
Dog Control Hearings Panel OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Dog Control Hearings Panel held in Committee Room One, Municipal Building, Garden Place, Hamilton and via Audio Visual link on Monday 14 December 2020 at 10.00am.

PRESENT

Chairperson Cr E Wilson (via Audio Visual link)

Heamana

Members Cr M van Oosten
Cr R Pascoe

In Attendance: Kelvin Powell - City Safe Unit Manager
Susan Stanford – Animal Control Manager
Peter Crocker – Animal Control Team Leader
Justin Harden - Animal Education and Control officer

Governance Team: Amy Viggers – Governance Team Leader
Tyler Gaukrodger – Governance Advisor

1. **Apologies – *Tono aroha***
Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Cr van Oosten)
That the apologies for absence from Cr Forsyth are accepted.
2. **Confirmation of Agenda – *Whakatau raarangi take***
Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Cr van Oosten)
That the Agenda is confirmed.
3. **Declarations of Interest – *Tauaakii whaipanga***
No members of the Council declared a Conflict of Interest.
4. **Confirmation of the Dog Control Hearings Panel Open Minutes 1 September 2020**
Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Cr Pascoe)

That the Panel confirm the Open Minutes of the Dog Control Hearings Panel Meeting held on 1 September 2020 as a true and correct record.

5. Objection to menacing classification - Terry Stephens

Terry Stephens spoke to the report in opposition of the menacing classification of Fletcher. He responded to questions from Members concerning adoption, training, rehabilitation, dog day care, the dog park, the incident, dog free zones, contact with the victim, social media and contact with Council.

The City Safe Unit Manager, Animal Control Team Leader and Animal Education and Control officer outlined the report, the incident and their recommendation. They responded to questions from Members concerning the timeline, the incident, victim and objectors statements, dog restrictions in the park, previous dog complaints, dog control interactions with objectors, injuries and social media.

6. Resolution to Exclude the Public

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. Confirmation of the Dog Control Hearings Panel Public Excluded Minutes 1 September 2020) Good reason to withhold) information exists under) Section 7 Local Government) Official Information and) Meetings Act 1987.)	Section 48(1)(a)
C2. Objection to menacing classification – Terry Stephens – Deliberations) To maintain the effective conduct) of public affairs through) protecting persons from) improper pressure or) harassment.)	Section 7(2)(f)

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 prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage Section 7 (2) (j)

The meeting went into a public excluded session at 10:49am

During the public excluded session of the meeting the panel resolved the following:

Item C2: Objection to menacing classification - Terry Stephens

That the Dog Control Hearings Panel:

- a) receives the report;
- b) determines that the classification of Fletcher as a menacing dog is upheld; and
- c) approves the above decision be released to the public via these open minutes of this meeting.

The meeting was declared closed at 11:13am