

# STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Community Services Committee  
**FROM:** Community Services Manager  
**DATE:** 16 February 2009  
**SUBJECT:** Community Services Manager's Report

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## COLLINGWOOD TENNIS COURTS

At the June 2008 Community Services meeting, Crs Borlase and Riley in conjunction with staff, were asked to have discussions with the Collingwood Tennis Club with the aim of having new courts built on a new site. This would free up the area in the middle of the Collingwood Camping Ground.

Over the last few months the Councillors and staff have met on two occasions with the Collingwood Tennis Club members and, while agreement could not be reached to shift the courts onto a new site, agreement has been reached to relocate the courts within the existing camp boundaries. The site agreed to is against the William Street road boundary (see attached plan). While the courts are still within the camp boundaries, the shifting of them does make far better use of the balance land for campsites. It also should be noted that the area owned by the Tennis Club is far greater than is needed for two courts and, therefore, two new courts will free up considerable areas of land.

Any agreement reached will involve the Council leasing the land currently owned by the Tennis Club and, in turn, the Tennis Club leasing from Council an area of land on which the new courts would occupy. We have also discussed with the club the necessity of two new courts when the existing courts are receiving so little use. At the last meeting with the club, an offer was made to construct one new court immediately with Council providing a guarantee to construct the second court should use patterns in the future require an additional court. The club is discussing this matter at a special meeting on 18 February and hopefully we will have a response before the Community Services meeting.

Funds have been allocated in the current budget for the construction of a new court.

### Recommendation

The working party would recommend to the Community Services Committee that subject to agreement from the Collingwood Tennis Club, that a new court be constructed along the William Street boundary of the Collingwood Camping Ground

and that appropriate leases be entered into for the area of land owned by the Tennis Club and for the area of land that would be leased by the Tennis Club from Council; and

THAT an agreement be entered into to construct a second court should the public use increase to such an extent that a second court is required.

### **TOWER BAY ACCESS**

At the last meeting the decision was made to take no further action to obtain access from Venture Cove to Tower Bay as access is available from Split Apple Rock Beach at low tide to mid tides.

This information was relayed to a number of complainants about the lack of public access to Tower Bay and at the same time I advised that staff would continue monitoring all future subdivisions in this area to see whether it was possible to provide alternative access from another site.

Since then we have had a response from Mr Brian Nelson requesting an immediate revision of this decision. I have replied to Mr Nelson enclosing a copy of my report to the December meeting of the committee and pointing out that staff will continue to look for possible alternative access to Towers Bay as mentioned in my previous letter to him. I have also had a request for copies of the report and other information from the Split Apple Rock Owner's Association and this has since been provided.

I can see no reason why Council would want to carry out an immediate revision of that decision unless some new facts were forthcoming. I can also point out that in the meantime discussions have been held about another possible access which is currently being forwarded to the appropriate parties.

### **Recommendation**

THAT unless the Committee wishes to revise their previous decision, that the matter be left to staff to continue to investigate other options.

### **RURAL FIRE ISSUES**

A copy of the December report is attached for Councillors information.

### **Recent Visit by the Minister of Internal Affairs**

Dr Richard Worth, Minister of Internal Affairs, along with Murray Dudfield the Chief Executive of the National Rural Fire Authority met with the Waimea Rural Fire Committee in late January to find out more about the operation of rural fire in this area and to also provide an insight into the Government's thinking in this area. As part of the visit to this area, Dr Worth and other members of the delegation visited a

number of rural fire depots throughout the district where various people spoke to them about their issues.

The day proved very successful and it was pleasing to note that the National Party are very happy with the way rural fire is run in most of New Zealand and will be looking at means of strengthening the current system where this is necessary. This is a major change from the previous Government who had been looking at amalgamating the urban and rural fire services.

## **NEVILLE MALE**

Neville has been Chief Executive of the Tasman Regional Sports Trust for the last 10 years and is leaving in the near future.

Over the year Neville has had considerable involvement with Tasman District Council and has successfully tendered for and set up the contracts for running the Motueka Recreation Centre and the Richmond Town Hall. He has also been instrumental in many joint initiatives between the Trust and the Top of the South Councils with one of these being the Top of the South Physical Activity Plan.

Tasman District Council staff have had an excellent working relationship with Neville and we all wish him well for the future.

## **Recommendation**

THAT Tasman District Council officially acknowledge the excellent work that Neville has done as Chief Executive of the Tasman Regional Sports Trust and wish him all the best in the future.

## **MOTUEKA RECREATION CENTRE**

Now that the majority of the funding is available for the major upgrades to the Motueka Recreation Centre, Abel Properties Limited have been engaged to finalise the building plans for the alterations to the Recreation Centre. This work is expected to take at least two months and during this time we will be looking at the next stage of the project with the need to appoint a project manager prior to tendering the work.

The other issue relating to the Motueka Recreation Centre is the Motueka Cadet Unit building which has now been built on the site and should be available for use by the cadets within the very near future.

## **STAFF**

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the work of Glenn Thorn in the construction of the Teahouse in the Japanese Gardens in Motueka. There was a very successful opening of this building, along with a resigning of the friendship

agreement with Kiyosato, on Saturday 14 February and the Mayor of Kiyosato acknowledged the extremely good planning and work that went into the new Teahouse.

The other staff member I would also like to acknowledge is Cathy Vaughan from the library for all the work that she put into the launch of The Prow on Sunday 15 February. The Prow celebrates, preserves and makes accessible the history, culture and stories of the Top of the South Island of New Zealand. It is a vessel for the stories of our region that can now be accessed on the internet.

The website address is [theprow.org.nz](http://theprow.org.nz).

L L Kennedy

Community Services Manager

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