

Whangarei District Council District Living Committee meeting - 14th March 2012

[LINK to appropriate Agenda](#)

Chair Cr Shelley Deeming welcomes all with a good afternoon, to all those present at 1300hrs.

Apologies were received for Cr Phil Halse, Cr Kahu Sutherland and Cr Greg Martin.

It was still 1300hrs and Item No. 1 Minutes of a Meeting of the Environment Committee held 8 February 2012 - (Page1) these were accepted with no discussion taking place.

With the time at 1301hrs it was on to Item No. 2 District Living Group Monthly Report February 2012 (Page 3)

Group Manager District Living Paul Dell gave some details and explained that more than 800 people had been spoken to and more than 160 submissions received about the Cameron Street Mall extensions. *Have to ask what multiplying factor was used in producing these figures?* They had received a lot of building consent applications before the new Licensed Building Practitioner's scheme had come into effect. Paul made comment about some incentives being given to reward good dog owners with either one of 100 x \$20-00 gift vouchers sponsored by ENL (council contractor) and Whangarei Pet and Aquarium Centre, Maunu Road, and 10 free dog registrations. This was initiated by Keith Thompson director of Environmental Northland Ltd. Good on you KT. *We all as a community need to get behind promoting 'responsible dog ownership' initiatives to make Whangarei a more dog friendly town. I would like to see dogs allowed into the CBD area on leashes, but sadly, it seems, a minority of dog owners can't be responsible enough for this idea to prosper.*

Cr Merv Williams broke the ramblings of Paul Dell asking if they wanted comments from councilors or questions. *Who is chairing this meeting or was this Paul in control of his patch again?*

Cr Brian McLachlan asked if there had been any decision on 'Decision on Rail Designation' on page 11. Paul Dell advised they were waiting for the courts to sign it off.

Cr Jeroen Jongejans queried if there were developments on Plan Change 65 – Longview Estuary Estate (page 12)

Paul Dell advised it was before the Environment Court.

Cr Sharon Morgan had a query on Plan Change 112 – Te Hape Village (page 13) as this had been going on for 4 years.

Policy and Monitoring Manager, Paul Waanders, gave some brief details as to the situation.

Cr Merv Williams queried Plan Change 119 – Commercial Centres Southdale (page 13)

Paul Dell gave a little detail. *This one should be closely watched as there have been attempts by some to have SH1 / Rewarewa Road intersection re-routed to come out of Southend Ave and through Gumdiggers Place. Wonder who those in the past manipulating this, could possibly be?*

Cr Crichton Christie (referring to page 15, Item d – Landscape) asked how high was the bar.

Paul Dell advises he was watching this closely.

Cr Sue Glen had concerns regarding the NRC (Northland Regional Council) in regards to "NRC has not agreed to take part". - Genetic modification (referring to page 16, Item e)

Paul Dell advised "that they were sitting at the table".

Sue Glen was concerned "that a leading body was not taking part".

Cr Crichton Christie commented "it was called Risk Assessment"

Cr Shelley Deeming advised "that we take note of your comments".

Cr Aaron Edwards asked if there was any budget in the LTP (Long Term Plan) for funds for the item on page 16 Item d- Whangarei Harbour Integrated Management Strategy.

It was 1323hrs and Item No. 3 Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) Performance Report - July 2011 to December 2011 (Page 31)

Paul Dell gave a brief on this item and how they are meeting the standards set with their performance measures. *It is Paul's meeting you know..... and he probably thinks he's doing really well. Let's mark him again after tonight's meeting at Hikurangi regarding the Gomez Road development of a 'noisy motor sports park; let's see how high the bar needs to be for his performance?*

With the time now at 1325hrs it was on to Item No. 4 Proposed Plan Change 123 Network Utilities Electricity Transmission Incorporation of National Environmental Standards for Electricity Transmission by Reference. (Page 37)

Paul Dell advised that the National government got committed to national standards and this is an Electricity Transmission Network.

Cr Shelley Deeming advises it is a requirement by law.

Cr John Williamson asked how they expected to have this implemented by 10 April 2012 as stated on page 37.

Paul Waanders, Policy and Monitoring Manager gave some details and advised that it was to be commenced by that date, not completed by then.

It was 1328hrs and Item No. 5. License Building Practitioner and Restricted Building Work Scheme. (Page 74)

Paul Dell informed that the main aspect here was something 'close to Cr Christie's heart' about DIY (Do it yourself). He advised that there were still some grey areas about this and they were working on it.

Government admitted that they had overlooked the DIY person and are now looking at it. DIY will be noted on documents showing how things are built; either homebuilt (like on home built trailer registration papers) or LBP. (Licensed Building Practitioner)

Cr Crichton Christie had concerns that he wouldn't be able to like re roof his house; that they would have some magical number like you could only replace 10 sheets of iron for example.

Paul Dell hastily replied, "None".

Cr Crichton Christie replied "this is garbage and I don't trust these people." *Hey that makes two of us now, Crichton.* Crichton continued "you want economic growth - and you put a big stop there". "Treat me like an idiot and you'll get an idiot".

Paul Dell explained that LBP (Licensed Building Practitioner) had lifted the bar. In response to the number of consents being rejected he confirmed that an application can be declined if the people submitting the applications fail to name the LBP for design and the LBP for building the structure. Bruce Rogers, Building Compliance Manager advised that there were only about 40 Design Licensed Building Practitioners in Northland. *Sound like charges are going up in this then, what you reckon?*

Time now at 1339hrs and Item No. 6. New Road Name. (Page 82)

There was no discussion for this item other than Shelley Deeming queering about people's names being used when street names are allocated.

So, that's it, all over till the next episode, with Cr Shelley Deeming calling the meeting to a close at 1341 hours and thanking all for attending.