
MINUTES
of the
ANIMAL CONTROL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

held
1:01pm, Monday, 24 February 2025
at
Tasman Council Chamber, 189 Queen Street, Richmond

The [video recording](#) of this meeting is available on the Council's YouTube channel

Present: Councillors C Hill (Chair) and K Maling

In Attendance: Team Leader – Regulatory Support (S Green), Regulatory Support Officer (S Vale) and Senior Governance Advisor (K McLean)

Absent: Councillor M Kininmonth

1 OPENING, WELCOME

The Chair opened the meeting with a karakia and welcomed everyone in attendance. Meeting attendees were introduced and the meeting process was outlined.

2 REPORTS

2.1 Menacing Dog Classification Appeal

The Chair invited Ann and Mark Randall to provide statements on the matter before the Subcommittee. Documents were tabled, which are available in the Minutes Attachments document on the Council's website.

The following matters were stated:

- Tillie had been attacked as a puppy and was a very nervous dog and not normally walked off lead
- Theo was considered a loving and playful dog who had never presented any problematic behaviour
- There had been no reported incidents caused by either dog at home or in public

- Both dogs had been muzzled when taken off the property since the Randalls received the Council's classification letter
- Theo had been kicked very hard during the attack and as a result suffered internal bleeding
- The incident had been a very traumatic experience for Ms Randall and she had sought support through Victim Support.

In response to questions from the Subcommittee, Ms Randall provided the following answers:

- The dogs were at a distance of 10 – 12 metres whilst off lead
- Only Theo was normally walked off lead, in secluded areas
- The dogs were at a distance of 3 - 4 metres during the attack
- Ms Randall did not feel she could physically pick the dogs up during the attack as the victim was in the middle of the three dogs and felt she could get hurt
- Ms Randall was not at all worried for the victim
- The victim's statement noted that Tillie and Theo had attacked his dog on another occasion – Ms Randall was unaware of another attack.

Team Leader Regulatory Support, Shannon Green, presented the report which was taken as read.

The following matters were discussed:

- The menacing classification was explained
- The reported behaviour of the dogs
- Due to the severity of this case, the dangerous classification was considered
- The consequences should the classification be upheld
- Confirmation that allegations of previous attacks were not considered during the review of this case.

In response to questions from the Subcommittee, Mr Green provided the following answers:

- Menacing was the lowest classification
- A 'dangerous' classification would be made if a dog left a property to make the attack.

The appellant spoke to their right of reply.

The Chair advised that the Subcommittee would consider the matters raised in the officer's report and at the meeting, and that notice of the decision would be supplied by Council staff as soon as practical.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:32pm and reconvened at 1.45pm.

In its deliberations, the Subcommittee considered the officers report, the mitigating factors presented during the hearing, and the Council's responsibilities under Section 31(4) of the Dog Control Act 1996, being:

- a) the evidence which formed the basis for the original classification; and
- b) any steps taken by the owner to prevent any threat to the safety of persons and animals; and
- c) the matters advanced in support of the objection; and
- d) any other relevant matters.

The Subcommittee determined that the Menacing Dog Classification was to be upheld and resolved the following:

**Moved Councillor Hill/Councillor Maling
ACS25-02-1**

That the Animal Control Subcommittee

- 1. receives the Menacing Dog Classification Appeal report, RACS25-02-1; and**
- 2. pursuant to Section 33A of the Dog Control Act, upholds the Menacing Classifications for Theo and Tillie owned by Ann Randall.**

CARRIED

Attachment 1 Tabled Documents - redacted information

3 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

Nil

The meeting concluded at 1:48pm.

Confirmed as a correct record of proceedings by resolution on 1 May 2025.

RC25-05-2

That the minutes of the Animal Control Subcommittee meeting held on Monday, 24 February 2025, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED