

REPORT

TO: GB Community Board
FROM: Chairperson
REFERENCE: E855
DATE: 6th July 2009
SUBJECT: Monthly Report for July 14th Board Meeting

Meetings, activities and events attended during the past month have included:

June 2: Funeral service for Edith Lord at Joan Whiting Rest Home, Collingwood. The late George and Edith Lord were resident for many years at the Cobb Dam where George was a forest ranger when the area was part of the Northwest Forest Park now part of Kahurangi National Park. They built up a wonderful knowledge of the area and Edith became an expert botanist through observation and enquiry and willingly sharing her knowledge with others. On moving to Takaka Edith became involved in various planting projects through Forest and Bird. Our sympathy is extended to her family and friends.

June 3: Department of Conservation Community Forum, Takaka - Department update and minutes of Meeting are included in the information pack.

June 5: Facilitated on-site meeting upper Gibbs Rd Collingwood between local residents and Tasman District Council and Montgomery Watson Harza engineering staff members. Inspected the route of the Gibbs Road walkway with drainage, hand rail and lighting requirements discussed. The need for the surface not to be too smooth and slippery or too rough was expressed.

June 5: Inspected intersection of Haven Rd/Gibbs Rd/Elizabeth St/Tasman St/ Collingwood with Tasman District Council and Montgomery Watson Harza engineers. Outlined suggestion for the retention of stop sign for through traffic from Haven Road. Suggest intersection be governed by the normal right hand rule. Also discussed need to be 50kmph speed limit sign to be moved to the 70kmph sign point on Haven Rd.

June 9: Community Board Meeting Takaka. Minutes of the meeting are available on:

<http://www.tdc.govt.nz/pdfs/GB090611%20Minutes.pdf>

June 18: Keep Golden Bay Beautiful Committee meeting Onekaka - Planning for Oxbow fencing and planting programme. Concern expressed about survey plan annotated for road stopping purposes when this is not intended.

June 19: Community Board survey responses on Ligar Bay baches and other issues and dog control by-law due. Survey responses collated – comments summarized.

June 21: Draft Community Board submissions to Local Government Act Review and Auckland governance proposal implications compiled and circulated to members for consideration.

June 22: Community Board workshop to consider survey responses and Board submissions to Dog Control By-law Review

June 23: Community Board consultation on Ligar Bay issues Pohara Hall. A very well attended meeting and a range of points of views were aired and shared. Copy of the minutes of the meeting available/attached on request.

June 24: Collingwood Hall Committee meeting at Hall - Accounts for payment. Concern about power bill to be taken up with Contact Energy. Broken memorial window discussed. Need to obtain an accurate estimate for cost of replacement. Followed up with TDC after the meeting re insurance cover and obtaining cost estimate.

June 25: Challenger Scallop Enhancement Co/Ministry of Fisheries meeting Port Nelson - regarding forthcoming scallop season. Golden Bay and Marlborough Sounds have productive patches available for harvest. Tasman Bay is in a parlous state. Information was well explained and questions responded to openly. The improvement in this aspect under manager Mitch Campbell is commendable.

June 26: Aorere Catchment Group celebration at Kahurangi Lodge - the gathering celebrated the success of efforts made to improve water quality in the Aorere catchment. Speakers included Gretchen Robertson (project co ordinator NZ Landcare), Nick Edgar (CEO NZ Landcare), Sue Brown (Aorere Group spokesperson), Michele Riley (Federated Farmers), Don Ross (previous CEO Landcare), Bill Wallace (Marine Farming representative), Hon Nick Smith (Minister for the Environment), Jo Anne Vaughan and Robyn Jones (Golden Bay Stream Care), Ron Dellow (Dairy NZ), Kevin Hague M.P. Paul Stock (deputy Director General Ministry of Agriculture). The speeches were followed by the launch of the booklet 'Aorere Our River, Our Future'. It was particularly pleasing

to see Golden Bay Stream Care recognised for their efforts in propagating plants and planting them out.

June 27: JP Training Day Takaka - Programme included a report from Conference and an address on the role of judicial justices.

June 27: Inspected BMX track area, Reilly Street Takaka.

July 3: Together with other Board members met with Mayor Kempthorne as a follow up to our meeting on 11 May 2009. Issues discussed were:

- Unjustified staff charges to the community board budget;
- Takaka and Eastern Golden Bay Environment Court mediation outcome;
- TDC scheduling meetings on Board meeting days;
- Pohara store lease.

ISSUES

Aorere Catchment

The efforts coordinated by the Aorere Catchment Group through NZ Landcare Trust have resulted in measurable improvement to water quality to the benefit of the general environment and especially marine farmers. Of particular note is the wonderful practical input of Golden Bay Stream Care Group supplying plants from their nursery and getting them in the ground.

It is recommended that:

“The Golden Bay Community Board writes to the Aorere Catchment and Golden Bay Stream Care groups congratulating them for their contributions to improved water quality in Golden Bay.”

Pohara Store

It was surprising to read that the TDC is putting the lease of the Pohara Store up for tender on its expiry. Provided a tenant is meeting the terms of their lease and is intending to remain in business in the same premises, a new lease is normally negotiated and the tenancy continues. As a matter of principle a business and goodwill belongs to a tenant not a landlord. Tendering a new lease puts an incumbent tenant's business at risk. In addition, a competing tenant may offer a rent which is unsustainable and result in higher prices for customers, a loss of custom and collapse of a business. Rents must be sustainable for both tenant and landlord.

It is therefore recommended that:

“The Golden Bay Community Board recommends to Council that where conditions of a tenancy have been met a new lease is negotiated with an existing tenant rather than putting such leases out to tender”.

Salisbury Bridge

It was a surprise to read in the Engineering agenda of 25th June that more work is required on the Salisbury Bridge which had had a \$40,000 overhaul recently. Whilst it is great the bridge is being kept in good repair we need to enquire about the work that was carried out. We need to request our Ward councilors who serve on the Engineering Services Committee to follow up on this aspect.

Targeted Rate

The Golden Bay Community Board was urged to make submissions to the Tasman District 2009-19 LTCCP about the targeted rate on communities with Community Boards by the TDC CEO and mayor. We did so in good faith.

It is therefore very disappointing that no specific reference to the issue has been made in staff reports for the 10 June 2009 Council meeting.

It was included in

66 *“Acknowledges that there have been a number of submissions, on matters not addressed by specific decisions as a result of this report and other reports on this agenda, that have requested additional funding or projects, changes to the time lines of the draft Ten Year Plan or projects to be deleted.”*

67” *Agrees not to change the final Ten Year Plan in response to submissions referred to in 66 above, in light of their funding implications and the relative priority of those matters and the activities in the context of the overall plan.”*

We believe the entire process has unjustly penalized the Golden Bay and Motueka communities from day one.

- No consultation with Boards prior to the matter going to Council on 14 February 2008 despite the promise of CEO Paul Wylie on 6 July 2007 that we would be consulted.
- The hugely inflated budgets that were presented to council on 14 February 2008 which were used to get the issue into the Draft 2008-09 Draft Annual Plan.

- The exhortation for submissions on the 2008-09 Draft Annual Plan proposals and the subsequent disregard of the 847 submissions in opposition.
- The rate being used as a vehicle for exorbitant staff time charges of \$336, \$172, \$110 and \$70 per hour for staff who are employed regardless of whether there are community boards or not.
- The ongoing monthly questions with the various council departments on whether or not charges are justified is demoralizing and does nothing to establish the ongoing harmonious relationships we seek to engender.

How can we build these positive relationships when this contentious Community Board targeted rate was not even debated by the council for the adoption of the new LTCCP on 10 June?

Kahurangi National Park Management Review

The Department of Conservation is currently seeking submissions on the Review.

It is therefore recommended:

“That the Golden Bay Community Board considers the proposals contained within the current review of the Kahurangi National Park Management Plan and makes submissions if necessary.”

Tasman Resource Management Plan (TRMP)

Consultation is underway by Tasman District Council about Cultural Heritage and also the management of activities in the beds of rivers and lakes for inclusion in the TRMP.

It is therefore recommended:

“That the GB Community Board considers the discussion documents on Cultural Heritage and the Management of Activities in the Beds of Rivers and Lakes and makes submissions if necessary.”

Obituaries

Golden Bay has recently lost two senior members of our community who made considerable contributions over the years.

Harry Riley JP OBE was Chairman of the Golden Bay County Council for many years.

Ben Hurst MBE was Chairman of the Dairy Company and a leader in Golden Bay farming enterprise.

Our sympathy is extended to the Riley and Hurst families.

Joe Bell