
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 and Audio Visual Link, Municipal Building, Garden Place, Hamilton on Monday 12 December 2022 at 9.30am.

PRESENT

Chairperson Cr Ewan Wilson
Heamana

Members Cr Andrew Bydder
Cr Melaina Huaki

In Attendance: Susan Stanford – Animal Control Manager
Matthew Auld – Animal Education and Control Officer

Governance Staff: Amy Viggers – Governance Lead
Arnold Andrews – Governance Advisor

1. Apologies – *Tono aroha*

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/ Cr Bydder)

That the apologies for absence from Cr Anna Casey-Cox, Cr Moko Tauriki and Cr Mark Donovan are accepted.

2. Confirmation of Agenda – *Whakatau raarangi take*

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Cr Huaki)

That the agenda is confirmed.

3. Declarations of Interest – *Tauaakii whaipaaanga*

No members of the Council declared a Conflict of Interest.

4. Objection to disqualification from dog ownership - Nicola Kenney

Ms Kenney spoke in opposition of her disqualification from dog ownership as the dog who was roaming from her property had been rehomed. They responded to question from the Member concerning the dogs currently registered to Nicola, their previous disqualification, past infringements, the timeline of each incident and the actions she undertook to prevent future incidents.

Animal Control Manager outlined the Dog Control Act obligations and the number infringements received to date. Staff responded to questions concerning the timeline of incidents that resulted in the disqualification, the fines received by Ms Kenney, notification of disqualification which was delayed due to the process that must be followed, and differences between the Dog Control Bylaw and the Act.

Staff Action: Staff undertook to provide all records in future reports to the Committee.

During the discussion of the above item the meeting was adjourned 9.36am to 9.57am.

Item 6 (Resolution to Exclude the Public) was taken during the discussion of the above item 4 (Objection to disqualification from dog ownership - Nicola Kenney) at the request of the Chair.

6. Resolution to Exclude the Public

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Cr Bydder)

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
4. Objection to disqualification from dog ownership - Nicola Kenney) Good reason to withhold) information exists under) Section 7 Local Government) Official Information and) Meetings Act 1987	Section 48(1)(a)

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 4.	to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through protecting person from improper pressure of harassment	Section 7 (2) (f) (ii)
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The meeting moved into the public excludes session at 10.35am.

The meeting returned to the open session at 11.00am.

5. Objection to menacing classification - Sarah Magee

Ms Magee outlined the efforts they had undertaken to avoid further incidents. They responded to questions from Members concerning the training they had completed, the incident, that the dog had been desexed and the potential impact of a menacing classification on themselves and the Dog.

The Animal Control Manager noted the work that the owners had carried out. Staff then responded to questions from Members concerning the delay in the complaint being made after the incident, and the recommendation of staff.

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Cr Huaki)

That the Dog Control Hearings Panel:

- a) receives the report; and
- b) determines that the classification of Meg as a menacing dog is **not** upheld.

The meeting was declared closed at 11:48am.