

STAFF REPORT

TO: The Chairperson and Members of the Community Services Committee

FROM: Manager Property

REFERENCE: 1003

DATE: 10 October 2006

SUBJECT: Intention to Lease Land at Collingwood

PURPOSE

To report on the local consultation process for the intention to lease land at Collingwood to the Golden Bay Heritage Aorere Trust (GBHAT).

BACKGROUND

Resolution CS06/06/07 approved a variation of the Council lease with the New Zealand Fire Service to clarify the area of sublease to the Collingwood Museum Society and the shared access as well as authorising a consultation process of affected persons regarding the proposal with the outcomes to be reported back to the Community Services Committee.

A variation of the Council lease with the New Zealand Fire Service has been undertaken and a copy provided to the Collingwood Museum Society.

The consultation process for the proposal to lease land to the Golden Bay Heritage Aorere Trust was notified in Newline and the Golden Bay Weekly during September 2006 and invited the views of the community to the proposal. Submissions closed at noon on 5 October 2006.

The following submissions were received:

Written submissions against the proposal – 4

Written submissions in support of the proposal – 16

Late written submission in support – 1

Individual submissions using a similar format in support – 86

Late individual submissions using a similar format in support – 7

Signatures collected in support from former Farewell Spit Lighthouse families and staff of Collingwood Motors – 30.

These submissions will be tabled at the Community Services Committee meeting but will be copied to Councillors upon request.

DISCUSSION

The number of submissions in favour of the proposal suggest that the GBHAT have been proactive in generating support and that the community are behind the proposal for the Aorere Centre. Other than the substantial number of general supporters the more detailed responses substantiate their support for varying reasons.

Of the submissions against, two are identical other than the signature and one is from the Museum Society. There is nothing new in these submissions that has not previously been raised and responded to. The fourth submission against objects to the encroachment of the proposed building onto the children's play area and suggests that it would be aesthetically unattractive.

It should be noted that the proposed building does not intrude onto the play area.

OPTIONS

The Committee has the option of inviting submitters to speak to their submissions prior to making a decision but due to the overwhelming support from the Collingwood community for this proposal, there seems to be little point in going through the mechanics of a hearing. The Council may decline to approve a sublease but to do so would appear to go against the popular opinion.

RECOMMENDATION

That the intention to issue a sublease of land on the corner of Elizabeth and Tasman Streets, Collingwood to the Golden Bay Heritage Aorere Trust be confirmed.

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Manager Property