

REPORT

TO: GB Community Board
FROM: The Chairperson
REFERENCE: E855
DATE: 5th June 2007
SUBJECT: Monthly Report for June 2007 Meeting

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

**3 May: Department of Conservation Community Forum Takaka.
DoC update included:**

- DoC was formed 20 years ago on 1 April 1987.
- Didymo believed confined to Takaka River at present in Golden Bay. Care will be essential during coming whitebait season. Concern about vulnerability of Te Waikoropupu Springs.
- 'Tin Hut' Kahurangi National Park has been restored.
- Possum Control Para Para (DoC) and Westhaven-Farewell Spit (AHB).
- Old Mans Beard weeding along Takaka river undertaken.
- Goat control contracts completed. Numbers low in hunted blocks.
- Kiwi monitoring at Goulard Downs indicate population similar to five years ago.
- Last count of Blue Duck Goulard Downs revealed 16 birds. 10 resident, 6 introduced this year.
- Weka survey at Totaranui revealed 4 adult and 3 juveniles. Further release planned.
- Four carparks to be made at the start of the Mt Stevens Track this year.
- Road from Walsh Creek to Brown Hut has been upgraded.

Agenda items included:

- Didymo sign on Takaka Hill again requested. DoC to consider.
- Pakawau logging. Crown Forestry License explained.
- Heaphy Track needs improvement for walkers in places and previous suggestions responded to.

- Concern expressed about the increase in price of Abel Tasman Track Hut prices especially for NZ families.
- Enquiry made about proposed Golden Bay Wharf Trust. TDC still dealing with LINZ over transfer of land at Waitapu to TDC.
- DoC agreed to make minor repairs to decking at Milnthorpe. This is much appreciated.
- Doc thanked for including the Mt Stevens Carpark in its work programme.
- Dog signage at Pakawau needed. Co operation between TDC and DoC proposed.
Rototai sign wording suggested. Signs to be costed, TDC to be approached.
- Abel Tasman Foreshore Scenic Reserve update requested. Matters delayed to enable new TDC CEO to become briefed on the issue.
- Kaituna Track. A flood hazard warning sign at Knuckle Hill end and guide wire at the Forks river crossing suggested to respectively inform and assist trampers.
- Weed busting. Forest and Bird have secured funding for a full time weed buster/trapper to help fill the gap between what DoC and TDC do in the Bay. Cooperation between these agencies is sought.
- Increased trapping efforts in the Cobb Valley praised.
- A recent Rock wren sighting on Mt Perry reported.

8 May: Community Board meeting Takaka.

9 May: Environment and Planning Committee meeting Richmond to speak to Board. Request for reconsideration of the speed limits on Beaches proposal.

11 May: Community Board workshop to consider Agenda for 21 May Community Forum on Energy Descent.

11 May: Recorded radio programme for TDC 'Lowdown' at Fresh FM Takaka.

12 May: Mural opening and blessing at Collingwood including introduction of Archdeacon Harvey Ruru.

14 May: Film 'Peak Oil Imposed by Nature' shown at Clifton followed by discussion.

15 May: Visit to permaculture self-sufficiency property at Uruwhenua. Inspection of initiatives and discussion about them.

16 May: Compassionate Communication Golden Bay discussion groups (3) formation Takaka. This follows on from the recent workshops conducted by Jean Morrison.

17 May: Personal submission to ERMA made by phone to the Christchurch Hearing on the use of 1080 for pest control.

17 May: Meeting re a fire wells option with a GB resident, Takaka Volunteer Fire Brigade Chief and a representative of Texco, a well drilling company, re the suggestion for improved fire wells for Takaka. Forwarded information to Jeff Cuthbertson for consideration.

20 May: Working bee on John Mitchell Memorial plantings at Onekaka, weeding, top-dressing with soil and mulch and replanting grasses and Renga Lilies where necessary.

21 May: Community Forum on Energy Descent and strategies for Community resilience at Takaka. Excellent attendance and a core group formed.

22 May: Community meeting on Energy Efficient Housing Takaka.

23 May: Compassionate Communication. First meeting of the Western Golden Bay group at Tukurua. Viewed Marshal Rosenberg film, undertook the suggested exercises and discussed responses to these.

24 May: Attended meeting re Aorere Centre Collingwood with Trustees and Jim Frater (TDC Property Manager) and Lloyd Kennedy (TDC Community Services Manager) about consented siting of Aorere Centre building under construction.

25-27 May: Top of the South meeting Canvastown primarily to gather information about the proposed Marine Management Plan for Golden Bay. Briefing and discussion by Andrew John who is Chair of the Soundsfish initiative developing a similar Management Plan for the Marlborough Sounds.

29 May: TDC Office Takaka perusing submissions to Annual Plan particularly those relating to the proposed Takaka Water Reticulation. There are also form submissions initiated by the Murchison Community Association disappointed by the TDC and LGC Representation and Determinations. These call for punitive rating of Wards with Community Boards. These submissions are disappointing because they do not reflect the benefit of Community Boards and overlook the fact that our Board supported Status quo Councillor representation for the Lakes Murchison Ward and also Community Board representation if that is what the Ward requested.

29 May: Re Minthorpe Park. Discussion with representatives of the Golden Bay Arts Council and 'Heart Art' re Draft of a new Milnthorpe Park Map; the installation of a Memorial sculpture for Merrin Westerink; and proposed sculpture symposium 26 January - 2 February

30 May: Discussion with Milnthorpe Park Manager re issues above. Corrections made to Draft Map; support in principle for the installation of the Memorial sculpture. Arts Council to identify a suitable location to put to the Milnthorpe Park Society; support in principle for the sculpture symposium to be put to the Society at the AGM, Arts Council and 'Heart Art' representatives invited to attend.

31 May: Keep Golden Bay Beautiful meeting and working bee at Waitapu Bridge Reserve, Takaka River. Meeting approved expenditure on nursery supplies and identified planting season work programme. Working bee then released and fertilized plantings at entrance to the reserve.

ISSUES

Takaka Fire Wells

With the over whelming submission response to the Draft 2007-08 TDC Annual Plan being opposed to a reticulated water scheme for Takaka it is timely to look at the issues in context and rethink options.

There is no doubt that improved fire fighting capacity for the Takaka CBD is needed. Submitters have commented about TDC collecting a fire well maintenance rate without the flow maintenance being carried out as it had been previously.

TDC acknowledges responsibility for fire fighting water supply and the urgent need for this in Takaka.

To make this acknowledgement but restrict the response to a full reticulation option or nothing is inappropriate.

It is recommended that the Golden Bay Community Board requests urgent consideration of alternatives to full reticulation in order to obtain improved fire fighting capacity for the Takaka CBD as soon as possible.

Directorship payments

Concern has been expressed about recent increases in payments to Directors of Council Controlled Organisations, especially the Tasman Bays Heritage Trust responsible for the struggling Regional Museum, where fees of \$29,000 are proposed for 2007 increasing to \$58,000 in 2008. A discussion on this matter has been requested and the need for a Board response suggested.

Tennis Courts

The Collingwood Tennis Club Courts are surrounded by the Collingwood Motor Camp. Access is difficult and various options are being considered by Community Services. It is suggested the Board inspects the Courts during our meeting day in Collingwood.

Aorere Centre

Construction has commenced on the Aorere Heritage Centre building. This has approved Resource and Building consents together with a TDC sub-lease. We will be able to inspect progress during our meeting day in Collingwood.

Energy Descent Planning

It has been suggested that factual input/output flows of goods and services be determined for Golden Bay to assist with forward planning initiatives. To this end, preliminary discussion by a resident with Carolyn Saunders of Lincoln University indicates that they may be interested in undertaking the study as a project. It is suggested that the Board writes formally to Lincoln requesting consideration of the project.

The Core Group formed from the 21 May Forum is planning a full day Forum during the weekend of 14-15 July and will need some funding for hall hire, advertising etc. It is suggested the Board makes a grant for this from our Discretionary Fund to be administered by TDC Environmental Education officer Claire Webster.

Tata Beach

Tata Heights storm water is causing some problems as predicted. We need to ensure remedial action is followed up on. Engineering Services has been advised.

The Tata Beach Reserves Management Plan Review Draft is open for submission. It is recommended that we have a look at this and consider making a submission.

Joe Bell