

REPORT

TO: GB Community Board
FROM: The Chairperson
REFERENCE: E855
DATE: 31st October 2005
SUBJECT: November 2005 Report

Activities, events and meetings attended during the past month included:

October 1 & 2

Private visit to Auckland. Observed greater use of the Speed 'De-restriction' signage in rural areas instead of the 100kmph sign. 'Drive Safely' or 'Drive Carefully' signage was also often placed on the same post as the de-restriction sign.

It was clear that 'more roads' do not solve congestion problems. They merely move the congested area somewhere else. I have heard that about 40% of the greater Auckland urban land area is already set aside for vehicles. (Roads, car parks, driveways, garages, vehicle related businesses etc etc) There has to be a better way. Improved public transport is one key method.

October 3

Agenda setting for 11 October Board meeting.

October 4

Attended Onekaka Hall Committee meeting to consider quotes for the building extension. After much consideration a quote was accepted. This project involves the addition of a storeroom and extension of the verandah in keeping with the design and materials of the existing building.

October 5

Met with Mr. Stephen Phillips who has a contract with Local Government New Zealand to develop training modules for Community Board members which are designed to improve effectiveness.

October 8

Attended unveiling ceremony for the Bainham interpretation panels. A wonderful occasion for hearing reminiscences and partaking of a marvelous country style afternoon tea.

October 11

Community Board meeting, Takaka.

October 14

Fresh FM - Radio interview of matters raised or discussed during the 11 October Board meeting.

October 15

Attended the dawn ceremony unveiling the interpretation panels at the Collingwood Historic Cemetery, Orion St. A moving occasion shared between representatives of iwi and subsequent settlers. Beautiful dawn chorus bird song from both native and introduced species was particularly poignant. Walked up to the Aorere Lookout where a panel donated by Keep Golden Bay Beautiful has also been erected.

October 15

Attended Collingwood Heritage day to celebrate the establishment of the other interpretation panels located around the village and foreshore. Another moving occasion with music from the RNZ Navy Band which provided a superb display followed by another marvelous afternoon tea. Full credit is due to the Battle of Trafalgar Commemoration Committee and all others who have assisted to make these and other events such a success. A book entitled 'Collingwood Kaleidoscope' has been compiled by Merrill Coke and Penny Griffith for the occasion.

October 19

DOC Community Forum, Takaka.

Update issues included: Mt Burnett possum control successful (less than 1% follow up monitor catch result recorded). Pest control also undertaken at Canaan and Goulard Downs; new Totaranui sewerage system operational, some teething problems resolved; marine mammals – a juvenile Orca stranded and re-floated Onekaka, three Dolphins stranded and re-floated north of Collingwood, Right Whale – a tissue sample taken; Gannet nesting area Farewell Spit washed out by storm driven waves and high tides; mining license application for Mt Burnett received – Ministerial report being prepared; Golden Bay rivers surveyed for algae Didymo; Golden Bay Wetlands inspected by Bio diversity NZ for Salt Marsh Mosquitoes; seasonal Hut Wardens have commenced their duties; Heaphy and Abel Tasman internet booking systems operating; more benches planned for Perry Saddle Hut; fencing of the Paynes Ford grazing lease organized; Farewell Spit Art display at Monza Gallery open; Kiwi Conservation Group and Stocker family have built 21 Penguin nesting boxes for Para Para and Patons Rock; DOC Staff cleaned up Farewell Spit inner beach to Stock Yard Point for Clean Up NZ Week; Gregg Napp is the new DoC Golden Bay Community Relations Manager.

Issues discussed during the meeting included: Concern expressed that DOC is being required to put 'people pressure' before 'conservation issues'; Regeneration – healthy regeneration noted around the Bay including around Westhaven, marginal land re-growth is helping to control erosion, storm water run-off etc; Mt Stevens track start – upgrade of carpark, access and signage requested; Cobb Valley – two day trip routes identified and discussed; Heaphy track bookings – system explained, anomalies identified; Golden Bay jetties – update provided; Blue Penguins – concern about threat from uncontrolled dogs expressed – suggestion of voluntary Dog Wardens mentioned and supported.

20 October

Golden Bay Planning Meeting of Board and TDC Staff. Next steps identified including seeking advice from the various communities on their preferred process during Board LTCCP/Annual Plan meetings. Need for consideration of all Reports together confirmed as a logical pathway forward.

October 20

Board workshop. Matters for submission on Coastal Landscape Report discussed.

October 20

Meeting with DoC Area Manager, John Mason, to discuss Golden Bay Jetties. Ownership of adjacent land unclear in some cases. Jetties recognized by all as valuable community assets. Concern expressed about a Community Trust idea. DOC would like to see the Jetties bought up to standard and maintained.

October 21

“Bottle of Trifle Vulgar” – participated in the well attended Play taking an innovative look at the Battle of Trafalgar and its Collingwood, Golden Bay, connections. A wonderful community event to be involved in. Especially seeing the production come to fruition from rehearsal, creation of props and costumes, script development and music. Proceeds were donated to Collingwood Area School.

October 22

Attended commemorations including arrival of effigy of Cuthbert Collingwood from sea, the Township day, evening fireworks display and Ball. All events wonderfully organized. The fireworks display was first class. Especially the ‘Royal Sovereign’ sailing ship set piece which was quite brilliant.

October 23

Attended Nelson Vintage Car Club Rally to commemorate Battle of Trafalgar, (representing France). There were three other entries from Golden Bay.

October 24

Received information from NCC Cr Grahame Thorne regarding an affordable housing module called Habode. These 80m² autonomous dwellings have three bedrooms and are fitted with double glazing, full insulation, solar panels, wind generators and a composting toilet. Designed to be shipped and transported as a standard 40’ Container.

They may be a possibility for an affordable housing option provided they meet NZ Building Standards. A prototype was due to be tested for compliance. They are made in China and will cost \$120K on site. (My first thoughts were that they should be shipped to Pakistan for earthquake victim shelter).

October 25

Attended Representation Review Sub committee meeting in Richmond with speaking but no voting rights. The sub-committee agreed on recommendations to go to full Council on 3 November. I expressed concern about efforts to link Councillor numbers to the Community Board. These are separate issues. Councillors require a population threshold with scope for consideration of isolated communities. Community Boards have no threshold only that they serve an identified community. Golden Bay Community Board does serve such a community and has done so since 1989. Given the Takaka Hill, the geographic spread of Golden Bay and the travelling distance to Richmond it is clear that we

are a physically separated identifiable isolated community. We need two councillors.

October 25, 26, 27

Chaired Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) meetings at East Takaka, Takaka and Pohara respectively. Each meeting discussed present LTCCP/Annual Plan projects and proposals for addition to these; the Golden Bay planning process and views on the best way to obtain the widest possible community involvement; the Representation Review Process; and other issues including maintenance items, speed limits etc.

Issues

Replies to residents

There have been continuing concerns expressed about non replies to enquiries made to TDC. This is unfortunate because it causes frustration for the enquirer and reflects very poorly on the organization. There needs to be a full commitment from TDC to the policy of acknowledging enquiries within three working days and a reply within ten days.

Golden Bay Pound

With enquiries underway by Board Member Hill into the possibility for a combined SPCA/Pound site we need to make approaches to ascertain if some of the funds from the proposed sale of the Pakawau Pound land can be retained in Golden Bay for this purpose if needed.

Recommendation: "THAT the Golden Bay Community Board writes to the TDC Property and Community Services Managers enquiring as to the possibility of funds being retained from the sale of the Pakawau Pound for a new Golden Bay Pound facility if necessary".

Golden Bay Jetties

Golden Bay needs to make a concerted effort to have the four Golden Bay jetties regarded in the same manner as Mapua and Torrent Bay. All feed-back to date indicates that TDC is the appropriate community organisation to retain responsibility for these jetties as they have in the past. As with Salisbury Bridge there may be agencies to which the Board could apply in order to assist Council. Damien O'Connor's Office is aware of the issue and is prepared to assist if possible.

Dates for Meetings etc

We need to set dates for:

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| 1. | The Board's LTCCP/Annual Plan prioritization meeting following the current round which ends on 16 November. |
| 2. | The visit to the new Regional Museum in Nelson perhaps in conjunction with the Collingwood Battle of Trafalgar Committee and others. |
| 3. | Combined Boards meeting |

Board Meeting Process

Following the issues raised by the Service Centres Manager (SCM) in his October Monthly Report our Board was to discuss these during the 20 October Workshop. However, prior to the meeting it was suggested by the SCM that these matters could be held over until the combined boards meeting because they were of relevance to both.

Recommendation:

“THAT discussion of the Service Centres Manager Meeting Process Report be held over until the combined Community Boards meeting.”

Didymo ('Rock Snot')

This virulent algae has the potential to severely damage our rivers and their biodiversity. A suggestion has been made to declare Golden Bay a Didymo free area with a large sign erected at the Riwaka side of the Takaka Hill advising this and requiring that anyone entering Golden Bay is to have properly sanitised any potentially contaminated equipment before entering the Bay.

Clubbed Tunicate Sea Squirt (Styela Clava)

This is another virulent pest species recently found in New Zealand waters with potential to seriously harm aquaculture and indigenous marine biodiversity. We should also declare Golden Bay to be a Sea Squirt Free Area and require all vessels entering Golden Bay to ensure and certify that they are free of this pest.

Further information is available about Didymo and Sea Squirt on www.biosecurity.govt.nz

Battle of Trafalgar Commemorations

With the success of the Battle of Trafalgar commemorations, I wish to recommend:

“THAT the GB Community Board writes to the Battle of Trafalgar Committee congratulating them on the success of all of the events and thanking them on behalf of the community for their tremendous efforts.”

Social Report

The Work Centre has only been able to produce 35 copies of the Golden Bay Social report and these have all been distributed. It is suggested that maybe Tasman District Council or the Board could help with the creation of further copies. I feel that the Report provides useful information for planning purposes and therefore recommend

“That the Golden Bay Community Board approves a grant from the discretionary fund for printing 25 more copies of the Golden Bay Social Report.”

‘Hole in the Rock’ - Tarakohe

A verbal briefing will be provided on the on-site meeting held on 31st October.

Joe Bell