Environment and Sustainability Forum

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Forum held in the Reception Lounge, Auckland Town Hall, 301-305 Queen Street, Auckland on Tuesday, 19 February 2013 at 1.30pm.

PRESENT

Chairperson
Cr Wayne Walker

Deputy Chairperson
Cr Sandra Coney, QSO

Councillors
Member James Brown
Cr Dr Cathy Casey
Deputy Mayor Penny Hulse
Cr Mike Lee
Cr Des Morrison
Cr Noelene Raffills, JP
Member David Taipari

Until 4:05 pm, Item 10
From 2:27 pm, Item 12,
Until 3:24 pm, Item 12
From 2:07 pm, Item 12,
Until 3:25 pm, Item 12
From 2:10 pm, Item 12,
Until 3:52 pm, Item 9
Until 3:52 pm, Item 9

APOLOGIES

Cr Ann Hartley For non-attendance
Deputy Mayor Penny Hulse For lateness
Cr Des Morrison For lateness
Cr Noelene Raffills, JP For lateness on Council business
Member Glen Tupuhi For non-attendance

ALSO PRESENT

Cr Richard Northey
1 Apologies

Resolution number ES/2013/1
MOVED by Cr W Walker, seconded Cr M Lee:
That the Environment and Sustainability Forum:
  a) accept the apologies from Councillor Ann Hartley and Member Glen Tupuhi for non-attendance, Deputy Mayor Penny Hulse and Councillor Des Morrison for lateness and Councillor Noelene Raffills for lateness on Council business.

CARRIED

2 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolution number ES/2013/2
MOVED by Cr W Walker, seconded Cr C Casey:
That the Environment and Sustainability Forum:
  a) accept the minutes of the Environment and Sustainability Forum held on Monday, 17 December 2012, as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

4 Petitions

There were no petitions.

5 Public Input

There was no public input.

6 Local Board Input

Denise Yates and Neil Henderson of the Waitakere Ranges Local Board were present to address the meeting at Item 12.

7 Extraordinary Business

There was no extraordinary business.

8 Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motion.
Precedence of Business
Resolution number ES/2013/3
MOVED by Cr W Walker, seconded Cr M Lee:

That Item No. 12 be accorded precedence at this time.

CARRIED

Cr Morrison entered the meeting at 2:07 pm.
Cr Raffills entered the meeting at 2:10 pm.
Deputy Mayor Penny Hulse entered the meeting at 2:27pm.
Cr Casey exited the meeting (on Council business) at 2:28 pm.
Cr Casey returned to the meeting at 2:41 pm.

12 Inter-Council Working Party Meeting on Genetically Modified Organisms, 30 January 2013

Denise Yates and Neil Henderson of the Waitakere Ranges Local Board, and Dr Kerry Grundy of the Whangarei District Council were present to address the meeting regarding this item.

A PowerPoint presentation was provided by Dr Grundy, a copy is attached to the original of these minutes and is available on the Auckland Council website.

Resolution number ES/2013/4
MOVED by Cr W Walker, seconded Cr C Casey:

That the Environment and Sustainability Forum:

a) receive and supports in principle the resolutions of the Inter Council Working Party (ICWP) on GMO Risk Evaluation and Management Options as set out in the minutes of the meeting of the ICWP on 30 January 2013.

b) recommend that the Auckland Plan Committee:

(i) further develop Unitary Plan provisions for the management of the outdoor use of genetically modified organisms, taking into account the documentation from the ICWP and based on the feedback received during the informal feedback period of the draft Unitary Plan;

(ii) consider the full documentation of the ICWP as found in the attachment (c) to Item 12 of the 19 February 2013 Environment and Sustainability Forum Agenda (attachment under separate cover), also available on request.

(iii) consider the Draft Proposed Plan Provisions and Draft Section 32 Report as produced by the ICWP for inclusion in its Unitary Plan, and that Auckland Council acknowledges the importance of a collaborative approach with other member councils on the ICWP to support the effectiveness of the proposed plan provisions and the efficiencies to be gained by sharing the costs of future statutory processes (where possible), including joint response to possible legal challenge.

c) recommend that the Regional Development and Operations Committee:

(i) consider the full documentation of the ICWP as found in the attachment
(c) to Item 12 of the 19 February 2013 Environment and Sustainability Forum Agenda (attachment under separate cover), also available on request.

(ii) agree, subject to the ICWP member councils' determinations in respect to recommendation (e) from the minutes of the ICWP meeting on 30 January 2013, that a memorandum of understanding between the participating councils to jointly manage any further statutory process, including response to possible legal challenge, be prepared and provide for the joint funding of that process, where possible (on an equitable basis as used for previous work).

(iii) agree, prior to signing a memorandum of understanding, that a process be developed to enable co-ordination between participating councils in respect of statutory procedures (and timing) concerning the introduction of plan provisions into planning documents for managing the outdoor uses of GMOs.

d) note that the plan provisions and accompanying Section 32 Report are in draft and will not be final until such time as they are publically notified as a change to, or introduction of, a district or unitary plan, and that new information and/or consultation which may occur in the intervening period may be considered in the documentation.

e) request that officers, in collaboration with the ICWP, provide a report back to the Forum on the management of the outdoor use of genetically modified organisms and Auckland Council's possible roles, including the following matters:

   (i) the findings and recommendations of the report of the ICWP on GMO Risk Evaluation and Management;
   (ii) Auckland Council's role in the context of the national regime for management of genetically modified organisms;
   (iii) a review of the existing legal opinions on the management of genetically modified organisms;
   (iv) risk and liability issues, including the implications of doing nothing and having a formal policy.

A division was called for, voting on which was as follows:

For:  
Members: Dr Cathy Casey  
        Sandra Coney  
        Penny Hulse  
        Mike Lee  
        Wayne Walker

Against:  
Members: James Brown  
         Des Morrison  
         Noeline Raffills  
         David Taipari

The motion was declared CARRIED by 5 votes to 4.

Deputy Mayor Hulse exited the meeting at 3:24 pm.
Cr Morrison exited the meeting at 3:25 pm.
Draft Auckland Council Weed Management Policy

MOVED by Cr C Casey, seconded Cr W Walker:
That the Environment and Sustainability Forum:

a) agree that an aspirational goal of zero agrichemical use be added to the Draft Auckland Council Weed Management Policy.

Resolution number ES/2013/5
MOVED by Cr NM Raffills, seconded Member DE Taipari:
That the Environment and Sustainability Forum:

a) vote on the officers’ recommendations and the primary document only.

Secretarial note: The Chairperson had suggested several amendments to the Draft Auckland Council Weed Management Policy. Following Resolution number ES/2013/5 these were set aside and the Forum voted on the officers’ recommendations as set out in the 19 February 2013 Environment and Sustainability Forum Agenda.

Resolution number ES/2013/6
MOVED by Cr W Walker, seconded Member Brown:
That the Environment and Sustainability Forum:

a) accept the draft Auckland Council Weed Management Policy for parks and open spaces, dated 24 January 2013 as a basis for consultation and note that some revision may occur through the Parks, Recreation and Heritage Forum.

b) endorse the proposed programme for consultation with local boards, CCOs, iwi, external stakeholders and the public.

Member Taipari exited the meeting at 3:52 pm.
Cr Raffills exited the meeting at 3:52 pm.

Forest Harvesting and Sediment Monitoring at the Weiti Forest Block, Okura

Resolution number ES/2013/7
MOVED by Cr W Walker, seconded Member Brown:
That the Environment and Sustainability Forum:

a) recommend that the report is distributed to Local Boards for their information.

b) request that officers look into options for recognising best practice in forestry sediment management, agriculture and sustainable farming and report back to the Environment and Sustainability Forum.

Cr Coney exited the meeting at 4:05 pm.
Cr Lee exited the meeting at 4:06 pm.
Auckland Council Purchase of Green Rig

Recommendations
Resolution number ES/2013/8

MOVED by Cr W Walker, seconded Cr C Casey:
That the Environment and Sustainability Forum:
a) receive the Auckland Council Purchase of Green Rig report.

Consideration of Extraordinary Items

There was no consideration of extraordinary items.

4.10 pm

The Chairperson thanked Members for their attendance and attention to business and declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD AT A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY FORUM HELD ON

DATE:.................................................................

CHAIRPERSON:..................................................