

Date: 10 September 2024 at 3.30 PM

Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

Present

The District Mayor N C Volzke (the Chairman), the Deputy Mayor M Mckay, Councillors: G W Boyde, S J Beck, A M C Dudley, A K Harris, E E Hall, W J Sandford and C M Tongaawhikau.

In attendance

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director – Assets – Mrs V Araba, the Director – Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland, the Acting Director – Corporate Services – Mrs C Craig, the Acting Director – Community Services – Mrs E Bishop, the Committee Secretary – Ms E Coulton, the Communications Manager – Ms G Gibson, the Community and Economic Development Manager – Ms S Afzal, the Environmental Health Manager – Mrs R Otter, 1 member of the media And 3 members of the public.

1. Welcome

The District Mayor welcomed Elected Members, members of the public, staff and the media to the meeting.

The opening karakia was read.

The District Mayor reiterated the health and safety message and emergency procedures.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor J M S Erwood and Councillor M J Watt.

Recommendation

THAT the apologies be received.

HARRIS/HALL
Carried
CL/24/112

3. Announcements

There were no announcements.

4. Declarations of Members Interest

Elected members to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda. It was noted that the District Mayor and the Deputy Mayor are listed within the Stratford District Licensing Committee 2023-24 annual report, but this does not qualify as a conflict of interest.

5. Attendance Schedule

The attendance schedule for Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings was attached.

6. Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Ordinary Meeting of Council – 13 August 2024

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 13 August 2024 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

VOLZKE/HARRIS
Carried
CL/24/113

The Committee Secretary undertook to make the following amendments:

- Misspelling of Councillor Boyde's name, missing E.
- Page 11 – change retroactively to retrospectively.

6.2 Policy and Services Committee – 27 August 2024

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 27 August 2024 be received.

DUDLEY/BECK
Carried
CL/24/114

2. THAT the recommendations, in the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 27 August 2024 be adopted.

SANDFORD/BOYDE
Carried
CL/24/115

The Committee Secretary undertook to make the following amendments:

- Ostler Family – not Austin family.

7. District Mayor's Report

Recommendations

THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/TONGAAWHIKAU
Carried
CL/24/116

The District Mayor noted the following:

- Within the report there is a large number of important correspondence such as a letter regarding the Māori Ward, a receipt for the regional land transport plan, a letter outlining the significant amendments to parking fines, a letter from the Mayoral Forum and a letter from the minister.

8. Information Report – Stratford District Licensing Committee – 2023/24 Annual Report

Recommendation

1. THAT the Annual Report for Stratford District Licensing Committee for 2023/2024 be received and contents noted.

HALL/TONGAAWHIKAU
Carried
CL/24/117

2. THAT, subject to any amendments, the Annual Report will be forwarded to the Alcohol Regulatory and Licensing Authority.

BOYDE/TONGAAWHIKAU
Carried
CL/24/118

Recommended Reason

The report is required to be prepared by the Stratford District Licensing Committee as part of its duties under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

Questions/Points of clarification:

- Councillor Boyde noted that because this is a shared policy with NPDC, it does not seem functional to have STDC excluded from the policy, he noted it would be more functional to have a united regional outlook on this matter. The Environmental Health Manager noted that she agrees with Councillor Boyde's comments and noted that regional would be great to showcase consistency across each district. She further noted that discussions at STDC are currently taking place about joining the policy and a report is going to their council shortly.
- The District Mayor highlighted that the statistics showcased within the report indicate stability, highlighting that there has been very little change over the 5 year period.

9. Information Report – Dog Control Policy & Practices Report – Year Ended 30 June 2024

Recommendation

THAT the Annual Report on Dog Control Policy and Practices for the year ending 30 June 2024 be received and contents noted.

HARRIS/JONES
Carried
CL/24/119

Recommended Reason

The report is required under section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Boyde noted that information summary indicates that 98% of Stratford District dogs are registered, he questioned how this is monitored and how do we know that there are not

more dogs. Councillor Boyde additionally noted that there has been a significant decrease in dogs registered in comparison to previous years he asked if this is due to the updated fees and charges. The Environmental Health Manager noted that she is unsure as to how we can more accurately monitor the unregistered dogs, she also noted that the decrease in registered dogs is likely due to other circumstances not fees related.

- Councillor Hall noted that page 49 indicates that complaint numbers have increased, she asked if this is due to an increase of available platforms to do this or are there genuinely more reasons to complain. The Environmental Health Manager noted that she believes both play an important factor in this, this is because peoples tolerance levels have decreased and platforms have increased.
- Councillor Harris inquired whether the increase in dog attacks and incidents of dogs rushing at members of the public is a nationwide trend or specific to the Stratford district. The Environmental Health Manager responded that this is a national issue, potentially influenced by the COVID lockdowns. She explained that the rise in such incidents might be due to dogs not being properly socialised or due to insufficient consideration of pet ownership responsibilities when people returned to work after lockdown.
- The Environmental Health Manager explained the approach on reported dog attacks through SDC.

10. Questions

There were no questions.

The meeting closed at 3.55 pm.

N C Volzke
Chairman

Confirmed this 8th day of October 2024.

N C Volzke
District Mayor