

MINUTES

THURSDAY 17 MARCH 2005

9.23AM

**Committee Room 1
Ground Floor, Council Offices
101 Wakefield Street
Wellington**

PRESENT:

Councillor Armstrong (Chair)
Councillor Ahipene-Mercer
Councillor Cook
Councillor Foster (9.35am – 12.40pm)
Councillor Gill (9.23am – 11.30am, 11.37am – 1.00pm)
Councillor Goulden (11.00am – 11.31am)
Councillor McKinnon (9.23am – 11.30am, 11.35am - 1.00pm)
Councillor Morrison (12.09pm – 12.35pm)
Councillor Pepperell (9.23am – 10.10am, 10.15am - 1.00pm)
Councillor Ritchie (12.53pm – 12.54pm)
Councillor Ruben (9.23am – 10.10am, 10.15am - 1.00pm)
Councillor Shaw (9.23am – 11.00am, 11.43am - 1.00pm)
Councillor Wade-Brown
Councillor Wain

APOLOGIES:

Mayor Prendergast
Councillor Foster (for lateness)
Councillor Morrison (for lateness)
Councillor Ritchie (for lateness)

057/05P **APOLOGIES**
(1215/52/IM)

RESOLVED:

THAT the Strategy and Policy Committee:

1. *Accept apologies for absence from Mayor Prendergast.*
2. *Accept apologies for lateness from Councillors Foster, Morrison and Ritchie.*

058/05P **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**
(1215/52/IM)

NOTED:

There were no conflict of interest declarations.

059/05P **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
(1215/52/IM)

There was no public participation.

060/05P **DRAFT BUILT HERITAGE POLICY- ORAL HEARINGS**
(1215/52/IM) (REPORT 1)

(Councillor Foster joined the meeting at 9.35am).

1. Natasha Nous - Save Our Streets

Ms Nous spoke on behalf of Save our Streets and explained to the committee some of the outcomes this group wants for Wellington. Ms Nous stated that there is a need to retain, preserve and protect our historic built heritage. By protecting Wellington's built heritage it provides for a sense of place and belonging for people in the city and its urban dynamic. Ms Nous also stated that it is important to provide for a long term vision so that it can benefit future generations.

2. Lawson Robertson

Mr Lawson spoke to the committee about the need for better recognition of local communities and the heritage of these areas which goes beyond its built environment.

3. Jim Lynch – Property Council

Mr Lynch spoke on behalf of the Property Council and Capital Properties. Mr Lynch stated that the Property Council and Capital Properties supported the conservation of the city's built heritage and they both believe that well considered conservation of heritage values can make an important contribution to Wellington City. Both groups look forward to working constructively with council in relation to the Draft Built Heritage Policy.

4. Deyana Popova and Peter Coop – Urban Perspectives

Mr Coop and Ms Popova stated that they support the policy in principle but suggest that the policy should remain a high-level document that outlines general intentions rather than specific suggestions for future heritage provisions. They felt that the policy's objectives should be reduced to three and outlined them as Identification, Statutory Management of Identified Heritage Resources and Non-Statutory Initiatives. They stated that these objectives would promote easier understanding of the key issues and provide a better focus for the policy.

(Councillors Pepperell and Ruben left the meeting at 10.10am and returned at 10.15am).

5. Ben Zwartz – Heartbeat Wellington

Mr Zwartz spoke on behalf of the group Heartbeat Wellington and stated that heritage protection is one of its key interests. The group would like to see the Draft Built Heritage policy focus on protecting built heritage that is part of our community, improve the Council's advocacy role and prioritise heritage as a matter of national importance. Mr Zwartz also said that there needs to be more public awareness on the heritage value of Wellington's built environment.

6. Rosamund Averton - Mt Victoria Resident Association

Ms Averton spoke on behalf of the Mt Victoria Residents Association. Ms Averton said that they substantially support the Draft Built Heritage policy but feel that it needs to address matters such as reviewing the heritage rules, establishing a "new" Heritage Incentives Fund, enhancing the heritage list and protecting heritage buildings and areas from adverse effects.

(The meeting adjourned for morning tea at 10.45am and reconvened at 10.55am)

7. Malcolm McGregor – Maritime Archaeological Association

Mr McGregor spoke to the committee on behalf of the Maritime Archaeological Association in support of the policy and stated that they were interested in an open built heritage policy that included important maritime heritage in Wellington. Mr Malcolm said that the retention of maritime aspects will enrich the present and future city's harbour, water and edges of water areas.

(Councillor Goulden joined the meeting at 11.00am).

(Councillor Shaw left the meeting at 11.00am).

8. Rex Nicholls

Mr Nicholls provided his submission to the committee and stated that he felt it is generally a good time for redevelopment and that there is a good balance between the district plan and council policies. Mr Nicholls said that he also thought this is a good time to re look at the policies. Mr Nicholls stated that he feels there is an over emphasis of what is a heritage building, and that it is necessary to really look at what counts as a heritage building.

9. Michael Mellor – Rail Heritage Trust

Mr Mellor spoke to the committee as an individual and on behalf of the Rail Heritage Trust. Mr Mellor stated that he was interested in an open built heritage policy that also included Wellington's rail heritage. In his submission he outlined many examples of rail heritage in Wellington and asked Councillors to be aware of the more quirky and interesting points of heritage in Wellington.

(Councillors Gill and McKinnon left the meeting at 11.30am).

(Councillor Goulden left the meeting at 11.31am).

10. Tony Burton – Thordon Society Inc

Mr Burton spoke on behalf of the Thordon Society Inc. Mr Burton stated that they are concerned about the protection of Thordon's historical built environment. This group also felt that completing the evaluation and listing of heritage buildings were some of the priority tasks that the council should undertake.

(Councillor McKinnon returned to the meeting at 11.35am).

(Councillor Gill returned to the meeting at 11.37am).

11. Ian Bowman – New Zealand Institute of Architects

Mr Bowman spoke on behalf of the NZIA and stated that they endorse the concept of enhancing heritage protection of Wellington's built environment. They believe it is important to review the current inventory of heritage buildings including ensuring adequate professional historical and architectural research. They also endorse reviewing the criteria for assessment of heritage values so that existing criteria are compatible with current legislation. Mr Bowman also stated that it was important to continue to recognise that modern architecture has heritage values.

(Councillor Shaw returned to the meeting at 11.43am).

12. Chris Horne

Mr Horne's main interest in the Draft Built Heritage Policy is protecting in perpetuity the city's heritage and felt that the present rules have failed in some instances of Wellington's built environment. Mr Horne also stated

that he felt that there are other mechanisms for protection, for example rates relief for owners who protect buildings. Mr Horne said that he felt that the council should be heritage friendly instead of developer friendly.

13. Maggie Kennedy

Ms Kennedy explained to the committee that she is interested in heritage buildings and their surrounds, particularly relating to Erskine College. Ms Kennedy said that she felt it was important to maintain heritage buildings in Wellington, and especially endorsed the idea of restoration not renovation of heritage buildings. Ms Kennedy also stated that she would like to see greater consultation with the public at a earlier stage of a proposal, not just with developers.

(Councillor Morrison joined the meeting at 12.09pm).

14. Melanie McElwee – Save Erskine College Trust

Ms McElwee spoke on behalf of the Save Erskine College Trust and stated that they felt that the current rules are not effective and are not enforced consistently. The trust felt it was important to include the surrounds of a heritage building as they can act as a buffer to mitigate the effects or reduction of heritage quality, for example a subdivision. The trust also emphasised the need for a design guide specific to Built Heritage and how they can be useful in focusing on the heritage of an area not just the buildings there.

(Councillor Morrison left the meeting at 12.35pm).

(Councillor Foster left the meeting at 12.40pm).

15. Craig Bush

Mr Bush spoke to the committee on the Draft Built Heritage policy and explained that he is particularly interested in the retention of a brick wall on the eastern side of Ira St in Miramar. Mr Bush wants to ensure that its heritage value is recognised and is concerned that developers may have the opportunity to build in this area because the wall may not be considered a heritage item as it is only part way through the process that will eventually protect it. Mr Bush would like to see this process reviewed.

(Councillor Ritchie joined the meeting at 12.53pm and left at 12.54pm).

061/05P **DISTRICT PLAN CHANGE 36**

Report of Chris Berg, Policy Advisor.
(1215/52/IM)

(REPORT 2)

RESOLVED:

THAT the Strategy and Policy Committee

1. *Agree to approve in principle the draft Proposed District Plan Change as attached to the officer's report as Appendix one.*
2. *Agree that officers undertake consultation with landowners and relevant community groups on the draft Proposed District Plan Change.*
3. *Agree that officers report the results of consultation back to the Strategy and Policy Committee.*

062/05P **ARTS POLICY REPORT**

Report of Aroha Rangi, Policy Advisor.
(1215/52/IM)

(REPORT 3)

RESOLVED:

THAT the Strategy and Policy Committee

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Agree to the draft Wellington City Art Collection Policy, attached as Appendix One to the officer's report, to provide a clear and focused direction for Council to respond to offers of collections and bequests, and to focus the city's collection so it is consistent with Wellington's creative vision.*
3. *Agree to transfer \$20,000 allocated to the Furnishings Art Collection Policy (2001) in the LTCCP from 2005/06, to implement the Wellington City Art Collection Policy (2005) and allow the Art Collection Advisory Group to respond to their extended role.*
4. *Agree to invest the Hancock Bequest (approximately \$1,478,000) and use a proportion of the interest generated to:*
 - a) *Purchase new works each year from emerging and mid-career artists that live in, or have a significant connection to Wellington City, to be included in the civic art collection displayed in publicly accessible spaces in Council buildings and facilities.*

