

STAFF REPORT

TO: Golden Bay Community Board
FROM: Service Centres Manager
REFERENCE: E855
DATE: 5th December 2005
SUBJECT: December 2005 Report

From Last Month's Meeting

Web Site Information

Penny Griffith addressed last month's forum and the lack of action regarding the Collingwood web-site errors. I am please to report that the corrections have been made for the Collingwood information and I received positive feedback from Penny which I have passed on to Council's IT Manager. Peter Darlington also advises that his staff have tidied up the roading data for LINZ over the last 2 months and are now waiting on the updated data to come back to us to update our roading layers in GIS. The updated street maps will be on the site by mid-December.

Golden Bay Pound

The Board at the last meting wrote to the Community Services Manager, Lloyd Kennedy about the possibility of funds being retained from the sale of the Pakawau Pound for the Golden Bay SPCA Pound facility. Lloyd has advised me that the funds from the Pakawau sale are already ear-marked for use and are not available for the alternate project.

Didymo and Sea Squirt

The Board will be aware that Port Tarakohe had an 'all-clear' for the invasive clubbed tunicate sea squirt (styela clava) although varieties of native sea squirt were found at the port.

In discussion with the Port Tarakohe Harbour Manager (Allan Kilgour) we have, rather than erect one sign, fixed A3 laminated posters around the port as we felt that would provide more effective information to port users. Council's bio-security staff have done a very thorough job in getting information across to all relevant stakeholders and port users including diving clubs. This also includes the other unwanted pests like didymo (rock snot).

Regarding the signage for didymo, I have been in discussion with Emma Monk of Bio-Security NZ and she is working on a suitable worded sign format that may be possible to be used for situations such as the top of the Takaka Hill to alert travellers to be extra careful not to transmit didymo into assumed clean areas.

Collingwood Trafalgar Society

The Chairperson has sent me the picture of the "Royal Sovereign" ablaze as part of the Centenary celebrations. I will have the picture framed with a suitable caption for the December Board Meeting and the Board may wish to pass it on to the Centenary Committee as a memento and appreciation for a great job well done.

Pohara Water Supply

This matter is still under some discussion as I understand that Council has been contacted by a group that favour the water scheme proposal. Perhaps the Ward councillors may be able to add to this matter. Also note extract of Engineering Services Committee Meeting attached.

Cycling on Footpaths

Kirsty Barr, Council's Road Safety Co-ordinator is still working hard on this issue but we are both mindful that we need to get a 'win-win' type of outcome, if possible. Kirsty has already drafted a 'first-cut' pamphlet suitable as a letter-drop but a second cut will be produced, hopefully in time for the Board's December meeting when perhaps a view to a completed pamphlet can be resolved. Meanwhile I have attached a further letter in the Board's Info Pack from Mr Wells who confirms that the problem persists and is not abating.

Board Procedures – Joint Forum

Again I have to advise that the proposed Boards' joint forum will have to be delayed, principally due to the difficulties in the availability of the keynote speaker. The new deferred date is February 2006.

Considering the amount of work already on the go with Annual Plans, LTCCP, Representation Reviews etc I believe that this deferment will be helpful. However if there are any other problems with the proposed keynote speakers availability I will re-programme with alternative speakers anyway so the February Meeting will be confirmed regardless with a definitive date provided in January.

Golden Bay Wharves

I have talked with Paul Sangster regarding the issue of the small wharves and will speak at the public forum briefly on the matter.

Recycling Rates

I have received a letter from Ms Morganti in response to the Board's letter of 15th November. Ms Morganti has received an amended account which removes the \$55.00 refuse recycling charge.

At the same time I received further complaints from a Bay Vista Drive resident regarding the same issue. The matter has been referred to the Recycling Co-ordinator but the complainant states she has not received a response yet.

I would recommend that the Board resolves to write again to the Engineering Services Manager as a follow-up to resolution GB05/11/12 requesting that the Board would appreciate an early response to this.

Correspondence

Solar Energy Initiatives

I am attaching a letter in response to the Board's letter suggesting that Golden Bay could be a trial area for any solar energy initiatives.

The response is positive and the Board may wish to resolve that the EECA information be provided to those obtaining building consent for new and/or major renovated homes and that a web-link to the EECA's web-site be established on the TDC web site (if this has already not been done). Any resolution needs to be referred to the Environment and Planning Manager, Dennis Bush-King.

Public Transport Funding

I have received a letter from Hon Dr Nick Smith regarding the letter the Board wrote to Wayne Donnelly, CEO, Land Transport NZ, enquiring about Public Transport funding availability. Dr Smith has forwarded a copy of the letter to Chris Auchinvole the National List MP for West Coast/Tasman.

Roger Ashworth also has been contacted by Ian Hunter - LTNZ - regarding the matter of passenger transport funding in Golden Bay. Roger has spoken with Ian and suggested that rather than just deal with Golden Bay in isolation, that LTNZ address the next Engineering Services Committee in February to discuss Public Transport issues in Tasman. Public transport has been quite topical in discussions on the corridor study (Nelson through to Richmond and beyond).

LTNZ are going to write to the board along these lines and are happy to discuss at Engineering Services Committee Meeting.

Peak Oil

The attached 'Time' article draws two comparative viewpoints over the topical issue of 'peak oil'. I don't intend to enter any debate on which viewpoint is correct but the effects of consuming locked carbon fossil fuels has already had a significant impact on global weather changes. I don't see much reference to that issue in either of these viewpoints!!

Motocross Petition

Attached is a letter from Rose Biss acknowledging receipt of a petition regarding the Packards Road issue. Rose has also included the Council's new 'Code of Practice' on this matter.

Extracts from Council Minutes

I have included relevant extracts since the Boards November Meeting for information.

Note that the Abbeyfield Golden Bay DIL's funding request has now been corrected and the Board may resolve to recommend approval of the \$50,000 funding for this project.

Finally

Its good to end the year on a happy note and I am glad to report that significant progress is being made on resolving the odour problem at Mr D Whittaker's, Labrynth Rocks establishment. Well done to the Utilities Manager, Jeff Cuthbertson and his staff!!

My best wishes to the Board and their families for an enjoyable Christmas and New Year.

I will be going bush from 19th December until 16th January. This means that I will have no cell-phone, lap-top, or any other means of communication!!!!

Recommendation

That the Service Centres Manager's report for December be received.

Bob Askew

From the Minutes of the Community Services Committee 1 December 2005

4.3.1 Takaka Library

Don Robertson, Project Manager, has been appointed to review proposals received from architects for Takaka Library.

Cr Riley advised that two businesses in the township are providing changing room facilities for parents and didn't consider it was necessary to include them in the new library.

4.9 Changes to Library Hours of Opening

Changes to library hours have been proposed in response to feedback received from customers during the focus group meetings held this year. Staff are aware that many people would like to see additional open hours, particularly at the weekend. Although financial constraints mean that those demands are unable to be met at present, they will remain under consideration in the future.

Mr Kennedy said there is pressure to open longer hours and Council should be looking at putting money aside to open longer hours in the future.

Moved Crs Bryant/Higgins CS05/12/10

THAT the following changes be made to the opening hours of libraries, with effect from 4 January 2006:

District Library, Richmond and Motueka and Takaka Branch Libraries – doors open on Wednesday at 9.30 am instead of 10.00 am.

District Library, Richmond – closes on Thursday at 7.00 pm instead of 7.30 pm.

Motueka Library – closes on Thursday at 5.00 pm instead of 6.00 pm.

Motueka Library – remains open until 1.00 pm on Saturday instead of 12.30 pm.

CARRIED

4.11 Takaka Drama Society

Mr Kennedy spoke to a report that informed the Committee of the Takaka Drama Society's feasibility study into using the Pohara Hall for a Performing Arts Centre. He said the Society had rejected the idea and have asked Council to reconsider their application for funds for a stand-alone facility.

Cr Riley said the existing site is probably the appropriate site but to raise the funds to provide a new facility is not achievable by the community. He favours a multi-use facility, and considers the Pohara Hall could be used.

Moved Crs Bryant/Higgins CS05/12/12

**THAT the Takaka Drama Society be advised that it would be unlikely that Council would fund a purpose-built theatre as proposed, as Council supports multi-use facilities where possible.
CARRIED**

From the Minutes of the Engineering Services Committee 10 November 2005

8	POHARA WATER SUPPLY
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Cr Riley tabled a number of submissions from people in the Ligar Bay/Pohara area concerning the proposed water scheme for Tata, Ligar Bay and Pohara. He said there are a number of suggestions that Council, when looking at a feasibility study, should look at, including the use of water tanks. He said it is acknowledged that fire fighting facilities are a requirement and need to be considered. He asked that the public of Golden Bay be consulted on the issue.

Cr Borlase said the water standards will govern whether we go ahead with a water supply in Pohara and he supported the recommendation in Mr Cuthbertson's report.

Cr King said we need to keep in mind that there are a lot of people who actually support the provision of a water supply scheme in the Pohara area. He said if the feasibility study is postponed it will be more expensive later on and it is worth noting that it will be likely that the project will be revisited. He said we really can't answer any questions if we haven't done any feasibility study.

Cr Norriss said the initial request for a water supply came from members of the community.

Mr Cuthbertson tabled and spoke to a report on the Pohara water supply. He said when the Health Act comes out it could have a subsidy attached to it and in light of that it would be prudent to defer the feasibility study.

Mr Thomson said it was always the intention to send out a second newsletter and this will be sent out now to all ratepayers who were surveyed and will include everyone who wrote a letter as well.

Cr Higgins arrived at the meeting at 11.10 am.

Moved Crs Borlase/Kempthorne
WK05/11/9

**THAT the Engineering Services Committee defers the feasibility study into the Pohara water supply until there is more certainty about the Health Act (Drinking Water) Amendment Bill.
CARRIED**

9	UTILITIES MANAGEMENT REPORT
9.1	Capital Works Projects

Sunbelt, Motupipi and Hiawatha pumping station and pumping main construction tenders have closed.

Wensley Road watermain replacement has been tendered and a tender accepted.

**From the Minutes of the Corporate Services Committee Committee 24
November 2005**

3.3	Abbeyfield Golden Bay
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At its previous meeting the Corporate Services Committee agreed to refer a funding request of \$10,000 from Abbeyfield Golden Bay to the Golden Bay Community Board. Information has subsequently been received advising that the initial request should have in fact been for \$50,000.

Cr Riley said the Golden Bay Community Board is supportive of Abbeyfield and will agree to the funding request, dependent on the funds being available from the Golden Bay DILs account.

**Moved Crs Riley/Norriss
FN05/11/10**

**THAT the funding request of \$50,000 from Abbeyfield Golden Bay be referred to the Golden Bay Community Board with a suggestion that the Golden Bay DILs account be used to “bank” the interest free loan over a ten year period.
CARRIED**

3.4	Rural Property Numbering Project
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The rural addressing project within Golden Bay Ward is nearing completion.

Crs Borlase and Riley reported that the project has been well received by residents at Golden Bay.

Mayor Hurley said Council needs to have communication with the Police to ensure our maps are the same as theirs. He said the emergency services are relying on emergency numbers.

In his report, Mr Ward suggested following the success of the rural property numbering project in Golden Bay that a similar project be undertaken within the Lakes/Murchison Ward. He suggested a feasibility study early in the new year is the appropriate starting point.

3.5	Kahurangi Employment Trust and Kahurangi Waste Minimisation Services Ltd
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At the annual general meeting of these two entities held on 4 October 2005, Council's representatives, Crs Higgins and Kempthorne tendered their registration.

**Moved Crs King/Henry
FN05/11/12**

THAT the resignations of Crs M J Higgins and R G Kempthorne from Kahurangi Employment Trust and Kahurangi Waste Minimisation Services Ltd be acknowledged, and that Tasman District Council's involvement with the Trust cease, effective from 4 October 2005.

CARRIED

3.8	Rates Postponement
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The agenda contained a report from Rates Officer Anthea Campbell, who attended a presentation by a consortium of councils on their rates postponement scheme.

Mr Ward said Council must acknowledge the Rates Rebate Scheme that comes into effect on 1 July 2006 which will increase the number of persons in the district who will be eligible for rates relief. Council's rates collection is very high, because of the flexibility we apply to payment options.

Cr King was concerned about the amount that could build up and then Council would have to claim from an estate and was concerned about elderly people coming under undue pressure. He said we should wait and see how the new Rates Rebate Scheme will operate, reassess it and then decide if we want to pursue it further.

Mr Dickinson said it is simply another reverse equity scheme like schemes available from banks and said caution would need to be exercised if it was implemented.

Mayor Hurley agreed with the scheme but had a concern with coastal properties being exempt from the scheme. He agreed that there are other facilities but considered it was important for those where the need exists. He was disappointed with the new Rates Rebate Scheme and said it will not solve problems for many people.

Cr Kempthorne said this is a way of enabling people to stay in their homes.

Ms Campbell said of the \$300 fee, \$50 is the statutory land charge, and the rest the cost of the administration fee. The only additional cost is the counselling fee which is charged to Council direct. The ratepayer pays all the interest and there is a 1% charge to cover the management fee.

Cr O'Regan shared the concerns of the Chief Executive and said it could be encouraging people to act in a manner that is contrary to their best long term options.

Cr Higgins said we could be leading elderly citizens into crippling debt and doesn't support the system.

Cr O'Shea said it is a rates postponement so the Council doesn't get its money and it is not means tested and the impact on Council's cash flow needs to be considered.

Moved Crs Henry/Wilkins

FN05/11/15

THAT Council monitors the rates postponement scheme, to evaluate where there is any strongly perceived need for Council to join the scheme.

CARRIED

From the Minutes of the Enterprise Subcommittee 23 November 2005

2	GOLDEN BAY MEDICAL CENTRE TRUST
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H Holmwood and J Crocker were in attendance and presented the Financial Statements for the Trust for the year ended 30 June 2005.

Mr Holmwood advised of planned extensions to the Medical Centre valued at around \$1 million. He noted there are some people in Golden Bay who want to move the Medical Centre to the hospital but he doesn't believe that should happen. The Centre will be extended towards Commercial Street and there are three houses involved.

Commencement of work would be around 12 months away and if Council agreed to help, it would need to go through the LTCCP process. He said the ambulance is on the Medical Centre site and they are looking to be able to have physiotherapists on site also. He said the last rent review was in 1991 and the formula that is used is market rental less 25% because doctors keep their fees low.

Mayor Hurley arrived at the meeting at 10.40 am.

Cr Higgins said a rental review every two or three years is in order.

Mr Holmwood said if the Trust was to spend \$1 million it could never be recovered from rentals. He said the only assets are the facilities within the Centre as the Council owns the land and buildings. He said a local group called Integrated Health Services did a survey and employed Mr Ayling to prepare a report.

Mr Dickinson said the report from the Integrated Health Services needs to come to Council and Council needs to understand what is happening in the health sector.

Cr Inglis said government wants to put all medical services together in one centre, but they don't want to pay for it.

Mr Dickinson said legally if Council was of a mind and was convinced there was community support there could be a targeted rate set. Council needs to understand what is causing the problem, how big the centre should be, and if it is the right place for it.

**Moved Mayor Hurley/Cr Inglis
FN05/11/06**

**THAT the Chief Executive liaise with all the necessary parties and report back to the Enterprise Subcommittee.
CARRIED**

5.2	Takaka Library
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RDT Pacific have been engaged to assist with profiling and development of concept plans through to developing of working plans. \$20,000 will be used to produce

developed plans and money for construction will be budgeted for the 2006/2007 financial year.

Mr Frater said he understood the community have rejected the idea of the community arts centre being a joint venture with the library.

Cr Riley said there has been a push to include a changing room in the new library, but that two Takaka businesses were also planning to provide changing rooms for infants.