

STAFF REPORT

TO: Community Services Committee
FROM: Manager Property Services
DATE: 26 January 2011
SUBJECT: Manager Property Services Report – RCS11-02-07

63 COMMERCIAL STREET, TAKAKA

The Golden Bay Community Board has commenced a public consultation process with the Takaka community regarding the future options for the local purpose reserve site previously occupied by the old Takaka Library building. Staff assisted the Board with the preparation of the consultation document.

BUILDING CONTRACTS

The code of compliance has been issued for the Learn to Swim Pool at the ASB Aquatic Centre. IMB Construction have commenced work on constructing the fitness centre. The work is scheduled to be completed during May.

The contractors are working through the defect list at the Motueka Recreation Centre. We are considering some further works at the Recreation Centre to utilise the funding available from external sources.

Works on the Pohara Store have been completed.

MOTUEKA MUSEUM FRONTAGE POLICY

The parties have now agreed on a policy for use of the Motueka Museum frontage. The guidelines for use are administered by the Customer Services staff at the Motueka Service Centre.

OTUWHEREO SAND SPIT

Agreement has been reached between Council, the Department of Conservation and Land Information New Zealand regarding the vesting of control and management in Council of part of the Otuwhero Sand Spit for car parking purposes. The land will be held as a local purpose (car park) reserve.

DOMINION ROAD

Settlement has occurred of land purchased for walkway purposes at the western end of the former Dominion Road portion of the Ruby Bay Bypass. Proposals to acquire further land are continuing.

CIVIL DEFENCE

The Committee will be aware of the 28 December 2010 weather event and the resultant effects of the deluge in the greater Collingwood area and parts of Murchison. Civil Defence staff were aware, through weather warnings issued by the MetService, that a substantial event was pending and as a result of further information supplied by the Hydrology division of Council, were able to issue warnings to emergency services and local Civil Defence controllers in Golden Bay, Murchison and St Arnaud the previous day. Intensities of up to 300 millilitres of rain over a 24 hour period were expected. Media statements were issued and staff placed on standby.

The duty Civil Defence officer was called out just prior to 5.00 am on Tuesday 28 December and I was called out at 5.30 am and arrived at the Council by 6.00 am. After being made aware of the situation, a decision was made to activate an Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) in Richmond and an initial staffing contingent was called out. The local controllers in Golden Bay and Murchison were contacted prior to 7.00 am to alert them to the developing event. Both Murchison and Golden Bay have community response plans in place which set out the process for responding to emergencies such as this. The Collingwood Fire Brigade chief and deputy chief were also contacted and attempts were made to contact the property owners in the Aorere Valley although this was frustrated due to power cuts in the area as well as many properties on our database only showing company names rather than occupiers. As the event developed and then diminished, contact was maintained, media releases issued and regular briefings were held with the hydrologists and key Civil Defence staff. A helicopter reconnaissance was arranged to capture images of the extent of the flooding for future reference and this information later assisted with the commencement of the recovery process. The EOC was closed down at approximately 4.00 pm that afternoon although monitoring of the rivers continued.

Response debriefs have been held in Golden Bay and Murchison. These debriefs were held with the responding agencies, the purpose of which was to identify issues that can be improved for any future event. These have been developed into action points which will be worked through to ensure that we are better prepared to respond for any future event. A further debrief will be held with staff involved in the response at the main office. By arrangement with Peter Thomson, he assumed the role of recovery manager and took control of the recovery commencing with a meeting at 9.00 am on 29 December 2010. I continued to maintain a liaison role over the next week or so and attended recovery meetings.

From my perspective as group controller, two issues have been identified. These are the need for the local Civil Defence organisations to have regular liaison with

emergency services so that they remain familiar with their response plans and are able to activate them when required, and the need to establish two way communications between EOCs as soon as possible plus the issue of regular situation reports. Both Golden Bay and Murchison communities are now better prepared to deal with emergencies in the future and improvements on processes have been identified for the group EOC as well.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Manager Property Services Report – RCS11-02-07 be received by the Community Services Committee.

Jim Frater
Manager Property Services

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