

STAFF REPORT

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

MURCHISON SPORT, RECREATION AND CULTURAL CENTRE

This facility is rapidly nearing completion with the official opening scheduled for Saturday 27 September.

I am sure Councillors will agree that this has resulted from a tremendous amount of work by the local Committee lead by Tony Peacock and ably supported by Councillors Bryant and Edgar. The Committee have not only achieved their fundraising goal but have also ensured the facility has been completed successfully.

A new Management Committee has recently been formed with Andrew Dodge being elected as Chair and this Committee is working extremely hard to ensure that once the facility is handed over to them, that they are ready to go. The Committee takes over the management of the total reserve, with the former Reserve Management Committee being disbanded.

For information only.

MOUTERE HILLS COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Tasman Regional Sports Trust have been working towards the implementation of a Sportville concept for the above centre. Basically this concept is creating multi-use facilities that can be used for many community activities including seminars, training etc.

On 25 August I attended a meeting of the Moutere Hills Community Centre Management Committee, along with Neville Male from the Tasman Regional Sports Trust, where a Memorandum of Understanding between the Centre, the Council and the Regional Sports Trust was signed.

This MOU outlines the responsibilities and commitment of each of the organisations involved to ensure effective facility management and the implementation of community recreation, sporting, cultural and social activities.

A copy of the MOU is attached for Councillors information.

MAPUA PUBLIC HALL

The trustees of the Mapua Public Hall Society have advised that the current Hall Committee has inherited a facility that requires a lot of maintenance. One of the issues is an urgent need to upgrade the switchboard and the main hall wiring which is estimated to cost \$4,000. Unfortunately the Committee had ordered new chairs for the hall at a cost of approximately \$5,000, before they knew about the electrical work.

Recommendation

That a grant of \$2,000 be made to the Mapua Public Hall Society towards the cost of an electrical upgrade, with such funds being provided from the Halls and Reserves Management Committee's account.

IMAGINE THEATRE AND MOTUEKA CADET UNIT

A few years ago Council purchased the former Motueka Scout buildings and then entered into an agreement with the Motueka Cadet Unit for the sole occupation and use of the double garage and also the use of the former Scout Hall for meetings. At the same time an agreement was put in place for the Imagine Theatre to have sole use of parts of the hall with the balance being shared between the two parties.

This arrangement has never really been successful with both groups growing and especially with the Theatre group now putting on shows that run for up to one week.

With this in mind, \$30,000 was allocated in the 2008/2009 Annual Plan for upgrade works.

Cr Dowler has been working with the Cadet Unit investigating the possibility of building an office and storage facility at the Motueka Recreation Centre and using the Centre's facilities for their meetings etc. If this proceeds the current double garage can be used by the Theatre group for storage of props and other equipment. At the same time this would allow the hall to become a dedicated theatre.

For information only.

RURAL FIRE FORCES

Over the last month a number of the Volunteer Rural Fire Forces have held their Annual General Meetings and the following are some of the statistics from the Appleby and Brightwater meetings:

(a) Appleby

- 17 members (12 men and 5 women).
- 59 callouts of which 21 were motor vehicle accidents.
- The fire force members have received a grant to purchase a defibrillator.

- They were awarded the FRSITO (Fire Rescue Service ITO) “Excellence in Training Award” for 2007/08. This is awarded to volunteer rural fire forces nationally and is judged on their commitment to training, number of structure training programmes signed up with FRSITO and the unit standards achieved. Only one award is made annually.

Recommendation

That a letter be sent to the Appleby Volunteer Rural Force congratulating them on receiving the FRSITO Excellence in Training Award.

(b) Brightwater

- 21 members (6 up from last year).
- 69 callouts.
- The fire force members have fundraised for the purchase of 13 sets of level 2 structure type clothing at a cost of over \$16,000.

For information only.

L L Kennedy
Community Services Manager

<http://tdctoday:82/shared documents/meetings/council/committees and subcommittees/community services committee/reports/2008/rcs080917 report community services manager.doc>