

Report No:	REP12-02-
File No:	S611
Date:	
<b><i>Information Only – no decision required</i></b>	

## REPORT SUMMARY

**Report to:** Environment & Planning Committee  
**Meeting Date:** Wednesday, 29 February 2012  
**Report Author** Stuart Bryant, Chair, Environment & Planning Committee

**Subject:** **ENVIRONMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REPORT**

### RECOMMENDATION/S

That the report be received.

### DRAFT RESOLUTION

**THAT the Environment & Planning Committee receives the Environment & Planning Committee Chair's Report REP12-02-11**

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Report No:	REP12-02-11
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Report Date:	9 February 2012
<b><i>Information Only – no decision required</i></b>	

**Report to:** Environment & Planning Committee  
**Meeting Date:** Wednesday, 29 February 2012  
**Report Author:** Stuart Bryant, Chair, Environment & Planning Committee

**Subject:** **ENVIRONMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REPORT**

We have had a busy time in the district since my last report with issues such as the Civil Defence emergency prior to Christmas, the on-going clean up from those flood and slip events, the proposed amalgamation vote and I will touch on these items in my report along with other matters we as a Council must deal with.

### **Rural Subdivision Rules**

Recent media reporting on communal living in Tasman follows a public meeting last October at Ngatimoti. As advised then, Council has a project to review aspects of the rural subdivision and land use rules in the Plan. This project will look at whether improvements are needed to the set of zones and their rules and policies for the control of effects of residential subdivision in different rural areas and of additional dwellings on rural sites. This work has to first examine how effective the last 15 years of plan administration has been before it can define the issues properly, and seek stakeholder involvement in options to resolve them. While enforcement action is under way in relation to certain activities, the demand for rural lifestyle living including multiple dwellings on one site, is able to be regulated under the current rules, together with building consent requirements. Some in the community would have the Council instantly change the Plan; others with a productive stake in rural land, might challenge that. It is premature to form any position until the assessments of plan effectiveness and outstanding issues are done. It is worth observing that there is an inexhaustible demand for lifestyle development in Tasman. Its relationship with the productive land base needs careful management.

### **Change 22: Mapua - Ruby Bay Development**

At time of writing the final decisions on this Plan change will have been made but not notified to take legal effect. I would like to thank all Committee members who have both heard the submissions and made the decisions on the proposed change. It has been a difficult change to complete to address both the need to help future communities avoid growing hazard risks, and yet allow landowners some recognition of development aspirations. I am aware that the decision version of the change will be looked for in other parts of the country. The decisions are expected to be notified in mid-March.

### **Westland Milk Co-Operative Visit**

Last December, a Westland Milk Co-operative, Mr Chris Pullen, met with Compliance staff and myself and gave a presentation on their business plan and environmental issues with particular emphasis on the Maruia area where they have about eleven suppliers within our district.

### **Golden Bay Flood Damage**

The rain event on the 14-16 December caused extensive damage to some parts of the District. In Golden Bay the worst damage occurred around Pohara, Ligar Bay and Wainui. Significant damage also occurred in Clifton and Tata Beach. Seven houses were damaged so severely that they were made uninhabitable and six others were classified as dangerous buildings under the Building Act due to geotechnical issues. Significant damage has been caused to many TDC assets, some of the most significant are:

1. The Pohara Water Treatment Plant,
2. Stormwater systems in Ligar Bay, Pohara and Abel Tasman Drive,
3. Roads throughout the affected area i.e Richmond Road, Pohara Valley Road and Abel Tasman Drive at Wainui.

TDC Staff worked throughout the Christmas and New Year period in order to maintain essential services, co-ordinate the recovery effort and to keep residents informed of the situation. I would like to express my thanks for all staff members who willingly went beyond the call of duty at a busy time of year.

Public meetings were held in all of the affected areas and periodic updates sent via email to residents. TDC has formed a team to oversee the recovery effort, it has staff from various areas of TDC and is led by Adrian Humphries.

### **James Road Bridge Opening**

The opening of the new James Road Bridge on Thursday, 2 February was well attended by the Bainham community and previous landowners. The new bridge was blessed by Kaumatua Andy Joseph. As a Council we are appreciative of the support and patience of the community has shown from the time of the old bridge wash-out in December 2010, until the opening this year.

### **Mussel Farm Visit**

On 27 January, Cr Maling and myself along with Nelson City Councillors Copeland, Collingwood and Barker, and Councillor Marher from Marlborough were hosted by the Marine Farm Association. We looked through their factory in Havelock and then went by boat to a several mussel farms in the Pelorus Sounds. There was active harvesting taking place during the visit. The marine farmers took the opportunity to lobby Cr Maling and myself over issues relating to Port Tarakohe mainly. There does seem to be a huge potential for Tasman and Golden bays from this industry. They were wonderful hosts, we were provided with lunch.

### **Flood Protection Works Aorore**

After the most recent Engineering meeting held in Bainham after the opening of the James Road Bridge, the Mayor, Cr Norriss and myself visited a number of sites along the river with local landowners. There are number of issues that need to be sorted, which include river work from the 2010 flooding event, gravel extraction, and so forth.

### **Gravel Extraction**

Gravel extraction continues to be a contentious issue across the entire district. With many landowners particularly believing that extraction is beneficial in times of flooding.

### **Inter-Department Co-Operation**

Regarding gravel extraction and relocation, I believe that both Engineering and the Environment & Planning staff need to continue their efforts to work as a team on a number of matters relating to rivers.

### **Amalgamation**

This issue continues to distract us from our core business, but we are now only one month from the voting papers coming out. I urge everyone to look at the options and vote.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stuart Bryant".

Stuart Bryant  
**Chair, Environment & Planning Committee**