
Environment Committee

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Environment Committee held in Audio Visual Meeting on Thursday 4 June 2020 at 10.03am.

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
	Mayor P Southgate (Ex Officio)
	Maangai N Hill

In Attendance:	Deputy Mayor G Taylor
	Cr M van Oosten
	Cr M Gallagher
	Sean Hickey - General Manager Strategy and Communications
	Eeva-Liisa Wright – General Manager Infrastructure Operations
	Maria Barrie – Parks and Recreation Manager
	Julie Clausen – Unit Manager Strategy and Corporate Planning
	Amy Trigg – Senior Policy Analyst
	Natasha Ryan – Key Projects Programme Manager
	Amanda Banks – Policy and Strategy Advisor
	James Clarke – Director Mayor's Office
	Alistair McCullough – Project Leader
	Cory Lang – Building Control Manager

Governance Staff:	Amy Viggers – Governance Team Leader
	Ian Loiterton - Governance Advisor

1. Apologies

Resolved: (Cr Forsyth/Cr Thomson)

That apologies for lateness from Cr Bunting, Cr van Oosten and Maangai Hill, and Mayor Southgate for early departure are accepted.

2. Confirmation of Agenda

Resolved: (Cr Forsyth/Cr Thomson)

That the agenda is confirmed.

3. Declarations of Interest

No members of the Council declared a Conflict of Interest.

4. Public Forum

Hannah Huggan (representing Student Environment Leaders) provided a written submission to Item 7 (General Manager's Report) that was circulated to Members prior to the meeting and is attached to the minutes as **appendix 1**.

5. Confirmation of the Open Environment Committee Minutes - 3 March 2020

Resolved: (Cr Forsyth/Cr Naidoo-Rauf)

That the Committee confirm the open Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 3 March 2020 as a true and correct record.

6. Chair's Report

The Chair took the report as read. Along with staff, she responded to questions from Committee members including the scope of the recommendation as it relates to sustainability, timelines and resources for reporting back to the Committee, monitoring and reporting of progress, and environmental efficiency and cost savings.

Staff advised that there was to be a report to the 20 August 2020 Strategic Growth Committee on practical actions and policies can be implement to encourage healthier and more environmentally sustainable residential and commercial buildings in Hamilton.

Resolved: (Cr Forsyth/Cr O'Leary)

That the Environment Committee:

- a) receives the report; and
- b) requests staff to report to the next Environment Committee on Council's current practices and policies relating to sustainability and energy efficiencies of buildings and investigate sustainability strategies with a view to exploring options and implications of doing more in this field.

Maangai Hill joined the meeting (10.40am) during the discussion of the above item. He was present when the matter was voted on.

Cr Bunting joined the meeting (10.45am) during the discussion of the above item. He was not present when the matter was voted on.

7. General Manager Report - Environment Committee - 4 June 2020

The General Manager Strategy and Communications took the report as read.

Gullies

Staff responded to questions from Committee Members concerning strategies to support volunteer groups, the role of and engagement with Maaori, councils Nature in the City Strategy, partnership and funding strategies, cultural heritage, walkway connections, and potential Long Term Plan proposals and how these will achieve environmental strategies and goals.

Climate Action Plan

Staff responded to questions from Committee Members concerning the timelines for the Plan to be developed, and processes for formal adoption of the Plan.

Staff Action: *Staff undertook to confirm the Environment Committees delegation in relation to the adoption of the Climate Action Plan.*

Green Buildings

Staff responded to questions from Committee Members concerning grey water and other sustainability strategies and how these will inform the LTP, and linkages to other Committees portfolios.

Resolved (Cr Forsyth, Mayor Southgate)

That the Environment Committee:

- a) receives the report; and
- b) defers the Climate Action Plan report to the next Environment Committee meeting of 10 September 2020.

The meeting was declared closed at 11.50am.

Appendix 1:

Public Forum Submission to the Environment Committee Meeting, 4 June 2020 in relation to Item 7: General Manager's Report

Kia Ora, I would like to make a submission for tomorrow's meeting. I am unable to attend as I will be at school. This is on behalf of student environment leaders. My previous proposal is also attached for clarification to my first point with the link below. Thank you!

Ngaa mihi nui ki a koutou. I hope you are all safe and well during this time. I am submitting on behalf of Student Environment Leaders to reiterate the call for stronger climate action.

We are disappointed to see the climate action plan being delayed for the second time. The nature and urgency of this crisis must not be understood by this council if the plan is to be delayed until September; a year after the decision was made. This committee has agreed to act with urgency but that urgency is yet to be seen, and that has been said before. The plan cannot be delayed again and when we act, we cannot miss the deadlines for our targets.

Moving forward, the Student Environment Leaders want to emphasise the points made in our previous submission. The council must prioritise climate action during our economic recovery.

Secondly, mana whenua and iwi should be intrinsically involved, consulted, and leading this project as we work to uphold te tiriti.

Finally, we support the call to increase staff resourcing to reduce further delays.

Kia Ora, Hannah Huggan.
Student Environment Leaders

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/16E1rafQj4RvkUYXT931yDxorRBMFs8KJhWwY8YHcLDg/edit?usp=sharing>

Attached: Letter to the Environment Committee meeting, 4 June 2020

To the Mayor, Councillors and Māngai Māori,

We submit in response to the progress report on the Climate Plan. The following document is a submission on principles and outcomes to be incorporated into the climate plan in the context of COVID-19. The investment into our economy must be focussed on a green recovery in partnership with what we have learned from this crisis.

Statement of Purpose

We want Hamilton City Council to ensure the wellbeing of people and planet as part of the economic response to COVID-19.

Principles

1. To uphold Te Tiriti O Waitangi
 - We want the voice of Mana Whenua to be valued, recognised as kaitiaki, and their knowledge to be the foundation of decision making and a tiriti based future.

For these outcomes:

Allowing Maaori sovereignty and Leadership

Ensuring we don't perpetuate systematic oppression

Using local knowledge and understanding of the land to provide the best outcomes of climate change

2. Inclusive and wide economic consultation

- Everyone is affected by the economy. Business along with the rest of the community should be consulted as part of our recovery.

For these outcomes:

Supporting rangatahi and public interest

Encouraging and providing platforms for participatory democracy

Ensuring the kickstart and rebuilding of the economy supports everyone in Hamilton

3. Building a resilient zero-carbon economy

- Money that is used to restimulate the economy should be prioritised to ensure we are creating a resilient, zero-carbon economy.

For these outcomes:

Creating and providing more jobs

Thriving local business, food production, and communities

Stronger and resilient economy

4. Equitable transition

- We want an equitable transition to be understood and implemented throughout the climate action plan.

For these outcomes

Support and increased livelihoods for our vulnerable communities

Sharing the benefits and burdens of this crisis equitably

Protecting and improving Human Rights

This submission has the support of the following organisations:

Go Eco

Community Waikato

Methodist City Action

Living Streets Hamilton

Generation Zero Waikato

Western Community Centre

Poverty Action Waikato

Anglican Action Social Justice Centre

Friends of Mangaonua

Transformations from the Roots Up Restoration