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Minutes for a Hearing by the Policy & Regulatory Committee to hear and consider submissions and make recommendations on the Proposed Waikato District Council Keeping of Animals Bylaw 2015, held in the Council Chambers, District Office, 15 Galileo Street, Ngaruawahia on **WEDNESDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2021** commencing at **9.30am**.

**Present:**

Cr NMD Smith (Chairperson)  
His Worship the Mayor, Mr AM Sanson  
Cr AD Bech  
Cr JA Church  
Cr C Eyre  
Cr JM Gibb  
Cr SD Lynch  
Cr EM Patterson  
Cr LR Thomson  
Cr CT Woolerton

**Attending:**

Mr D Whyte (Huntly Community Board and Ohinewai Area Committee)  
Ms L Taylor  
Ms J Sclater (New Zealand Thoroughbred Association)  
Ms W Cooper (NZ Trainers Association)  
Mr A Giltrap  
Mr D Nicholson  
Ms C Conroy (Glen Murray Community Equestrian Centre) (via audio visual conference)

Ms S Solomon (Corporate Planner)  
Ms K Ridling (Senior Solicitor RMA)  
Ms S Bourke (Community Safety Manager)  
Ms T O'Shannessey (Monitoring Team Leader)  
Mrs LM Wainwright (Committee Secretary)

**APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**Resolved: (Crs Church/Patterson)**

**THAT apologies be received from Councillors Henderson, McNally, Sedgwick, McGuire and Mrs Moana-Tuwhangai.**

**CARRIED**

**P&RHE2102/01**

## **CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS**

**Resolved: (Crs Gibb/Lynch)**

**THAT the agenda for a meeting of the Policy & Regulatory Committee held on Wednesday, 24 February 2021 be confirmed;**

**AND THAT all reports be received.**

**CARRIED**

**P&RHE2102/02**

## **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of interest.

## **REPORT**

Hearing for Proposed Amendments to the Waikato District Council Keeping of Animals Bylaw 2015

The Chairperson summarised the process for the hearing.

The following submissions were presented, and submitters responded to questions from the Committee:

### **Mr Whyte on behalf of the Huntly Community Board (Submission Page No. 120)**

The Huntly Community Board Chairperson presented a powerpoint presentation on behalf of the Board (Doc 1) and the following matters were discussed:

- Concern was raised that 60 days for the keeping of lambs was too short and should be extended to 90 days.
- Moveable chicken tractors/cages be included as an acceptable way to have chickens in the urban area.
- The Huntly Community Board approved the number of chickens to be kept as recommended in the bylaw.

### **Mr Whyte on behalf of the Ohinewai Area Committee (Submission Page No. 123)**

Mr Whyte presented a powerpoint presentation on behalf of the Ohinewai Area Committee (Doc 2) and the following matters were discussed:

- Honeybee numbers were not declining in New Zealand. Hives had tripled in the last 3 years.
- Impact of large numbers of hives in the rural/urban area.
- Concern was raised on the amount of bee excrement on houses in a residential area.
- Possible bee attacks close to schools and residential areas.

### **Ms Taylor (Submission Page No. 67)**

Ms Taylor presented a powerpoint presentation (Doc 3) and the following matters were discussed:

- An individual horse did not require 2 hectares of land. Request that “2 hectares” be amended to “2 acres”.
- Definition of “urban” required clarification.

### **Ms Sclater on behalf of the New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders Association (Submission Page No. 106)**

The following matters were discussed:

- An individual horse did not require 2 hectares of land. Request that “2 hectares” be amended to “2 acres”.
- The thoroughbred industry is a key contributor to the Waikato economy.
- The definition of “urban spread” and the affect on small breeding units.
- Equine welfare is a matter of high importance to New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing. There are standards/rules that trainers must abide by.

Cr Gibb left the meeting at 10.27am.

The meeting adjourned at 10.27am and resumed at 10.46am.

**Ms Cooper, supported by Ms Sclater, on behalf of the New Zealand Trainers Association (Submission Page No. 110)**

The following matters were discussed:

- The Racing Integrity Unit monitored the licensing of horse racing trainers, racing facilities and non compliances.
- The Equine Health Association recommended all horses be micro chipped.

Cr Gibb re-entered the meeting at 10.47am during discussion on the above submission.

**Mr Giltrap (Submission Page No. 20)**

The following matters were discussed:

- Definition of “country living” required clarification.
- Pigeons for racing should not be included under poultry numbers.
- Moveable chicken tractors/cages be included as an acceptable way to have chickens in the urban area.
- The restriction of 6 birds should have the word “adult” added to the description.

**Mr Nicholson (Submission Page No. 40)**

The following matters were discussed:

- Mr Nicholson and Ms Wadham owned a lifestyle block behind the Te Kauwhata Village centre that was zoned business/commercial. It had been identified as future town centre development and is currently used as a lifestyle block.
- Definition of “country living” required clarification.
- Request that “2 hectares” be amended to “1 acre”.

Cr Lynch left the meeting at 11.40am.

The meeting adjourned at 11.40am and resumed at 12.30pm.

## **Ms Conroy (Submission Page No. 28) (via audio visual conference)**

The following matters were discussed:

- Impact to horses and landowners of the 2 hectares of land requirement.
- Horse manure - clarification was required on the definition of “nuisance”.
- Danger of riding horses on the road.
- Animal welfare was essential.

Cr Lynch re-entered the meeting at 12.35pm during discussion on the above submission.

### **DELIBERATIONS**

After hearing the submissions, the Committee discussed the following matters with staff:

#### Horses

**ACTION:** Staff to investigate the minimum lot size for horses and circulate the information to elected members before the meeting is reconvened.

#### Bees

**ACTION:** Staff to investigate the requirements for the keeping of bees and circulate the information to elected members before the meeting is reconvened.

#### Pigs

No changes to be made to the keeping of pigs.

#### Poultry

**ACTION:** Staff to investigate the district plan rules for urban vs. rural residential and the definition of “poultry”. Information to be circulated to elected members before the meeting is reconvened.

Use of mobile tractors to be placed in the bylaw document.

Lambs

Keeping of lambs to be for a 90 day period.

**ACTION:** Urban definitions to be removed from the bylaw.

**Resolved: (Cr Smith/His Worship the Mayor)**

**THAT** pursuant to sections 83 of the Local Government Act 2002, the Policy & Regulatory Committee consider all submissions and, where requested, hear submissions on the notified Proposed Amendments to the Waikato District Council Keeping of Animals Bylaw 2015;

**AND FUTHER THAT** the Policy & Regulatory Committee notes that a deliberations report will be presented to the Committee for consideration and recommendation on the notified Proposed Amendments to the Waikato District Council Keeping of Animals Bylaw 2015 on 30 March 2021.

**CARRIED**

**P&RHE2102/03**

The meeting adjourned at 1.51pm.

Hearing by the Policy & Regulatory Committee to hear and consider submissions and make recommendations on the Proposed Waikato District Council Keeping of Animals Bylaw 2015, held in the Council Chambers, District Office, 15 Galileo Street, Ngaruawahia reconvened on **TUESDAY, 30 MARCH 2021** commencing at **10.32am**.

**Present:**

Cr NMD Smith (Chairperson)  
His Worship the Mayor, Mr AM Sanson  
Cr AD Bech  
Cr JA Church  
Cr C Eyre  
Cr JM Gibb  
Cr SD Lynch  
Cr LR Thomson  
Cr CT Woolerton

**Attending:**

Ms A Geary (Forest & Bird) *via audio visual conference*  
Mr J Ebenhoh (Planning & Policy Manager Community Growth)  
Ms S Solomon (Corporate Planner)  
Ms K Ridling (Senior Solicitor RMA)  
Ms S Bourke (Community Safety Manager)  
Ms T O'Shannessey (Monitoring Team Leader)  
Mrs LM Wainwright (Committee Secretary)

**APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**Resolved: (Crs Thomson/Church)**

**THAT apologies be received from Councillors Henderson, McInally, Sedgwick, McGuire and Mrs Moana-Tuwhangai.**

**CARRIED**

**P&RHE2102/04**

The Committee heard the late submission from Forest & Bird.

**Ms Geary on behalf of Forest & Bird (Late Submission) (via audio visual conference)**

The following matters were discussed:

- Pre engagement should have occurred prior to consultation.
- Regulation of cats to stop the destruction of wildlife.
- New Plymouth District Council had made provision in their Animals Bylaw 2020 to include the regulation of cats.
- Amberfield Development, Hamilton was a “Cat Free” subdivision.
- No service requests on cats had been lodged with Waikato District Council in the last five years.

His Worship the Mayor left from the meeting at 10.41am and re-entered the meeting at 10.46am following presentation of the above submission.

**DELIBERATIONS**

Following the submission from Forest & Bird, the Committee discussed the following matter with staff:

Cats

**ACTION:** Staff to investigate inserting a provision into the bylaw on feral and nuisance cats and circulate the information to elected members before the meeting is reconvened.



Hearing by the Policy & Regulatory Committee to hear and consider submissions and make recommendations on the Proposed Waikato District Council Keeping of Animals Bylaw 2015, held in the Council Chambers, District Office, 15 Galileo Street, Ngaruawahia reconvened on **WEDNESDAY, 28 APRIL 2021** commencing at **11.15am**.

**Present:**

Cr NMD Smith (Chairperson)  
His Worship the Mayor, Mr AM Sanson  
Cr AD Bech  
Cr C Eyre  
Cr JM Gibb  
Cr SD Lynch  
Cr LR Thomson  
Cr CT Woolerton

**Attending:**

Ms S Solomon (Corporate Planner)  
Ms K Ridling (Senior Solicitor RMA)  
Ms S Bourke (Community Safety Manager)  
Ms T O'Shannessey (Monitoring Team Leader)  
Ms H Beaven (Corporate Planning Team Leader)  
Mrs LM Wainwright (Committee Secretary)

**APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**Resolved: (Crs Smith/Gibb)**

**THAT apologies be received from Councillors Henderson, McNally, Sedgwick, McGuire and Mrs Moana-Tuwhangai.**

**CARRIED**

**P&RHE2102/05**

