RANGITIKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL

Control of Dogs Bylaw

Adopted 16th December 2004

Amended 30 September 2010

RANGITIKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL

CONTROL OF DOGS BYLAW 2004

Introduction

1. Pursuant to Section 20 of the Dog Control Act 1996, the Rangitikei District Council makes this bylaw for the control of dogs.

Short Title

2. The title of this bylaw is the Rangitikei District (Control of Dogs) Bylaw 2004.

Commencement

3. This bylaw commences on 17 December 2004.

Application of Bylaw

4. This bylaw applies to the whole District unless otherwise stated.

Interpretation

5. In this bylaw, the terms used in this bylaw have the meaning given to them in the Dog Control Act 1996 except these terms which have the following meanings:

   "At large" means at liberty, free, not restrained.

   "Confined" means enclosed securely in a building or vehicle; or tied securely to an immovable fixture on a premises; or within an enclosure from which the dog cannot escape.

   "Control" means restrained by a leash except in a dog exercise area as defined in this bylaw where *control* means that the dog is under control by command.

   "Designated Dog Exercise Area" means a public place designated for the exercise of dogs by or under this bylaw.

   "District" means the Rangitikei District.

   "Occupier" means any person, who is not the Owner of the land or premises in question, who has the right to occupy and use the land or premises by virtue of a lease, sub-lease, license or renewal thereof, granted by the Owner of the land or premises.

Bylaws Revoked

6. The Rangitikei District (Control of Dogs) Bylaw 1997 is revoked but continues to apply to all offences that occurred prior to the making of this bylaw.

Penalties

7. Every person who commits a breach of this bylaw is liable to either:

    a. An infringement fee not exceeding $300.00; or

    b. Upon conviction, a fine not exceeding $20,000.

Public Places

8. The owner or the person responsible for or having custody or control of a dog must have his or her dog on a leash at all times when the dog is in a public place. A working dog is not required to be on a leash in a public place, while it is working if it is not normally on a leash when carrying out the work being undertaken.

Dog Prohibited Areas

9. An owner of a dog other than guide dogs, hearing ear dogs and companion dogs, must ensure at all times that their dog does not enter on or remain in the following prohibited public places:

    a. Public buildings owned by the Rangitikei District Council

    b. The playing surfaces of sportsgrounds owned by the Rangitikei District Council

    c. Public swimming pools owned by the Rangitikei District Council

    d. Public playgrounds owned by the Rangitikei District Council

    e. Picnic areas owned by the Rangitikei District Council

    f. Wilson Road Stock route

Dog Shows

10. Clause 9 (a) does not apply to any use of any prohibited public place for the purposes of a dog show not exceeding 48 hours and authorised in writing by the Rangitikei District Council's principal administrative officer.

Designated Dog Exercise Areas

11. Council may, from time to time, declare by resolution any public place to be a designated dog exercise area.

12. The following areas within the Rangitikei District are designated dog exercise areas:

    a. The northern section of the Bulls Domain, Bulls

    b. The north eastern section of the Taihape Domain, Taihape

13. Dogs while in the dog exercise areas need not be on a leash.

14. The owner must ensure that his or her dog is under control at all times when in a dog exercise area.

Minimum Standards for the Accommodation and Care of Dogs

15. Every owner must provide their dog with a kennel that meets the following standards:

    a. There is sufficient room for the dog to stand up and turn around.

    b. The kennel is on dry ground and sheltered from the elements.

    c. The kennel must be a solid structure with a roof and floor.

    d. The kennel must be kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

16. Every owner of a dog must ensure at all times:

    a. That the dog receives proper care and attention and is supplied with proper and sufficient food and water.

    b. That the dog is not fed, nor has access to, any untreated sheep or goat meat.

    c. That the dog receives adequate exercise.

17. No owner shall permit a kennel to be located closer than 1 metre to any boundary of the premises.

Confinement of Dogs

18. The owner of any dog must provide means of confining the dog upon the owner's property so that it is unable to gain access to any other private property or to any public place.

Bitches in Season and Diseased Dogs

19. The owner of a bitch dog in season or any dog suffering from mange or other disease shall at all times ensure the dog does not enter on or remain in a public area or on any land or premises other than the land or premises occupied or owned by the owner of the dog, or at a registered veterinary clinic.

20. The owner of any bitch dog in season or dog suffering mange or other disease must do the following:

    a. keep the dog confined

    b. provide the dog with adequate food, water, veterinary care and exercise.

Removal of Faeces

21. The owner of a dog that defecates on any land or premises other than that occupied by the owner must remove and dispose of the faeces.

Impounding of Dogs Found in Breach of this Bylaw

22. Any dog found at large in breach of this bylaw, whether or not it is wearing a registration label or disc as required by the Dog Control Act 1996, may be seized and impounded by a Dog Control Officer or a Dog Ranger

23. As soon as practicable after any dog has been impounded the Council shall:

    a. In the case of a dog wearing a registration label or disc or where the owner of the dog is known through some other means, give written notice to the owner that the dog has been impounded and that unless the dog is claimed and any fee payable paid within 7 days of the receipt of the notice, it may be sold, destroyed, or otherwise disposed of in such a manner as the Council sees fit; and after the expiry of that period the Council may so dispose of the dog.

    b. Where the owner of the dog is not known or despite reasonable enquiry cannot be identified, the Council may, after the expiration of 7 days after the date of the seizure of the dog, sell, destroy, or otherwise dispose of the dog in such manner as it thinks fit.

    c. The sale, destruction or disposal of any dog in accordance with this bylaw shall not relieve the owner of the dog of liability for the payment of any fees or penalties payable under this bylaw.

Date bylaw made

24. This bylaw was made by the Rangitikei District Council at a meeting of the Council on 16 December 2004. The Common Seal of the Rangitikei District Council is attached in the presence of:

    _____ Mayor

    _____ Chief Executive