

1. Report: Whangarei District Council Briefing

Thursday 25 May 2017

Report of a Briefing to the Whangarei District Council held in the Council Chamber, Forum North on Thursday 25 May 2017 at 1.00 pm

Present:

Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai, Crs Stu Bell, Vince Cocurullo, Tricia Cutforth, Shelley Deeming, Sue Glen, Jayne Golightly, Cherry Hermon, Phil Halse, Greg Innes, Greg Martin and Anna Murphy

Apologies/Absent

Crs Crichton Christie, Sharon Morgan

In Attendance:

Chief Executive (Rob Forlong), General Manager Strategy and Democracy (Jill McPherson), General Manager Planning & Development (Alison Geddes), Policy & Bylaws Analyst (Shireen Munday), Senior Meeting Co-ordinator (Jennie Thomas)

Camping in Public Places

Facilitator: Shireen Munday

This report should be read in conjunction with the agenda report.

Her Worship the Mayor convened the meeting. She advised that the meeting was proceeding with the understanding that non self-contained camping provisions will be included in the proposal to enable public feedback on the draft bylaw. The purpose of this briefing was to go through the options listed on the key topics for direction document that had been previously distributed.

Shireen took the meeting through the following options for discussion and direction.

Key Topics for Direction

Set a maximum distance from public toilet for Non Self-Contained (NSC)

There were varying views on the distance to set. It was clarified that this related to designated areas only where there was access to public toilets 24/7.

After discussion, it was agreed to set a maximum distance from public toilets for NSC to 50 metres.

Set a maximum distance from public toilets for NSC?

Option	Direction
No maximum distance	
Set maximum distance at 50 metres	Agreed
Other	

Maximum length of stay

It was agreed to set Restricted and NSC sites to 1 night maximum for all camping and Self-Contained (SC) 3-night maximum elsewhere.

Maximum length of stay

Option	Direction
All camping restricted to 3 night max	
All camping restricted to 1 or 2 night max	
SC – 3 night max, NSC 1 night max	
Restricted and NSC sites 1 night max for all camping (SC 3 night max elsewhere)	Agreed
Other	

Parihaka

The safety of campers and the risk of fire were among the discussions regarding camping at Parihaka. After debate and varying views, it was agreed that there would be no camping allowed at Parihaka.

Parihaka (toilet block to be installed in near future)

Option	Direction
SC in 3 marked spaces in lower carpark	
All FC prohibited	
Other	No camping allowed at Parihaka.

Onerahi

Views ranged from prohibit all types of camping to only self-contained in designated site. It was noted by some, there is often a conflict between camping sites and parking for boat trailers.

Shireen advised that as there is no reserve area a restricted area will need to be defined and agreement was sought on the size of this site.

It was agreed the restricted area should be from Cliff Street to Johnson Street (excluding designated area) and only self-contained camping will be allowed in the designated area.

Designated site

Option	Direction
SC only in designated site	Agreed
NSC in designated site	

SC & NSCV only in designated site	
Other	

Area of 'Reserve'

Option	Direction
Prohibit all FC between Cliff Street and Johnson Street (excluding designated area)	Agreed
Identify area on map below as 'Onerahi Beach Reserve' – camping only allowed in designated area, SC allowed elsewhere on road reserve	
Other	

Ruakaka

Option	Direction
SC only in designated site	Agreed
SC & NSCV only in designated site (80 metres from toilet)	
Move designated site, allow SC & NSCV	
Other	

Schedule 1

Discussion on Urquhart's Bay being removed from the schedule and providing further camping space at Ocean Beach. There were mixed views on this option but the decision was made for Urquhart's Bay to remain and allow for consultation by the public.

Schedule 1 – designated sites/parking spaces

Option	Direction
No changes to schedule as per Supplementary Agenda No 1 – Additional to Item 1	Agreed
Remove Moureeses Bay Recreation Reserve and Teal Bay from Schedule 1 (<i>SC camping anywhere on Reserves</i>)	
Remove Sandy Bay and Whangaumu Reserve from Schedule 1 (<i>has impact on Schedule 3 – to be discussed in that section</i>)	
Other	

Schedule 2 – Prohibited Areas

It was requested that Ruakaka Recreational Reserve be added to the schedule.
Whangarei District Council Briefing

5 April 2017

Shireen clarified that “prohibited areas” indicates that all types of camping is prohibited.

Schedule 2 – Prohibited Areas

Option	Direction
No changes to schedule as per Supplementary Agenda No 1 – Additional to Item 1	Agreed with the addition of Ruakaka Sports Park
Other	

Schedule 3 A - NSC Options

After debate regarding various points agreement was reached to remove all shopping centres from Schedule 3A.

Schedule 3 A - NSC Options

Option	Direction
No changes to schedule as per Supplementary Agenda No 1 – Additional to Item 1	
Amend for Onerahi, Ruakaka, Sandy Bay, Whangaumu	Onerahi and Ruakaka to be removed, SC only
Other	Town centres to be removed *

* Hikurangi Township, Kamo Shops, Onerahi Shops, Otangarei, Regent, Ruakaka Shops and Waipu Township

Schedule 3B – NSC vehicles and tents

After discussion on criteria used to include Marsden Point Wharf on this schedule it was agreed to allow non-self-contained vehicles only (no tents allowed on grass area) at Marsden Point Wharf.

Further Discussion/Comments and Feedback included:

There were strong and differing views expressed concerning self-contained vs non self-contained camping and some elected members noted that the feedback they were receiving from the community was there should not be any non self-contained camping allowed in the district. It was stated that feedback from the community was needed on options and then council will have further discussion and make final decision on the by-law. The draft by-law will provoke discussion and feedback from the community.

Conclusion

Elected members were advised that staff will ensure the scope detailed in the draft consultation document will allow Council to consider restricting all camping in public places to self-contained vehicles only, subject to the community’s feedback on the proposal.

The meeting closed at 2.00 pm