

STAFF REPORT

TO: Motueka Community Board
FROM: Service Centres Manager
REFERENCE: E859
DATE: 13 March 2007
SUBJECT: March 2007 Report

1 Valuations of Leased Land

The matter raised by Mr Craze was discussed with him in depth and he provided some background information to explain what he perceives as the valuation anomaly of leasehold land and freehold land. I had an opportunity to pass this information on to Mr Peter Coburn who is Damien O'Connor's personal assistant, as this is more of a matter to be dealt with at central government, rather than local government level.

2 Poster Tower

I have to apologise without reservation that my promise of having the poster tower erected prior to Easter 2007 has failed. The reason for this is that the builder who has won the contract for the job has been away on holiday. As I now have a commitment with that contract we will have to wait upon the contractor being available for the job to be completed.

3 Visitor from Cumbria

Further to Mr Collinge's visit to the Board, I spent some time with him discussing the background of community boards and how the Tasman District Council worked as a unitary authority and he also shared some of the issues that were being dealt with in Cumbria, as part of the proposed development of a unitary authority. He has since e-mailed me some information regarding the unitary process, which I have already e-mailed to Board members and on the advice of Cr O'Shea have also e-mailed to the Mayor and Councillors for information.

4 Motueka River Bank

Following a phone call from Cr Wilkins, Council monitoring staff have undertaken inspections of the Motueka River bank area in and around the Motueka Bridge. Regrettably, the area has once again become a dumping ground for a wide variety of waste from household refuse to car bodies. The monitoring staff are currently investigating the matter to determine whether further proceedings can be taken against those who have dumped at this location.

The Board will recall that a clean up was organised about a year ago and it seems inevitable that dumping will recur. A draconian option might be to close off access to the river bank by vehicles, however this would seriously impede legitimate users from accessing the river for fishing, whitebaiting and picnicking etc. An alternate option could be to mow down all the scrub so as to provide a clear area which would make anyone dumping rubbish much more visible.

The Motueka River bank has great potential as a valued amenity area, and abuse with dumping is therefore disheartening. I would ask anyone who sees people dumping refuse to take down the registration details of the vehicle so that Council officers at least have an opportunity to track down offenders.

5 Correspondence Needing Resolution – Motueka Festival of Lights

The Secretary of this organization has written requesting that the Board furnish a letter that there is no objection to the closure of High Street, Motueka, on Friday 29 June 2007 from 5.30 pm to 7.30 pm for the Festival of Lights.

6 Streetscaping Ropes

I have discussed the delay in getting the ropes that were being put up as a trial. Steve Elkington has advised that the black ropes are not available without the blue thread running through. He originally was told that the blue thread could be taken out. Meanwhile an alternate Manila coloured rope has become available and we think this may be far more aesthetically appropriate than the black ropes. Steve is to get a sample for me to check out and if OK we'll put the ropes up for the trial run.

Bob Askew
Service Centres Manager