

## REPORT

**TO:** GB Community Board  
**FROM:** Chairperson  
**REFERENCE:** E855  
**SUBJECT:** Chairperson's Report - RGB10-05-01

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Meetings, activities and events attended since the last report have included:

**1 April: Agenda setting for May 2010 Community Board meeting.**

**4 April: Steam Up day Rockville Museum.**

**7 April: Collingwood Boat Ramp access and parking area opening.** This area is a great asset to Collingwood and removing the access to outside of the Camp, a great improvement.

**7 April: TDC Draft Annual Plan meeting Takaka Fire Station.** Whilst one-on-one discussion can be helpful to individuals, it is also divisive in that all meeting participants do not have the opportunity to receive the same information and to hear and observe all of the questions and answers.

**7 April: TDC Draft Annual Plan meeting Collingwood.** This meeting had a formal presentation and questions and answers. There was a small attendance of 10 members of the public.

**10 April: Joanna Piekarski's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Clifton.** Joanna makes a tremendous contribution to the community as the HANDS messenger, and by operating an extensive e-mail communication list for community notices.

**13 April: Board meeting Takaka.** Unconfirmed minutes are available on: <http://www.tdc.govt.nz/pdfs/GB100413%20Minutes.pdf>

**15 April: Work on News Briefs from 13 April Board meeting.**

**17 April: Community Concert, Takaka Playhouse.** A wonderful and colourful evening of community participation through music and dance. Congratulations are due to Debbie Neale and all of the participants.

**17 April: Commenced preparation for Board submission on TDC 2010-11 Draft Annual Plan.**

**18 April: Friends of Mangarakau Swamp AGM Mangarakau.** Of note were:

- Very impressed with the state of the well maintained gravel section of road.
- Not at all impressed by the drivers of two vehicles encountered travelling too fast for the conditions with no regard for other road users. It was most concerning to witness an incident of dangerous driving en route to the meeting when a driver travelling too fast for the conditions lost control and almost took us out. Dry Road is gravel and narrow and must be driven on sensibly
- Very impressed by the great works of the volunteers at Mangarakau Swamp in pest and weed control, planting and property maintenance. The small committee is doing sterling work.

I attend this AGM as representative of TDC and the Community Board.

**20 April: Integrated Health concerned citizens meeting, Golden Bay High School.**

It was a great pity that this meeting was held before the Interim Management Group had held their meeting to report to the Community. Concerns were raised which can be broadly summarized as 'location' and 'financial'. Both factors are inextricably linked and have been taken into account by the IMG which is recommending the least expensive location.

**21 April: DOC Community Forum, Takaka**

**DOC Update included:**

- Kahurangi National Park Management Plan, partial review presented on 15 April.
- Possum control monitoring of Wakamarama, Para Para Peak, recorded minimal possum numbers.
- Threatened plants species have been identified. Golden Bay has 31 threatened plant species of National concern.

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**Forum issues included:**

- Pu Pu walkway vegetation damage and fewer koura noted in water race following concreting. It was expected that these effects would be temporary.
- Gold fields road. Proposal to upgrade explained. Reg Turner and Merv Solly have offered to help.
- Heaphy Track during winter. Wardens finish soon. If mountain biking happens a warden will be stationed there again. Bids have been lodged to replace three huts over time. DOC will be working with TDC to improve access around fords on the Bainham to Brown Hut road.

- Puponga Farm Park – fencing of historic pits. DOC currently considering fencing priorities.
- Mokhinui Dam – application by Meridian Energy granted. Companies are seen to be ‘buying consent’ by paying some submitters.
- Reefs for Golden Bay. DOC to check out their position on these including discussion with their Bay of Plenty counterparts.
- Milnthorpe water safety sign to be placed before next summer.
- Pohara Cliffs walk suggested for Reserve east of the Penguin Cafe.

**22 April: Golden Bay Community Board workshop** to compile submission to the 2010-11 TDC Annual Plan and to consider freedom camping issues.

**22 April: Abel Tasman Foreshore Reserve Forum meeting Motueka**  
Forum members discussed the pre-draft of the Management Plan and made comments on the content prior to release as a Draft.

**24 April: Spring and Michael Thomas’s residency function Rototai**  
Spring and Michael are a community minded couple who have made a positive contribution to several community initiatives through building, self reliance and art since arriving in the Bay. Congratulations on being granted residency.

**24 April: Clair Fones’ 30<sup>th</sup> birthday, Puramahoi** - Another great community occasion. Clair is another positive contributor to our community through art, music and events.

**25 April: Forest and Bird AGM Motupipi** - The meeting was followed by a most interesting and educative talk by Richard de Hamel of the Mapua Aquarium. Topics included information on orange roughy, blue cod and the scampi fishery off the Auckland Islands.  
The talk was followed by a walk through the walkway being established from Boyle St to Selwyn St. The riparian plantings in this area are impressive and a credit to landowners especially on the Stoffregen-Holst property.

**25 April: HANDS Feast, Pohara Hall.** What a wonderful community occasion with 140 people joining together for an amazing three course healthy meal. Congratulations are due to the organizers and helpers for creating a truly special event.

**26 April: Finalising Board submission to the TDC Draft Annual Plan.** A copy of this submission is in the information pack.

**26 April: Integrated Management Group meeting, Takaka Primary School Hall.** IMG presented the proposal for an Integrated Health facility to the Community and responding to questions. Approximately 270 people were reported to have attended.

Whilst there was some obvious hostility expressed at the beginning of the meeting, following the presentation and answers to questions, the proposal, and the reasons for it, was better able to be understood.

Key points included:

- Living in Golden Bay becomes less sustainable without a viable Health Service.
- The loss of Joan Whiting Rest Home would also make the provision of hospital services in Golden Bay less viable.
- Concerns about 'site' and 'cost' are inextricably linked. Rototai Rd is the most costly option. The Hospital site the least costly.
- Whatever our views, community thanks are due to the IMG committee for the untold time they have spent investigating the options and developing the proposal so that it can be considered.

## **ISSUES**

### **Integrated Health**

There was a very well attended meeting on 26 April to hear about the integration proposal and to ask questions.

There was a very full explanation and general, though not unanimous, support for the idea at the conclusion. Some with particular and parochial interests are still not keen.

The interim health committee has done a sterling job in compiling a proposal for consideration by the community.

It is therefore recommended:

*"That the Golden Bay Community Board writes to the Interim Management Group thanking them for their work in researching the Integrated Health proposal and presenting it to the community for consideration."*

### **Road Inspections**

Having observed the inspection of Kendal Street Milnthorpe recently the methodology raised several concerns. 10% of a road length is selected by a computer programme and measured and walked. In this instance, the section selected was fine but the adjacent section contained breaking seal where a repair is failing. This is disregarded from the inspection because it is not part of the 'chosen section'. This is the second recent inspection of this road. The first was to check for 'undulations in the substrate'. Both inspections are from Nelson based firms.

It is hard to see how this can be more effective or efficient than simply having the local maintenance crew making necessary repairs as they arise and also identifying roads needing re-seals.

### **Freedom Camping**

We have had quite a few issues with irresponsible freedom camping in Golden Bay. Pollution, litter, fires etc. In some instances it has become a question of where 'camping' ends and 'vagrancy' begins.

We have been looking at the Permit policy of Gisborne District Council for self sufficient campers. <http://www.gdc.govt.nz/freedom-camping/> It is great to read in the media that Tasman District Council has picked up on this. We have also written to several companies who hire small vans without facilities. Most have not responded.

Several additional toilets have been provided in popular places for day visitors. However, even where toilets are provided some people are still toileting in the environment around them.

Monitoring and enforcement needs to be covered from tourism promotion budgets. We have submitted to the Tasman District Council Draft Annual Plan regarding this.

It is therefore recommended:

*"That the Golden Bay Community Board formally writes to Nelson/Tasman Tourism requesting that the monitoring and enforcement of freedom camping be funded from the Tourism Budget."*

### **Council Agenda 29<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

Page 6 - Application for Certificate of Title to Land on Ground of Possession  
NL72/242 William Street Collingwood  
NL21/46 & NL 66/215

There was no plan provided. What land does this claim cover? Perhaps the Ward councillors could explain.

Joe Bell