

**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE FUNCTION ROOM, TAUPŌ EVENTS CENTRE, 26 AC BATHS AVENUE, TAUPŌ
ON THURSDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2017 AT 1.00PM**

- PRESENT:** Mayor David Trewavas (in the Chair), Cr John Boddy, Cr Rosie Harvey, Cr Barry Hickling, Cr Rosanne Jollands, Cr Tangonui Kingi, Cr Anna Park, Cr Christine Rankin, Cr John Williamson
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Group Manager: Business & Technology, Group Manager: Corporate & Community, Group Manager: Finance & Regulatory, Group Manager: Operational Services, Democracy & Community Engagement Manager, Policy Manager, Senior Policy Advisor, Corporate Solicitor, Communications Manager, Senior Communications Advisor, IT Support, Democratic Services Support Officer
- MEDIA AND PUBLIC:** Taupō Weekender
25 members of the public

His Worship the Mayor opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance. Councillor Kingi recited an opening karakia.

1 APOLOGIES

TDC201709/31 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Anna Park
Seconded: Cr Barry Hickling

That apologies from Cr Kirsty Trueman be received and accepted.

CARRIED

2 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

3 POLICY AND DECISION MAKING

3.1 DRAFT FREEDOM CAMPING BYLAW ADOPTION FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The Senior Policy Advisor was in attendance and at the request of His Worship, briefly summarised that the purpose of today's meeting was for Council to make a decision on whether to adopt for consultation, a draft freedom camping bylaw to help manage the adverse effects from freedom camping. The key focus for the bylaw identified that freedom camping in most parts of the district be restricted to self-contained vehicles. This approach was intended to reduce the potential for environmental issues associated with the depositing of waste.

Council was asked to confirm or change the proposed time limit which was intended to ensure that freedom campers did not set up camp for a prolonged period in one location. Currently, the draft bylaw proposed a period of stay of 2 nights / 3 days which was in line with the New Zealand standard. However, 3 nights / 4 days had also been discussed which would be in line with the nightly limit for Hipapatua/Reid's Farm Recreation Reserve and would see clarity across the district.

Following discussion regarding the options available to manage the adverse effects of freedom camping, officers reiterated that Council needed to be confident that there was sufficient evidence to restrict or prohibit freedom camping. It was further noted that community perceptions on their own was not adequate evidence to justify restrictions or prohibitions. Subsequently, Council requested two changes to the draft bylaw:

- to prohibit all freedom camping on Ferry Road; and,
- that the period of stay is increased to 3 nights / 4 days

MOTION

Moved: Cr Barry Hickling

Seconded: Cr Christine Rankin

That Council

1. Agrees, in accordance with section 11(2)(a) of the Freedom Camping Act 2011, that a Freedom Camping Bylaw is necessary to protect areas of the district and the health and safety of people visiting the district.
2. Agrees, in accordance with section 11(2)(b) of the Freedom Camping Act 2011, that the Freedom Camping Bylaw is the most appropriate and proportionate way to address the issues associated with freedom camping.
3. Agrees, in accordance with section 11(2)(c) of the Freedom Camping Act 2011, that the Freedom Camping Bylaw is not inconsistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.
4. Adopts, in accordance with section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002, the Statement of Proposal on freedom camping, including the draft Freedom Camping Bylaw, for consultation and invites the public to make submissions with the following amendments:
 - Prohibit all camping on Ferry Road, Taupō
 - Increase the nightly limit to 3 nights / 4 days

4 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Nil

The Meeting closed with a karakia from Councillor Kingi at 1.19pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held on 26 September 2017.

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CHAIRPERSON