

**MINUTES OF THE KĀPITI COAST DISTRICT COUNCIL  
COUNCIL APPEALS HEARING COMMITTEE HEARING  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, GROUND FLOOR, 175 RIMU ROAD, PARAPARAUMU  
ON TUESDAY, 27 AUGUST 2024 AT 9.32AM**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Janet Holborow (Chair), Cr Glen Cooper, Cr Sophie Handford

**IN ATTENDANCE: Animal Management Team:** Mr Michael Norden, Mr Dylan Perrett

**Objector:** Mr Stephen Ross, Ms Samantha Wood (Legal Counsel), Ms Maureen Ross

**Animal Management Team's Witnesses:** Mr Christopher Hargreaves, Ms Rebecca Wakelin, Ms Natayla Warren, Mr Darren Gray, Mr Michael Norden

**Governance Officers:** Ms Kate Coutts, Ms Anna Smith, Ms Maria Cameron, Ms Jessica Mackman

**Other Council Staff Present:** Mr Richard Hopkins, Mr James Jefferson

## **1 NAU MAI | WELCOME**

The Chair opened the meeting with karakia and welcomed everyone to the hearing.

All parties and their witnesses were sworn in.

## **2 ANIMAL MANAGEMENT TEAM OPENING SUBMISSIONS**

Dylan Perrett, Team Leader Public Spaces and Animal Management, made the Animal Management Team's opening submissions. Mr Perrett answered Committee members' questions.

## **3 OBJECTORS OPENING SUBMISSIONS**

Samantha Wood, the Legal Counsel for Mr Stephen Ross, made the Opening Submissions on behalf of the appellant. Ms Wood answered Committee members' questions.

## **4 ANIMAL MANAGEMENT TEAM EVIDENCE IN CHIEF**

The Animal Management Team invited their first witness, Christopher Hargreaves come forward. Mr Hargreaves read his statement, and answered Committee members' questions.

The Animal Management Team invited their witnesses to come forward to speak:

Christopher Hargreaves read his witness statement, and answered Committee members' questions.

Rebecca Wakelin read her witness statement.

The Animal Management Team requested the opportunity to pose a question to their witness regarding the impact of the incident. The Chair noted that the impact of the incident had been explored by the Committee already, and the question would not be required.

Natayla Warren read her statement, and answered Cr Glen Cooper's question.

Darren Gray (Senior Public Spaces Animal Management Officer for the Kapiti Coast District Council) read his statement, and answered Committee members' questions.

Mike Norden, of the Animal Management Team, also spoke as a witness and read his statement. Mr Norden answered Committee members' questions.

The hearing adjourned at 11.39am and reconvened at 11.44am.

## 5 OBJECTORS EVIDENCE IN CHIEF

Samantha Wood read the witness statement of the appellant's daughter, McKenzie Ross. There were no questions from the Committee regarding Ms Ross' statement.

Ms Wood called on the objector, Stephen Ross, to speak to his objection. Mr Ross and Ms Wood read Mr Ross' statement. Mr Ross answered members' questions.

With permission of the Chair, Ms Woods tabled an additional document showing an email exchange between the Animal Management Team. The document is appended.

## 6 ANIMAL MANAGEMENT TEAM EVIDENCE IN REPLY

Dylan Perrett provided the evidence in reply on behalf of the Animal Management Team.

## 7 OBJECTORS EVIDENCE IN REPLY

Samantha Wood provided the evidence in reply on behalf of the Objector.

## 8 COMMITTEE DELIBERATIONS

The hearing adjourned at 12.49pm for deliberations.

The hearing reconvened at 1.36pm.

## 9 DECISION RESOLUTION

The Chair noted that a decision had been made to rescind the classification, and that a full decision detailing the reasons for the determination would be circulated in due course.

### RESOLUTION AHC2024/01

Moved: Cr Sophie Handford

Seconded: Cr Glen Cooper

- A. That the Appeals Hearing Committee **receive** the report.
- B. That the Appeals Hearing Committee **note**:
  - B.1 The evidence which formed the basis for the classification.
  - B.2 Any steps taken by the owner to prevent any threat to the safety of persons or animals.
  - B.3 The matters relied on in support of the objection.
  - B.4 Any other relevant matters.
- C. That the Appeals Hearing Committee:
  - C.2 **Agree to rescind** the classification as a menacing dog.
- D. **Delegate** to the Chair of the Appeals Hearing Committee, the authority to issue a written decision in line with this resolution, which will be sent to all affected parties and attached to the minutes.

**CARRIED**

**10 CLOSING KARAKIA**

The Mayor closed the meeting with karakia.

**The Appeals Hearing Committee meeting closed at 1.41pm.**

From: Dylan Perrett <Dylan.Perrett@kapiticoast.govt.nz>  
 Sent time: 05/20/2024 10:51:38 AM  
 To: richard hopkins <Richard.Hopkins@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Sarah Wattie <Sarah.Wattie@kapiticoast.govt.nz>  
 Subject: RE: Indy Menacing Classification Objection  
 Attachments: Risk Matrix Indy.pdf Classification Menacing Indy.pdf image001.png image002.png

Hi team,

Attached is also the risk matrix we use to decide what line of outcome we are looking to take along with the menacing classification papers served to the dog owner.

If you require anything further please let me know.

Dylan Perrett  
 Team Leader Public Spaces and Animal Management  
 Te Kaitiaki Take Kōwhiri o te Kaitiaki Take Kōwhiri

Mobile: 027 428 4333  
 Email: dylan.perrett@kapiticoast.govt.nz

[www.kapiticoast.govt.nz](http://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz)

From: Richard Hopkins <Richard.Hopkins@kapiticoast.govt.nz>  
 Sent: Friday, May 17, 2024 9:31 AM  
 To: Sarah Wattie <Sarah.Wattie@kapiticoast.govt.nz>  
 Cc: Mailbox - Democracy Services <Democracy.Services@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; Dylan Perrett <Dylan.Perrett@kapiticoast.govt.nz>  
 Subject: FW: Indy Menacing Classification Objection

Hi Sarah,

As discussed an appeal of menacing dog classification, also cc'ing in Democracy services as indicated by the process below.

Richard Hopkins  
 Director Education and Training

Mobile: 027 428 4333  
 Email: richard.hopkins@kapiticoast.govt.nz

[www.kapiticoast.govt.nz](http://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz)

From: Dylan Perrett <Dylan.Perrett@kapiticoast.govt.nz>  
 Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2024 1:54 PM  
 To: Richard Hopkins <Richard.Hopkins@kapiticoast.govt.nz>  
 Subject: Indy Menacing Classification Objection

Hi Richard,

As per the process for someone objecting the classification of their dog, I have attached all correspondence in relation to the incident.

Process captured below on next steps.

- 18. Upon receiving a written objection to a menacing or dangerous classification, the AMTL forwards a copy of the objection along with all supporting documentation to the ESM.
- 19. The ESM notifies the Group Manager (GM) that there will be an objection going to the AHC.
- 20. The ESM provides copies of information to Council's legal team for review of initial decision before proceeding to committee hearing.
- 21. The AMTL contacts Democracy Services to schedule a meeting of the AHC and prepares a report.
- 22. The AMTL notifies dog owner of time, date, and location of meeting.

If there is anything else, you would like from me please let me know.

DP.

*Not used*

*439*