



**SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL
EXTRAORDINARY MEETING MINUTES
for
THE HEARING OF THE PROPOSED
CHANGE TO THE CAMPING IN PUBLIC
PLACES BYLAW**

14 December 2016

- Present:** Mayor Viv Napier (Chair), Councillors Paora Ammunson (from 1:33pm), Lee Carter, Pam Colenso, Margaret Craig, Dayle Harwood, Brian Jephson, Pip Maynard (from 9:33am), Colin Olds, Colin Wright.
- In Attendance:** Paul Crimp (Chief Executive Officer), Murray Buchanan (Group Manager Planning and Environment) and 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 1:00pm and 1:50pm.
- Submitters:** Val Rait and Clive Paton.

1. Apologies

*COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2016/203) to receive lateness apologies from Cr Ammunson.
(Moved Cr Harwood/Seconded Cr Maynard)*

Carried

2. Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

3. Submissions hearings

Councillors heard oral submissions from Val Rait and Clive Paton.

Val Rait

Ms Rait was against the proposed Bylaw revision which would permit dogs to accompany freedom campers staying at Ngawai and Ngawi Surf Breaks Reserves for the following reasons:

- Owners not picking up dog waste, barking dogs, concern that owners wouldn't abide by the requirement to have dogs chained at all times on the Reserves, Council's inability to monitor and enforce the Bylaw and general concern for the safety of livestock.

DISCLAIMER

Until confirmed as a true and correct record, at a subsequent meeting, the minutes of this meeting should not be relied on as to their correctness

Clive Paton

Mr Patton was against the proposed Bylaw revision which would permit dogs to accompany freedom campers staying at Ngawai and Ngawi Surf Breaks Reserves for the following reasons:

- It was contrary to the goals of the Aorangi Restoration Trust which was to improve the eco system and encourage the return of penguins and dogs may interfere with trapping lines.

If Council supported the Bylaw revision, Mr Patton requested that permits for staying dogs was also supported.

4 Proposed Change to the Camping in Public Places Bylaw – Ngawi and Ngawi Surf Breaks

Mayor Napier advised that the revision process was started due to correspondence and requests to Council to allow dogs in the camping area and that Council agreed to consult on a Bylaw revision. Councillors were reminded to consider all submissions received.

Concern was expressed that Council officers would need to exercise a lot of judgement, that Council officers only visited Ngawi once every two days and that it would be difficult to enforce the new provisions consistently, that permitting dogs on the Reserves could be detrimental to the ecosystem, that overnight campers may not comply with the Bylaw given the cost and difficulty in obtaining permits out of office hours and that evidence in dog parks where dog waste receptacles were provided suggested that owners did not always pick up dog waste. Consideration for other campers who may not want to camp beside a dog and safety concerns were also cited as reasons not to endorse the revision.

It was noted that those in support of the proposed Bylaw revision had not made submissions, that all submissions received were against the revision.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2016/204):

1. To receive the information.
(Moved Cr Colenso/Seconded Cr Wright) Carried
2. To abandon the proposed changes to the Camping in Public Places Bylaw 2013.
(Moved Cr Olds/Seconded Cr Harwood) Carried
3. Action 757: Advise New Zealand Motor Camping Association that no dogs would be permitted on the Ngawi and Ngawi Surf Breaks Reserve, update the website with advice on dogs, place a freedom camping map on Council’s website, erect a sign at the start of the road to advise campers that no dogs were permitted in the Ngawi camping areas and include Council’s phone number; M Buchanan

Confirmed as a true and correct record

..... (Mayor)

..... (Date)

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