

STAFF REPORT

TO: The Chairperson and Members of the Community Services Committee

FROM: Manager Community Services

DATE: 28 April 2005

SUBJECT: Collingwood Museum / Aorere Centre

PURPOSE

To update the Committee of a meeting with the Collingwood Museum Society regarding the proposal to add to the Collingwood Museum and to also present the proposal for the Aorere Centre.

BACKGROUND

Approximately 12 months ago Sarah Chapman and others proposed an extension to the Collingwood Museum and made a formal approach to the Kilworth Trust for funding this proposal.

The idea was to provide more room to house district treasurers that are willing to be gifted or placed on permanent loan with the Collingwood Museum Society Incorporated.

The Trust was aware that there may be some difficulties with prioritising the development of the proposed extension, but notwithstanding this, the Trust did state that the project fitted within the guidelines and objects of the Kilworth Trust.

As a result, the Kilworth Trust agreed to contribute \$20,000.00 to pay for the development of the extension.

Unfortunately the Museum Society to date have not agreed to this proposal and as a result an approach was made to the Community Board in late 2004 for assistance in resolving the impasse. The Board resolved to ask the Community Services Manager to meet with the Society to see whether any agreement is possible.

In early December I discussed this with the Society's President and followed this up with a letter. After further requests, Cr Riley and myself have finally been invited to a meeting with the Society members on Friday 29 April 2005.

DISCUSSION

As there appeared to be an unwillingness on behalf of the Museum Society to accept the Kilworth Trust funds for an extension to the Collingwood Museum, the Kilworth Trust was advised of this along with a further option for consideration.

The Trust has recently advised that the trustees remain committed to funding that enables the Collingwood community to build the additional space for cultural heritage purposes.

Attached is a proposal for the “Aorere Centre – A contemporary cultural heritage venue”.

This would be administered by a new Trust as outlined in the proposal.

Cr Riley and myself are also meeting with members of this proposed Trust on 29 April 2005 and will provide further details at the meeting.

CONCLUSION

No recommendations have been made with this report as until we have met with both groups on 29 April 2005 we are not in a position to do so. If thought appropriate, a further written update will be provided before the meeting.

L L Kennedy
Manager Community Services