
MINUTES of a hearing by Commissioners of the Regulatory Subcommittee of the Waikato District Council held in Committee Rooms 1&2, 15 Galileo Street, Ngaruawahia on **THURSDAY, 24 JULY 2020** commencing at **9.32am**.

Present:

Cr NMD Smith (Chairperson)
Cr C Eyre
Cr J Sedgwick

Attending:

Ms T Oakes (Animal Control Team Leader)
Ms A Davis (Animal Control Officer)
Mrs S Bourke (Community Safety Manager)
Ms C Pidduck (Legal Counsel)
Mrs LM Wainwright (Committee Secretary)

Mr JB Bridgeman (Objector)
Ms J Bridgeman (Support for the Objector)

HEARING

Objection to Menacing Classification – Joseph Blair Bridgeman.

INTRODUCTION

Commissioner Smith introduced the members of the hearing panel, welcomed all parties and outlined the process of the hearing.

HEARING OF THE APPLICATION

Mr Bridgeman presented verbal evidence on Zeek's behaviour and noted that:

- Zeek is not an aggressive dog,
- this is the first incident and complaint against Zeek,
- a child gate was normally in place when the front door of the home was open to stop Zeek going outside,
- the property is fully fenced, and
- since the incident, Zeek had been kept in the house.

The Animal Control Team Leader summarised her report and outlined the criteria of a menacing dog as per the report.

RIGHT OF REPLY

The objector gave his right of reply.

Mr Bridgeman took full responsibility for the incident and advised the panel that he did not wish Zeek neutered and did not believe the classification should be enforced.

Commissioner Smith outlined the process once the hearing had adjourned.

The hearing adjourned at 10.17am and the decision reserved.

DELIBERATIONS

The Commissioners undertook deliberations on all evidence presented.

DECISION

THAT pursuant to Section 33B (2) of the Dog Control Act 1996, the Regulatory Subcommittee rescinds the menacing classification of the dog known as “Zeek”, owned by Joseph Blair Bridgeman.

HE2007/01

The hearing was declared closed at 9.09pm on Wednesday, 29 July 2020.