
Dog Control Hearings Panel

He Koomiti Whiriwhiri I Ngaa Take Kuri

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Dog Control Hearings Panel held in Committee Room 1, Municipal Building, Garden Place, Hamilton on Thursday 14 November 2024 at 9:30 am.

PRESENT

Chairperson Cr Mark Donovan
Heamana

Members Cr Anna Casey-Cox
 Cr Maria Huata

1. **Apologies – *Tono aroha***
 Resolved: (Cr Donovan/ Cr Casey-Cox)
 That the Dog Control Hearings Panel accepts the apologies for absence from Cr Andrew Bydder and Cr Moko Tauariki.

2. **Confirmation of Agenda – *Whakatau raarangi take***
 Resolved: (Cr Donovan/ Cr Huata)
 That the Dog Control Hearings Panel confirms the agenda.

3. **Declarations of Interest – *Tauaakii whaipaaanga***
 No members of the Council declared a Conflict of Interest.

4. **Confirmation of the Dog Control Hearings Panel Open Minutes 3 October 2024**

 Resolved: (Cr Donovan/Cr Huata)
 That the Dog Control Hearings Panel confirm the Open Minutes of the Dog Control Hearings Panel Meeting held on 3 October 2024 as a true and correct record.

5. Objection to Menacing Classification of Dog - Thompson-Tarau

Ms Thompson-Tarau and Mr Thompson spoke to their objection highlighting the steps that they have taken to prevent the Dog from roaming and preventive measures that they have done to ensure that an incident that prompted the Menacing Classification does not happen again.

The Response and Resilience Manager then highlighted the two separate incidents where the Dog has been found roaming. They explained how de-sexing of a dog could prevent future roaming incidents.

6. Objection to Disqualification from Dog Ownership – Edmonds

Mr Edmonds spoke to their submission for their objection, their experience with Animal Education and Control, his concerns with the process and that he has taken online courses to assist him with controlling his Dog better.

Staff spoke to the report highlighting the incidents which have cause the owner to be disqualified noting that the owner has had an extensive history of infringements.

7. Resolution to Exclude the Public

Resolved: (Cr Donovan/Cr Casey-Cox)

Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

The following motion is submitted for consideration:

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely consideration of the public excluded agenda.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution follows.

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
C1. Dog Control Hearings Panel Public Excluded Minutes 3 October 2024) Good reason to withhold) information exists under) Section 7 Local Government	Section 48(1)(a)
5. Objection to Menacing Classification of Dog - Thompson-Tarau) Official Information and) Meetings Act 1987)	
6. Objection to Disqualification from Dog Ownership – Edmonds		

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

Item C1.	to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through protecting persons from improper pressure or harassment	Section 7 (2) (f) (ii)
Item 5.	to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through protecting persons from improper pressure or harassment	Section 7 (2) (f) (ii)
Item 6.	to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through protecting persons from improper pressure or harassment	Section 7 (2) (f) (ii)

The meeting moved to Public Excluded session at 10:09am

During the Public Excluded Session of the meeting the following was resolved to be released to the public:

Item 5:

That the Dog Control Hearings Panel:

- a) receives the report;
- b) confirms it has considered the mandatory matters specified under the Dog Control Act 1996, and other matters relevant to the objection;
- c) notes that the Dog Control Hearings Panel in determining any objection can only either uphold or rescind the classification under the Dog Control Act 1996;
- e) upholds the menacing classification; and
- f) approves the release of the decision from Public Excluded via the open minutes of this meeting.

Item 6:

That the Dog Control Hearings Panel:

- a) receives the report;
- b) confirms it has considered the mandatory matters specified under the Dog Control Act 1996, and other matters relevant to the objection;
- c) notes under the Dog Control Act 1996 that the Dog Control Hearings Panel in determining any objection can only either;
 - i. uphold the classification;
 - ii. bring forward the date of termination of the classification; or
 - iii. immediately terminate the disqualification; and
- d) classifies the dog owner as disqualified until 14 January 2029 (being the date that is five years from the date of the third or final infringement offence in respect of which the person is disqualified) and notes the right of the dog owner to appeal to the District Court under section 27 of the Dog Control Act 1996.
- e) approves the release of the decisions from Public Excluded via the open minutes of this meeting

The meeting was closed at 10:18am.