
Environment Committee

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Environment Committee held in Council Chamber, Municipal Building, Garden Place, Hamilton on Tuesday 3 March 2020 at 9.30am.

PRESENT

Chairperson	Cr M Forsyth
Deputy Chairperson	Cr S Thomson
Members	Cr M Bunting
	Cr A O'Leary
	Cr K Naidoo-Rauf
	Cr D Macpherson
	Maangai N Hill

In Attendance:	Cr M van Oosten
	Cr R Hamilton
	Cr M Gallagher
	Sean Hickey - General Manager Strategy and Communications
	Lance Vervoort – General Manager Community
	Jen Baird – General Manager City Growth
	Eeva-Liisa Wright – General Manager Infrastructure Operations
	Maria Barrie – Parks and Recreation Manager
	Maire Porter – City Waters Manager
	Julie Clausen – Unit Manager Strategy and Corporate Planning
	Jamie Sirl – Team Leader City Planning
	Kirsty Quickfall – Waste Minimisation Advisor
	Trent Fowles – Compliance Manager

Governance Staff:	Amy Viggers – Governance Team Leader
	Carmen Fortin and Rebecca Watson - Governance Advisors

1. Apologies

Resolved: (Cr Forsyth/Cr Macpherson)

That the apologies for absence from Mayor Southgate, and for early departure from Cr Bunting and Cr O'Leary are accepted.

2. Confirmation of Agenda

Resolved: (Cr Forsyth/Cr Bunting)

That the agenda is confirmed.

3. Declarations of Interest

No members of the Committee declared a Conflict of Interest.

4. Public Forum

Hannah Huggan (Student Environment Leader) spoke to Item 6 (General Manager's Report) concerning the Climate Action Plan and requested the Council act with urgency to address climate concerns.

Anna Casey-Cox, Jo Wrigley and Louise Hutt (Go Eco) spoke to Item 8 (Draft Submission on the proposed National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity). They outlined their support of and enhancement of Indigenous Biodiversity. They also spoke Item 6 (General Manager's Report) in support of a Climate Action Plan. They responded to questions from Committee Members concerning partnership opportunities, Council's role in change management, and how Council could influence change in transport use.

Lynne Garnham (Tui 2000) spoke to Item 8 (Draft Submission on the proposed National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity) in support of the Indigenous Biodiversity initiative. She outlined the work that was being undertaken by Tui 2000 at Waiwhakareke that focused on Indigenous Biodiversity.

Shepherd Issac (Transformations) spoke to Item 8 (Draft Submission on the proposed National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity). He outlined the work being undertaken by Transformations in the area of Indigenous Biodiversity.

Roderick Aldridge (individual) spoke to Item 8 (Draft Submission on the proposed National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity) and Item 6 (General Manager's Report) to the Climate Action Plan. He responded to questions from Members concerning Housing designs to address the changing climate.

Elisapesi Havea (University of Waikato) spoke to Item 6 (General Manager's Report) in support of the Climate Action Plan and suggested that education was key to climate change.

Tahi Brown (individual) spoke to Item 6 (General Manager's Report) in support of the Climate Action Plan and his programme that uses Maatauranga Maaori to incorporate biodiversity into the educational system to assist climate change.

Cr Gallagher joined the meeting (9.40am) during the above item.

Cr Hamilton left the meeting (10.17am) during the above item.

Cr Pascoe joined the meeting (10.18am) during the above item.

5. Chair's Report

The Chair took the report as read and responded to questions from Committee Members concerning the link to other Committees' areas of focus.

Resolved: (Cr Forsyth/Cr O'Leary)

That the Environment Committee receives the report.

Resolved: (Cr Forsyth/Cr Bunting)

That the Environment Committee notes for the purpose of future meetings, all Elected Members at the table will be able to participate in the debate of items.

The meeting adjourned 10.54am to 11.14am.

Cr Bunting and Cr Gallagher retired from the meeting during the above adjournment.

6. General Manager Report

The General Manager Strategy and Communications spoke to the report, noting that the Nature in the City Strategy was previously known as the Hamilton Biodiversity Strategy. The Unit Manager Strategy and Corporate Planning then addressed some points raised by public forum speakers. Staff responded to questions from Members concerning the deferral of the Climate Action Plan report to June 2020, sources of Hamilton City Council carbon emissions, opportunities for action that could be undertaken in the near future, biodiversity target of 10%, cultural considerations, communication opportunities to increase awareness in the public.

Resolved: (Cr Thomson/Cr Forsyth)

That the Environment Committee:

- a) receives the report;
- b) requests staff report back to the April 2020 Council meeting on organisational emission reduction actions that will be included and/or are being considered for 2020/21 financial year; and
- c) requests staff report back to the next Environment Committee meeting in June 2020 with the draft Climate Action Plan for adoption.

Cr Gallagher re-joined the meeting (11.19am) during the discussion of the above item. He was present when the matter was voted on.

Maangai Hill retired from the meeting (11.56am) during the discussion of the above item. He was not present when the matter was voted on.

The meeting adjourned 11.58am to 12.06pm.

7. Sustainability Stocktake

The Unit Manager Strategy and Corporate Planning spoke to the report and responded to questions from Members concerning the wellbeing measures and targets, and the principles in action.

Staff Action: Staff undertook to provide Members with the Draft Environmental wellbeing measures and targets.

Resolved: (Cr Forsyth/Cr Macpherson)

That the Environment Committee:

- a) receives the report; and
- b) notes that future sustainability updates will be included in the Wellbeing Outcomes Report and the production of a separate Sustainability Stocktake Report will cease.

8. Draft submission on the proposed National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity

The Team Leader City Planning spoke to the report, noting that Hamilton City Council will be a part of the road testing of the National Policy Statement. Members thanked staff for their work on the submission.

Resolved: (Cr Forsyth/Cr Thomson)

That the Environment Committee:

- a) receives the report;

- b) approves the Council's draft submission to the Ministry for the Environment on the proposed National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity; and
- c) notes that following approval, the final submission will be sent to Ministry for the Environment by the 14 March 2020 deadline.

9. Update on 2018-2024 Waste Management and Minimisation Plan Actions

The Water Compliance Manager and Waste Minimisation Advisor took the report as read. Staff responded to questions from Members concerning work being undertaken by Claudelands to minimise waste from events, the waste levy fund, upcoming Waste Management and Minimisation Plan projects, work being undertaken at other Council facilities to minimise waste and the introduction of a waste minimisation plans for events.

Resolved: (Cr Forsyth/Cr Naidoo-Rauf)

That the Environment Committee receives the report.

10. Environment Committee Draft Schedule of Reports 2020

The report was taken as read. Staff responded to questions from Members concerning reports from stakeholders, the inclusion regular reporting on the outcomes/measures/target that show how council is tracking and the process to update the schedule of reports.

Resolved: (Cr Forsyth/Cr Macpherson)

That the Environment Committee:

- a) receives the draft 2020 Schedule of Reports;
- b) notes that the Schedule of Reports is intended to be a living document that will be updated as necessary and will be made available to Elected Members and Maangai Maaori on Diligent.

The meeting was declared closed at 1.15pm.