

REPORT

TO: GB Community Board
FROM: Board Chairperson
REFERENCE: E855
DATE: 4 July 2008
SUBJECT: Amended Report for 8th July 2008 Meeting

Activities, events and meetings attended during the month included:

4 June: Preparing Draft of Board spoken submission for 9 June Annual Plan Hearing.

5 June: Western Golden Bay Planning Workshop Takaka.

9 June: Golden Bay Hearing of 2008-09 Annual Plan submissions Takaka
Observed the process and presented a personal submission and together with Board members Carolyn McLellan, Leigh Gamby and Karen Brookes the Board submission.

9 June: Ministry of Fisheries/Manawhenua Ki Mohua public meeting in Collingwood to discuss proposed Mataitai Reserves for Anatori and Kaihoka to better manage paua stocks. The well attended meeting was provided with an excellent summary of the process. Unanimous resolution to support the proposal expressed by participants.

10 June: Community Board meeting Takaka.

12 June: Discussion on Port Tarakohe matters at Pohara Boat Club.

19 June: Meeting at Milnthorpe Park to discuss pest control initiatives in the Park as part of the development of co-ordinated community efforts for pest control between Puramahoi and Collingwood.

24 June: Inspected walkway/cycleway construction site Rototai Rd (Agenda item 4.1.1) - following reported concerns that the work was not being undertaken in accord with the agreement of the landowner. The landowner and contract

supervisor were present. It was acknowledged that the path was off-line due to land form and when questioned this was accepted by the landowner as being acceptable provided the necessary drainage work was completed. The supervisor assured that this would happen under a separate maintenance contract following completion of the path.

Recommendation: “That the Golden Bay Community Board monitors completion of the pathway and necessary drainage work to the satisfaction of the agreement with the landowner, Mrs. Theo Blyth”.

24 June: Inspected the high fence recently erected on a corner on Rototai Rd (Agenda item 4.1.2). This fence is a part of urbanisation of the area in the Arapeta subdivision.

Recommendation: “That Engineering Services of TDC be advised with houses now on both sides of the road in the vicinity of Arapeta subdivision the speed limit on that section of Rototai Road needs to be reduced from 70kmph to 50kmph to mitigate the risk due to the loss of sight line visibility for vehicles exiting/entering driveways as is the case in other urban settlements with a request that this be done”.

24 June: Meeting with Representatives and individuals re forming a management group to take responsibility for ongoing maintenance of Labyrinth Park, the lease of which has recently been relinquished by Dave Whittaker due to ill health. From the discussion there is interest in forming a group and this was pursued by interested parties following closure of the initial meeting.

The Board has undertaken to advise the TDC Property Manager of the outcome. Concerns were expressed about the lack of selective weed control on the TDC Transfer Station site from which weeds are re-infesting the park land.

24 June: Apology lodged for the Ministry of Fisheries briefing on forthcoming scallop season due to Takaka Hill closure because of snow. We have subsequently received a copy of the papers which were discussed.

26 June: Keep Golden Bay Beautiful Committee meeting Onekaka. Matters discussed included:

- Report on success of ‘Trees for Babies’ event and distribution of Kowhai trees. Thanks are due to Kathy Hindmarsh and Billie Kerrisk for their key parts in this.
- Concern about weeds at the Transfer Station. TDC is not setting a good example of responsible weed control.

- Correspondence – Estuary restoration papers
 - Nominations for KNZB
 - Trust Power awards.
- The working bee planned for the day was rescheduled due to poor weather.

30 June: Agenda setting for 10 July Board meeting.

ISSUES

Congratulations (Agenda item 4.1.3)

Recommendation: “That letters of congratulation be sent to Golden Bay Promotions, Golden Bay Collectable Car Club and Golden Bay Choir for their success in the recent Trustpower Community Awards”.

Edible Plantings on Reserves

Further to this matter being raised during the June Board meeting information has been received about this initiative and is attached. (Page 8)

Discretionary Fund (Agenda item 4.1.4)

Recommendation: “That the Golden Bay Community Board ratifies allocations of \$500 made to the Ann Castle Memorial Fund; and up to \$500 to the Lexia Reading Programme in the event of a shortfall in other fund raising efforts for this.”

Annual Plan Process (Agenda item 4.1.5)

Community concern has been expressed about the process and compressed time frame for the latter part of the 2008-09 Annual Plan process. Council reportedly retreated into workshops to deliberate on Annual Plan items prior to the adoption of the Plan at the Council meeting on 26 June 2008 - two working days before it is due to take effect. The Annual Plan process is required to be open and transparent.

Recommendation: “That the Golden Bay Community Board writes to Tasman District Council expressing community concern about aspects of the 2008-09 Tasman District Council Annual Plan Process including the reported use of workshops instead of public meetings and the rushed time frame at the end of the process.”

Targeted Rate (Agenda item 4.1.6)

The Council decision to introduce targeted rates on communities with community boards in response to 12 submission in support and 847 in opposition (including 693 from Golden Bay residents) was very disappointing.

CEO Wylie stated in an e-mail about the targeted rate on 3 March 2008 *inter alia*:

“While you are entitled to oppose the proposal you now need to direct that opposition through the Draft Annual Plan process. That democratic process will be transparent, open, and honest. The entire district is affected and all ratepayers will have their chance to have their say before Council will re-visit the matter, and after weighing up all the submissions, make a final decision”.

It is very disappointing that 12 submissions out-weighed 847.

Recommendation: “That the Golden Bay Community Board writes to the Office of Controller and Auditor General and/or any other relevant agency seeking a formal investigation of the process which has resulted in communities with community boards being charged a targeted rate. “

Servicing the Boards (Agenda item 4.1.7)

TDC has said that communities with Community Boards pay \$200 per hour for a staff member to be present at a Board meeting. I do not accept that this provides value for money for our community and can be justified.

Recommendation: “That TDC managerial staff be welcome to attend Board meetings at TDC cost”.

Collingwood Tennis Club

The issue of the Collingwood Tennis Club not being prepared to give up the land the Club owns so that the TDC could incorporate it into the Collingwood Motor Camp was a subject of an Community Services Agenda item for their 19 June Meeting.

The Community Board has met with the Tennis Club and reported the outcome to TDC. We feel that we raised and discussed all of the issues with the Club in a fair and objective manner faithfully and impartially according to our best skill and judgment and totally reject the notion that we somehow failed in that the Tennis Club resolved to retain their land as they are perfectly entitled to do.

Integrated Health

Community concern has been expressed about a questionnaire that was circulated in the community about the Golden Bay Medical Centre, and other matters regarding the integrated health facility. It would be helpful if Board and Ward Councillor representatives on the Integrated Health Committee could provide information on these concerns.

Savings

During the Collingwood Annual Plan Meeting held on 22 April 2008 Mayor Kempthorne called for submissions on what we wanted included and excluded from the Annual Plan budgets in order to make necessary savings.

When organizations look at 'costings' in order to make 'savings' they frequently target those who provide excellent service for a very modest price instead of looking where the real costs are.

That is why the 'tea lady' or, as in our case, communities with community boards are targeted.

For example, Board member annual remuneration equates with \$3-5 per engaged hour. Chairperson \$10,703, member \$5,351; Mayor \$93,297; Committee Chair \$35,678; Councillor \$26,759; and CEO package \$250,000, with Board members only receiving half of their possible remuneration entitlement.

The following cost saving submissions to the 2008-09 Draft Annual Plan appear to have been ignored:

Mapua Clean-up

- Abolish Mapua clean-up levy of \$12 per rateable property. The clean-up is reportedly complete. The rest of the District should not be paying for the re-development of the cleared site.

Richmond Dog Pound

- The estimate of \$250,000 for the Richmond dog pound is excessive. Alternatives need to be pursued perhaps in conjunction with the SPCA site at Wakatu or the A& P Association in Richmond.

Roading

- Seek increased Land Transport NZ subsidies for the Western areas of Tasman District to equate with the West Coast subsidy of 73%. The

Weather conditions, land use and population demograph is very similar in both. (i.e. High rainfall, high proportion of Crown land, dairying, tourism and small population.)

- Cancel Patons Road, Richmond, reconstruction. Reduce speed limit on the section Bateup Road to Whites Road to 60kmph with judder bars retained and 70kmph on the remainder (except in the vicinity of Hope School which should be 40kmph around start and finish times as a school zone). Save \$2m
- Cancel the Old Mill walkway project which will likely be rendered obsolete by sea level rise. Retire infrastructure beyond the risk zone instead. Save \$1.5m.

Income initiatives

Aquaculture

- Set market rent and rates based on capital value of all allocated aquaculture space including that granted for spat catching.

Car Parking

- Establish parking charges for the use of streets and Council car parks where parking space is at a premium i.e. Richmond CBD. Use the funds raised towards mitigating parking problems i.e. subsidizing public transport.

Development Levies

- Ensure Development Levies fully cover actual fair and reasonable TDC costs of new developments from the outset.

Joe Bell