

## **STAFF REPORT**

**TO:** The Community Services Committee  
**FROM:** Community Services Manager  
**DATE:** 8 May 2008  
**SUBJECT:** Community Services Manager's Report

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Councillors will note that this agenda is quite light on topics, however staff are extremely busy with the Annual Plan and LTCCP.

### **TAKAKA LIBRARY**

As previously reported, the new library opened to the public on 8 April 2008 and the official opening by the Mayor is at 3.30 pm on Monday 12 May 2008.

A letter has been received from the Chair of the Golden Bay Community Board congratulating Council on this impressive addition to the Takaka township facilities.

Councillors will recall that a sum of \$15,000.00 was allocated in the 2007/08 Annual Plan to go towards a sculpture/artwork for in front of the new library.

A panel involving the Golden Bay Community Arts Council, Community Board Member Leigh Gamby, Mike Tasman-Jones, Takaka Library Manager, local iwi, youth council and Golden Bay Promotion was set up to consider the proposals received from local artists which were required to meet a criteria set by the panel. A presentation was made by a member of the panel to the Golden Bay Community Board which detailed the top four proposals received. The Board generally agreed with the priority order provided by the panel.

Since then the panel has provided full details of their recommended design which is called Nga Hau E Wha – the Four Winds. Attached is a copy of the reasons given by the panel in relation to their recommendation.

Cr Riley has discussed the designs with members of the Golden Bay RSA as the library is a Memorial Library and there are copies of the Memorial Plaques outside the library as well as a flagpole for use by the RSA.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That a decision be made on the acceptance of a design for a sculpture for outside the new Takaka Library after Cr Riley has presented his report.

## **RURAL FIRE**

Attached is a copy of March 2008 report from the Principal Rural Fire Officer and I would like to highlight the following from this report:

- New fire appliance for Upper Takaka – this purchase was initiated by the Fire Party and they successfully applied to Pub Charity for a \$20,000.00 grant. This meant that the total cost to Council of this new Isuzu was \$20,000.00 with the balance of \$80,000.00 being funded from a National Rural Fire Authority subsidy of \$80,000.00. A small official function was held on 22 April at the Upper Takaka Fire Station that was attended by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Cr Riley and Golden Bay Community Board Members to celebrate the arrival of the appliance and hand it over to the Fire Party.
- 186 callouts were received between October 2007 and March 2008 of which 100 were in the Tasman District coastal area.
- The proposal to amalgamate Rural Fire Management and Urban Fire Management has been shelved by the Government.
- 668 fire permits were issued during March.

## **LORD RUTHERFORD PARK, BRIGHTWATER**

When Council purchased the land for Lord Rutherford Park it was agreed that a further area of approximately 9000 m<sup>2</sup> would need to be purchased from the neighbouring property to provide three rugby size fields and room for a cricket field.

After a number of years of negotiating unsuccessfully with the neighbouring property owner, the property recently sold and agreement has been reached with the new owners for the 9000 m<sup>2</sup> to be purchased by Council as part of the first stage of subdivision of the balance of the property.

This stage is currently being processed by the subdivision officers which will mean that Council will finally be able to complete the Lord Rutherford Park development.

## **SAXTONS FIELD STADIUM**

Councillors may have read in the newspaper that Nelson City has agreed to provide the shortfall in the fundraising for this project to ensure that the building can commence to avoid large increases in costs. The City and the Society have reached agreement on when these funds will be repaid by the Society.

As a result in this agreement being reached, Arrow International will be able to commence letting contracts with construction likely to commence within the next four weeks.

A copy of the plans of this complex are available in my office if anyone wishes to see them.

L L Kennedy  
Community Services Manager

<http://tdctoday:82/shared documents/meetings/council/committees and subcommittees/community services committee/reports/2008/rcs080508 report community services manager.doc>