

# STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Community Services Committee  
**FROM:** Manager Community Services  
**DATE:** 30 July 2007  
**SUBJECT:** Collingwood Tennis Courts

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## PURPOSE

To advise the Committee of the issues around the current tennis courts and to propose a course of action to remedy this.

## BACKGROUND

The current Collingwood Tennis Courts are located in the middle of the Collingwood Camping Ground as can be seen from the attached aerial photograph.

In 2006 Council was advised that the Tennis Club no longer operated and they were wanting to talk to Council about the future of the land and courts. However not long after this Martyn Milligan advised that he wanted to organise junior tennis and he intended holding a series of coaching sessions around the bay.

An argument was made that the courts needed to be retained as they have a long history and the land was apparently gifted for community courts.

The courts are in poor condition and could cost anywhere from \$25,000.00 to \$40,000.00 to upgrade, depending on how good the base is.

## DISCUSSION

The attached aerial photograph also highlights the Council owned land (hatched) and this shows the significance of the courts on the camp.

The Collingwood Area School currently has two courts but these have limited room at the ends and are also used by the school for netball. Therefore if the Collingwood Courts were to be removed, the public could expect other court(s) to be provided elsewhere in Collingwood.

The June meeting of the Golden Bay Community Board was held in Collingwood and they inspected the courts and discussed their future with the two remaining trustees and Martyn Milligan. The following were some of the options considered by the Board:

1 Permit the Tennis Club to carry out repairs.

Issues with this:

- It would require considerable funds for court resurfacing and tidying up the fencing (could be up to \$40,000.00).
- It is in the middle of the camp that Council is currently upgrading and therefore the surrounds/fencing needs to be improved substantially.

2 Upgrade one court with the balance being used as part of the camp.

- This would provide one good court for general public use all year round.
- For competition and coaching a minimum of two courts are required which would require the schools approval to use their courts. However as mentioned previously the small runoff at the ends of these courts does limit their use.

3 Negotiate the removal of the two courts and provide two new courts on an alternative site, possibly at the school but separate from the existing two courts.

- Require approval from the Collingwood Tennis Trustees.
- Require approval from the school for the construction and future use of courts on Ministry of Education land.
- Higher cost involved than upgrading but this is offset by the advantages created to the camp and increased future revenue.

While the Community Board did not make any recommendation, I believe there was support for Option 3 as this resolved issues for both tennis and the camp and at the same time provides the school with additional facilities.

## **WHERE TO FROM HERE?**

So that staff can confidently negotiate with both the Collingwood Tennis Trustees and the school, it would be helpful to have the Committee's support to Option 3 as discussed in this report.

One of the issues with providing two new courts will be the cost which is expected to be in the range of \$70,000.00 to \$75,000.00. The Golden Bay Reserve DIL's has an allocation of \$56,500.00 in the 2007/08 financial year for tennis courts in Golden Bay with no set location. Therefore these funds could be used for this work with any shortfall once costs are known, being subject to a further allocation from this account.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Community Services Committee request staff to action Option 3 by negotiating with the Collingwood Tennis Club and the Collingwood Area School and that if these

negotiations are successful, the funding for the two new courts be provided from the Golden Bay Reserve DIL's account.

L L Kennedy  
Manager Community Services

[http://tdctoday:82/shared\\_documents/meetings/council/committees and subcommittees/community services committee/reports/2007/rcs070808 report collingwood tennis courts.doc](http://tdctoday:82/shared_documents/meetings/council/committees_and_subcommittees/community_services_committee/reports/2007/rcs070808_report_collingwood_tennis_courts.doc)