

# STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Community Services Committee

**FROM:** Community Services Chair

**DATE:** 27 October 2009

**SUBJECT:** Chair's Report

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Welcome to Community Services Committee. I attended the opening of the new Saxton Stadium. This is a magnificent asset to the region's sporting facilities and to have Sport Tasman housed and managing the facility is a great outcome. The only concern I have with the project is where the cost overruns will fall.

At Wakefield we have created a BMX park which has turned a wasteland area into something useful for the community. Thanks to the local Councillors for their work on this project and to those firms who made this happen.

In Murchison, Dave Allan has been working with the local community to find an amicable way forward for user groups of the domain and future options for the sports centre and domain. Dave has put a lot of time into this and particularly liaising with all the parties involved - thank you Dave. A full report is included within this agenda. I have visited the green space site at Mapua and really cannot see what all the fuss over the soil height is about. Once again thanks to those local ward Councillors who have been working with the community. On the same day I visited the McKee Reserve and viewed the clay/soil wall and were particularly impressed with the finish to this job – thanks to Steve Richards.

As spring is the time we see new growth it is particularly easy to see those areas with a lack of plantings particularly in the harshness of our paved urban environments. I know there are Councillors who are particularly keen to see more plantings in Queen Street. I guess the question is do we do it before or after the proposed upgrade of Queen Street.

Congratulations to Cr Edgar on the successful Top Town Even run at Sports Park Motueka, although I heard she and others got very wet and cold. Better luck with the weather and good wishes for a successful event in Murchison this weekend. Spectators welcome.

In concluding I would like to join with Cr Norriss last week, with best wishes to Cr Brian Ensor for a speedy recovery.

Stuart Bryant  
Chair of Community Services

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