

STAFF REPORT

TO: Motueka Community Board
FROM: Service Centres Manager
REFERENCE: E859
DATE: 19 February 2007
SUBJECT: February 2007 Report

Waitangi Day

Following the complaint made last year over an aircraft over flying the Marae on Waitangi Day I had discussions with staff at Te Awhina as to the time when they needed some quiet (which was during the Powhiri between 11.00 am and mid-day). I then sent a request to our airport tenants to endeavour to respect the need for quiet at the Marae during that time by either avoiding flights or using runway 20 (the southern exit). From my own observations the airport was very quiet on Waitangi day and I did not see any aircraft in the air during the sensitive period. A follow-up with Marae staff concurred that aircraft were not a problem this year (however some noisy road traffic noise was apparent).

I have responded to the airport tenants to thank them for their co-operation over this matter which this Board may also wish to endorse.

Exercise Wise Owl

The visit by RNZAF is fast approaching.

A brief description of Exercise 'Wise Owl' is appended to this report.

Further to that, the open day on Saturday 10 March 2007 is expected to be a tremendous opportunity to not only showcase our Air Force but also the Motueka Aerodrome.

Below is the tentative programme for activities on the day.

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| 1. Red Checkers Air Display | 4. Sea Sprite Handling Display - tentative |
| 2. Crash Fire Truck Display | 5. RNZAF recruiting |
| 3. Iroquois Handling Display - tentative | 6. Various static displays |

If possible we will engage some of our airport tenants in the open day to make the day a spectacular family entertainment and informative day out.

Meeting with Our Town Motueka and I-Site staff

Following on from last month's Board meeting a meeting was arranged with Jacqui Taylor of Our Town and Mark Chapman of Motueka I-Site.

Matters discussed included the 'Holiday Helpers' initiative, streetscaping ropes, and the poster tower.

The Holiday Helpers initiative was well received and the implementation of the programme was thoroughly discussed.

As well as having volunteers who would wear some identifying badge it was considered that retailers could also be interested in having signs in their shop windows inviting visitors to come in and seek information from their staff.

The streetscaping ropes has evolved since the update and some samples of potential permanent replacement ropes will, I understand, be brought to the Board meeting as part of the Engineering update presentation.

We have now full agreement for the placement of the poster tower which is due to be completed very soon. The location that was agreed at the meeting (which included input from the Museum curator) is attached.

I still need to obtain a competitive cost for the concrete support pad for the tower but Board members may wish to donate time to carry out this job?

Also discussed was the great result Golden Bay had achieved from the hanging baskets along Commercial Street Takaka.

The Golden Bay Community Board agreed to fund the cost of the baskets out of DIL's and this was \$2,600.

The baskets are maintained by volunteers with the lion's share being done by Cr Stuart Borlase.

Mark Chapman is to contact his counterpart in Takaka (Elizabeth Dransfield) in regards to some of the issues raised so that the Motueka and Golden Bay Communities can share and synergise on ideas.

The meeting was very successful and it was agreed to hold regular meetings to discuss matters of mutual interest in the future.

Discretionary Fund

I have attached in the Board's info pack the accounts that have been reviewed by Council's accountant Bryce Grammer.

The Discretionary Fund account is a healthy \$4,951, however an account for \$582.98 for the paint used at the end of last year to remove graffiti around the town will need to be deducted leaving a balance of \$4,368.

With the end of the financial year looming the Board may wish to call for community projects that may be helped with discretionary fund support. Note that the Board has placed a funding ceiling of \$500 on each project to be supported.

The graffiti removal was a great success, and was the result of two weeks work by a local painter doing community work.

I have tabled some of the before and after pictures for the Board's information.

I would also like to thank Guthrie Bowron who supplied the paint and materials at a special 'mates rate' discount.

Didymo

The news that Didymo is now in the Motueka river is without doubt heartbreaking.

At the Golden Bay Community Board a copy of the Council's own protocols for prevention of spread was attached and I am repeating the exercise for this Board meeting. The more folks are aware of this pest and the affect it can have, not only on the bio-diversity of our rivers but the negative effects from reduced tourism from fly-fishing and other river uses has to be noted.

It was indicated that whilst cleaning and sanitising gear in accordance with the guidelines from Bio-Securtiy NZ (as included in Council's own protocols), one of the hardest items to sanitise are waders that have felt soles. These felt soles are widely used and improve the grip for anglers wading out over slippery rocks. The organism however tends to bed itself into these felt soles and cleansing is extremely difficult given the nature of the material.

It occurred to me that whilst drying kills the organism, that anglers could try using a hair dryer to ensure felt soles were 'snuff dry' after use. Of course this would need to be done back at home so the transfer of the organism during a day's fishing would remain.

A possible treatment to remove the algae has now been developed by New Zealand NIWA scientists. (We apparently are now the world leaders in this field). The treatment involves an organic chellated copper which appears to kill didymo while having little or no impact on fish or other flora and fauna. It has proven to be effective in laboratory tests and is to be trialled on a Southland river first.

Other Matters

Bikewise Week

National Bikewise Week is from 24 February 2007 to 4 March 2007. Last year some Board members put pedal to the metal and cycled from the Sportspark Stadium to the Council Chambers.

Those members that feel energetic may wish to repeat the exercise, however it is hoped that some may have been able to take part in the Motueka Family Fun Ride held on the Saturday 24 February 2007.

Finally, it's sad to report that Kirsty Barr is leaving us at the beginning of April 2007. Both the Chairperson and I would like to record the extremely good professional and enthusiastic service that Kirsty has provided in her role as Road Safety Co-ordinator and we wish her well for the future.

Bob Askew
Service Centres Manager