

Minutes for a hearing of the Policy & Regulatory Committee (to hear and consider submissions and make recommendations on the Proposed Waikato District Council Easter Trading Policy 2022) held in the Council Chambers, District Office, 15 Galileo Street, Ngaruawahia on **TUESDAY**, **8 FEBRUARY 2022** commencing at **9.01am**.

Present:

Cr JD Sedgwick (Chairperson)

His Worship the Mayor, Mr AM Sanson

Cr AD Bech

Cr C Eyre

Cr JM Gibb

Cr SL Henderson

Cr SD Lynch

Cr RC McGuire

Cr FM McInally

Cr EM Patterson

Cr NMD Smith

Cr LR Thomson

Cr CT Woolerton

Attending:

Mr J Ebenhoh (Planning & Policy Manager)

Ms M Russo (Corporate Planning Team Leader)

Ms L Hood (Corporate Planner)

Ms A Sayer (Policy Advisor)

Mrs G Kanawa (Democracy Team Leader)

Ms G Shaw (Democracy Advisor)

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Resolved: (Crs Gibb/Thomson)

THAT the Policy & Regulatory Committee accepts the apology from Cr Church.

CARRIED P&R2022/01

CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS

Resolved: (Crs) Henderson & Eyre

THAT the agenda for the hearing of the Policy & Regulatory Committee held on Tuesday 8 February 2022 (to hear and consider submissions and make recommendations on the Proposed Waikato District Council Easter Trading Policy 2022) be confirmed and all items therein be considered in open meeting.

CARRIED P&R2022/02

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

REPORTS

Submissions on the Proposed Waikato District Council Easter Trading Policy 2022 4.1.1

The Policy & Planning Manager gave an overview of the proposed policy.

Resolved: (His Worship the Mayor/Cr Thomsen)

THAT That the Policy and Regulatory Committee:

- a. consider all submissions and, where requested, hear and consider submissions on the notified Proposed Easter Trading Policy pursuant to section 83 of the Local Government Act 2022; and
- b. recommend to Council any amendments to the Easter Trading Policy 2022 as a result of submissions received.

CARRIED P&R2022/03

Hearing of Submissions

The Chairperson summarised the process for the hearing.

The following submissions were presented, and submitters responded to questions from the Committee:

Ms Sonja Maree (Submission 2760 - Page No. 19)

Ms Sonja Maree advised that she would not be in attendance at the hearing, but noted her submission would still be considered in the deliberations section of the meeting.

Mr David Whyte (Submission 2870, Page No. 23)

Tabled Item: Presentation (Attachment 4.1)

Mr Whyte noted he was in attendance as a resident and on behalf of his family. He presented the attached powerpoint presentation and the following matters were discussed:

- Definition of 'option 3' required clarity. It was clarified that option 3 would enable Easter trading to take place across part or parts of the Waikato district. It was determined that Mr Whyte supports option 2.
- Mr Whyte's support for option 2 was focussed around employee/employer mental health, the value of rest, time with whanau and improved productivity.
- Mr Whyte raised the issue of burnout and self-harm amongst shop owners/employees who
 do not receive the opportunity for adequate time off.
- Cr Bech raised the point that this matter is a national issue, and should be decided on at a central Government level to ensure consistency across regions.
- Mayor Sanson suggested that the proposed by-law would support small business in communities such as Raglan, who have been struggling since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Cr Thomson suggested that business owners were fearful they would be prosecuted for being open under option 2.
- Many businesses have been impacted by COVID-19 closures and are struggling, therefore would benefit from Easter trading.

DELIBERATIONS

The Committee considered both oral and written submissions and made the following recommendation to Council for adoption at their meeting scheduled for 28 February 2022.

Resolved: (His Worship the Mayor/Cr Bech)

THAT the Policy & Regulatory Committee recommend to Council that:

- a. the updated Easter Trading Policy 2022, as set out on page 26 of the agenda, be adopted; and
- b. notes the policy enables trading on Easter Sunday within the Waikato District but does not require shops to trade if they do not wish to.

The above motion was put by division, for which the voting was as follows:

For the motion: Cr Bech, Cr Eyre, Cr McInally, Cr Patterson, Mayor AM Sanson, Cr

Sedgwick, Cr Smith and Cr Thomson.

Against the motion: Cr Gibb, Cr Henderson, Cr Lynch, Cr McGuire and Cr Woolerton.

The motion was declared **CARRIED** by 8 votes to 5.

CARRIED P&R2022/04

There being no further business, the hearing was closed at 9.5 lam.

Minutes approved and confirmed this day of 2022.

JD Sedgwick

CHAIRPERSON

Minutes: 8 February 2022