
(Moved Cr Craig/Seconded Cr Colenso) Carried
4. To direct Council officers to develop a communications plan, to be implemented in a fortnight, to disseminate information about workers and employers rights and responsibilities in relation to this policy.
(Moved Cr Ammunson/Seconded Cr Maynard) Carried
5. To express thanks to Council officers for organising this proposal.
(Moved Cr Wright/Seconded Cr Olds) Carried

Confirmed as a true and correct record

..... **(Mayor)**

..... **(Date)**

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