

REPORT

TO: Members, Engineering Services Committee

FROM: Chair, Trevor Norriss

DATE: 25 January 2011

SUBJECT: **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – RESC-11-02-01**
Report prepared for meeting of 3 February 2011

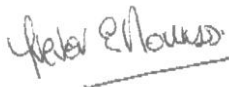
- 1.1 Welcome to the first Engineering Services Committee meeting of 2011. At the time we decided to hold this meeting in Golden Bay we could never have predicted the events that would eventuate on 28 December 2010. An event that left Council infrastructure and private property devastated. Unfortunately, whoever organised this does not have to apply for resource consent, which makes somewhat of a mockery of the assessment of effects that those who do have to apply for consent (and that includes Council), especially for river works have to go through.
- 1.2 One thing that has been quickly apparent is the resources we have in our community for individuals and communities to step up and assist in these devastating events. A response that was also evident during the Motueka Valley-Tapawera flood event in May last year.
- 1.3 This type of response is something special in rural communities and I would like to thank all those people (too many to mention here) that have helped everyone to get through. A special thank you to Council staff, many who gave up holiday time with their families to respond very quickly.
- 1.4 Fortunately we did not suffer any loss of life and we only have to look at our friends in Christchurch and across the ditch to see the unbelievable damage they have sustained to realise how lucky we have been.
- 1.5 In our own case there is a huge cost involved in repairing and replacing infrastructure from Maruia to Golden Bay. At the time of writing this report the final costs are estimated at approximately \$6 million. Engineering staff are working through all available funding avenues but there will still be a significant shortfall to be found. As a Council we are going to have to decide what is "needed" and what would be "nice to have". Whatever happens, our disaster reserve funds will be severely depleted.
- 1.6 The Golden Bay Community Board will join us for lunch today. We need to work hard to resolve any differences between us and get on with the job we have all been elected to do. I believe the appointment of Ward Councillors to the Community Boards will be a great help in building good working relationships.
- 1.7 We have a rather full agenda today and I ask that if any Councillors have any queries with the "information only" reports that they raise these with the appropriate staff directly. This will save us some valuable time. Gary Clark and Jeff Cuthbertson will provide any further updates to their reports at the meeting.

1.8 Finally, the recent flooding event will take some time to work through. It will also take a lot of funding and with steady heads, I am sure we will get through. It is not an ideal start to the year but I look forward to working with you, the community and our staff. The community has elected us to lead them through the good times and the bad. Let's get on with it.

2 RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Chairman's Report (RESC-11-02-01) be received by the Engineering Services Committee.

Regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Trevor Norriss", written over a horizontal line.

Trevor Norriss