

STAFF REPORT

TO: Community Services Committee
FROM: Community Services Manager
DATE: 30 March 2009
SUBJECT: Community Services Manager's Report

TAKAKA MUSEUM FUNDING REQUEST

At the last meeting of the Golden Bay Community Board a request was received from the Takaka Museum for urgent repairs to the archive room floor. This floor supports the mobile shelving that has resulted in damage to the floor supports.

The Museum Trust Board had requested financial support of \$3,500 towards the repair costs and further advised that they have made funding applications to cover this shortfall. However, it will be some months before they will know the results of these.

The Community Board therefore recommended that a loan of \$3,500 from the Golden Bay Reserve Financial Contributions Fund be provided to the Takaka Museum Trust to allow the repairs to be undertaken to the archive room flooring.

Recommendation

THAT the Community Board's recommendation be approved.

MOTUEKA RECREATION CENTRE

Recently Abel Properties Ltd were appointed as project managers and Alan Reay Consultants as the architects for the redevelopment of the Recreation Centre.

Tenders for the work are expected to be called in June.

For information only.

MOTUEKA BEACH RESERVE

Recently members of the Keep Motueka Beautiful (KMB) Committee requested a meeting with the Reserves Manager and myself to discuss extending the area available for camper vans at the above reserve.

This meeting highlighted the major issue of the huge influx of small camper vans that are not self contained ie Wicked and Space Wagons. It would appear that those hiring these

vans believe that they can stay overnight almost anywhere even though toilets etc may not be available.

As discussed with KMB Committee members, the provision of additional areas for camper vans at the Beach Reserve will not do anything to reduce this problem as the area can only be used for self contained vans. To allow non-self contained vans to use this reserve it would need to become a camping ground. However, this would be a very expensive option and with Fearons Bush Top 10 Holiday Park in Motueka, it is also not realistic.

Therefore Council really needs to address the wider issue of these smaller non-self contained camper vans that are becoming very widespread throughout New Zealand. Somehow the users of these vans need to understand that they must stay in registered camping grounds.

Unfortunately making this happen is a major problem and may require the cooperation of Government, Local Government and the hirers of these vans. Such things as instant fines and appropriate signage may be required.

Recommendation

THAT this Committee recommends to the Environment and Planning Committee that the issue of small non-self contained camper vans be considered with a view to making representations to the appropriate Government Ministers and Local Government New Zealand.

PRINCIPAL RURAL FIRE OFFICER'S REPORT

The PRFO's report for December 2008 to February 2009 is attached for Councillors' information.

NGATIMOTI RECREATION RESERVE

The above reserve is 1.2207 ha and now has the Ngatimoti Fire Station and Community Rooms built on it. Members of the local reserve committee are concerned that there will be insufficient land to meet the long term requirements of the community. With this in mind, they have approached a neighbouring property owner to determine whether it is possible to carry out a boundary adjustment to extend the reserve.

When the Committee first made the approach about this, I asked them to provide details of what was required and how this could be used in the future. Attached is a copy of a plan provided by them showing the possible use of the existing reserve.

Allowance has been made for new land purchase from the Moutere/Waimea Reserves Financial Contributions account in 2009/2010.

Recommendation

THAT the Property Manager and Community Services Manager be authorised to negotiate a possible purchase of additional land for the Ngatimoti Reserve and report back to the Committee for final approval.

LTCCP – POSSIBLE FUNDING SUBMISSION

Submissions to the LTCCP will close before the next meeting of this Committee and therefore if there are any areas where funds may be required or amendments made, staff will require a process to use. One area where this may be an issue is with camping grounds as an approach has already been received for further capital funds to complete a programmed upgrade.

Recommendation

THAT the Chair of Community Services and the Manager be authorised to make any submission considered necessary to the LTCCP.

LABRYNTH ROCKS – GOLDEN BAY

This issue has received considerable publicity in Golden Bay over the last six to nine months. Councillors may be aware that Mr Dave Whitaker developed tracks through the rocks on Council land next to the Transfer Station. Mr Whitaker owned land next door and provided a carpark and gated entranceway/kiosk which became part of a very popular attraction for locals and visitors to the Bay.

Unfortunately Mr Whitaker has had to give up running the area due to ill health and has sold or is selling his land.

When Council were made aware of this, staff suggested that a way of keeping this popular area open to the public would be by forming a 'Friends' group that could keep the tracks open and weeds out of the area with Council providing funds for materials etc.

This was agreed to at a meeting of interested people last year. It was then agreed that an appropriate carpark would be required as well as a toilet facility. With these two items in mind, allowance was made in the LTCCP for funds in 2009/10.

Meetings have been held with Council Engineers and members of the Friends Group in an attempt to find a means of providing adequate parking space at a reasonable cost. A proposal has now been agreed to and is currently being drawn up ready for obtaining a price from local contractors.

The plan is to have the work undertaken as soon as the budgets for 2009/2010 have been approved so that the park can be open to the public next summer. In the meantime, the Friends have been give permission to commence maintenance work with the park.

For information only.

LIBRARY'S MANAGER

As already pointed out our Library's Manager, Lisa Oldham, is shifting to Auckland and will be finishing work within the next few weeks. In the reasonably short time Lisa has been with TDC she has proved to be an extremely valuable manager and has already

made a number of successful changes to the way libraries operate. She has also been an important member of the Richmond Library redevelopment team with many good ideas being put forward.

Councillors will also recall Lisa's involvement with the LTCCP project teams where she was able to show an ability to research ideas and make a professional presentation of the findings.

Lisa's enthusiasm for the job, ability to get on with Councillors, staff and the public and her library technical knowledge will be missed by us all. I am sure Councillors will join with me in wishing her and her family all the best with their new life in Auckland.

As for a replacement for Lisa, interviews have been held and hopefully an appointment will be made within the next few days.

L L Kennedy

Community Services Manager

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