

# STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Community Services Committee  
**FROM:** Community Services Manager  
**DATE:** 31 January 2008  
**SUBJECT:** Community Services Manager's Report

---

Welcome to the first meeting of the Community Services Committee for 2008. The good news is that the holiday period went very smoothly with no major issues in reserves, libraries or camping grounds and with the wonderful weather the camps have been kept very busy.

## TAKAKA LIBRARY AND CAR PARK

The new library is well on the way to completion with the builders expecting to be finished in early March and this will be followed by the fit out and shifting from the old library.

Agreement has been reached with the Golden Bay RSA for a commemorative area in the courtyard of the new library and this will be constructed by the builders when completing the courtyard.

MWH have called tenders for the construction of the car park outside the library. Councillors will recall that this is on the land that was the old Sicon Depot and the concrete foundations etc of the buildings are still there. The tender documents require the work to be completed in time for the opening of the library.

## COMMUNITY PATROLS

A group of residents in Richmond has set up a Community Patrol Group in consultation with the NZ Police and Council.

The role of the Community Patrol is to assist the police by:

- acting as eyes and ears for them;
- undertaking surveillance and observation;
- taking notes, recording and gathering information;
- assisting, when asked, at accident scenes;
- watching out for stolen cars;
- patrolling the streets in vehicles;
- patrolling residential, business and industrial areas;
- reporting signs of suspicious activity.

As a result of pressure from the community the police called a public meeting approximately four months ago where it was agreed to form a community patrol in Richmond. Since then the volunteers have been vetted by the police and further meetings and training has taken place.

Councillors may recall the request to increase the parks and reserves vandalism budget by \$30,000.00 and therefore anything that can be done to reduce the amount of vandalism will be of benefit to the ratepayers. With this in mind, Council is providing a Council vehicle for between three and four hours each Friday and Saturday night for the patrols. Each night the volunteers on patrol meet with the police before going out on patrol and at all times they can be contacted or can call the police.

All parties involved are extremely confident that community patrols will make a difference and we look forward to regular reporting. The first patrols commenced on 2 February 2008.

### **VENTURE COVE WALKWAY**

A few weeks ago I reported that public access from the Tokongawa subdivision was no longer available as it was found that the former walkway was not in fact on Crown land but on private property.

As a result staff have been investigating alternative access to Tower Bay with the assistance on two landowners. At this stage it is too early to say whether we will be successful in negotiating an alternative route however staff are doing their best.

Public access can be achieved by boat or by walking from Split Apple Rock Beach at low tide, however this can create problems if people get caught by the tide. A track back up from Venture Cofe also provides a good loop walk at low tide.

Hopefully I will have more information by the day of the meeting to update Councillors.

### **SPORTSPARK MOTUEKA**

On Friday 25 January the Crusaders / Hurricanes played a pre-season warm-up game at Sportspark Motueka before a crowd of 10,500.

This was really the first chance to showcase the new grandstand and changing rooms, as well as the 3000 temporary seats. At the same time we were able to demonstrate that Council staff and their contractors, Sicon Ltd, can provide quality playing surfaces.

The volunteer work that went into making this game such a success and I would recommend that Council write to Goodsports Motueka, congratulating them and also thanking them for all the work they have done.

L L Kennedy  
Community Services Manager

[http://tdctoday:82/shared\\_documents/meetings/council/committees\\_and\\_subcommittees/community\\_services\\_committee/reports/2008/rcs080214\\_report\\_community\\_services\\_manager.doc](http://tdctoday:82/shared_documents/meetings/council/committees_and_subcommittees/community_services_committee/reports/2008/rcs080214_report_community_services_manager.doc)