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Report to: Golden Bay Community Board
Meeting Date: 10 July 2012
Report Author: Carolyn McLellan, Chair
Subject: RGB12-07-01

1. Joe Bell – Memorial Service

On Saturday 23 June a Memorial Service was held for Joe Bell who passed away on the 17th June 2012.

Joe was first elected to the Community Board in 1995 and served 15 years (5 terms) the last 6 years as Chairman of the Board.

The memorial service for Joe saw the Collingwood Area School Hall filled to overflowing with all seats taken and an estimated 300 people came to farewell Joe, offering their condolences to Margaret and the family, and pay tribute to his outstanding contribution to Golden Bay.

And tributes there were a plenty: the first one from their youngest son Peter on behalf of the family. Charles Naylor who conducted the service then opened the floor to the public to give the Community their opportunity to honour Joe.

Joe having been a founder of Live Poets ensured that many of the tributes were in verse, with some sung, and a wide variety of accolades detailing Joe's extensive interests and involvements.

It was a superbly inclusive occasion which was very fitting for this public celebration of Joe's life.

Included is an excerpt from my tribute at Joe's Memorial Service made on behalf of the Golden Bay Community Board.

“Joe loved this community and he worked tirelessly in his role as Community Board Chairman. He always worked with the community's best interests at heart.”

He was a dedicated perfectionist who consistently gave over and above the call of duty.

Joe was particularly conversant with environmental, aquaculture, and marine issues and his knowledge of the RMA was invaluable in dealing with these matters that come to the Board. He also had a very good memory for issues we had dealt with in the past.

He was a fair and scrupulously honest person, who had a highly developed sense of justice. These skills were very relevant in his work as Chair of the Golden Bay Community Board and his non-judgmental and respectful approach to all people, was also very much appreciated.

His inclusive style of leadership ensured that everyone was heard and all viewpoints were valued and respected.

He would not be bullied, nor would he tolerate anyone else being bullied within the Community Board. He ensured it was a very safe environment for all in the community to air their issues.

Joe's stewardship was constant and empowering, he led us through significant struggles for which he was unfairly vilified by some people however this did not deter Joe - this was his total dedication to Democracy."

2. Golden Bay Honours

Sheryl Nalder brought this matter to the June meeting of the Community Board, reporting that a group of community leaders had personally presented Joe Bell with the inaugural Award for Outstanding Service to the Golden Bay Community.

It seems very appropriate to have had Joe as the first recipient of this Golden Bay Honour; he was a most deserving recipient.

Initially a set of rules will need to be drawn up and criteria established for the ongoing administration of these Awards. The awards have yet to have an official name.

Mrs Nalder and the Community Workers Inc have agreed to be the interim co-ordinators.

Recommendation:

“That the Golden Bay Community Board appoints a Board member to the Golden Bay Honours Committee and the appointee be advised to Sheryl Nalder, Manager of the Golden Bay Community Workers Inc.

Furthermore that the “Golden Bay Honours Committee” be added to the organisations to which Board Members are appointed at the beginning of the electoral term.”

3. Cycle Lanes

Members of the Board met with Cycle Lane representative Greg Napp to discuss applying to Tasman District Council for funding to progress the portion of the cycle lane adjacent to Abel Tasman Drive at Clifton.

There is \$60,000 that was not used by the low traffic sealing fund that will be made available for another engineering project. It is hoped this worthy project may be successful in obtaining some of this available money.

The original cycle lane plan that incorporates a bridge over the Motupipi estuary and follows the estuary around may prove difficult in the short term, to obtain consent and approvals from all affected parties. Although a very attractive route, the priority now must be to give cyclists, particularly young cyclists going to school, a safe off road passage.

In the Clifton to Motupipi area we are very aware of primary school children attending Motupipi School who would like to be able to walk or cycle to school if there was a safe route.

The Health and Safety benefits for young people being able to walk or cycle to school are well known and also it gives parents confidence to know that their children have a safe route. Furthermore it saves parents having to drive their children to school.

The proposal is to form the cycle/walkway from Clifton Corner through to the Motupipi corner. The landowners in this area are very supportive of the cycle/walk way and Greg and his group are confident that this portion of the walkway could be done if this sum of money was allocated to this essential community amenity.

This would also make a start on the cycle way /walkway that was originally planned for next year but which has been postponed.

See memorandum from Chief Executive, Lindsay McKenzie – Correspondence item 6.9.

4. Trust Power Awards

Board Member Gamby and I met with Teresa Partridge of the Trust Power Awards Scheme. Teresa is from Tauranga and she is touring around New Zealand ensuring that communities do nominate and give recognition to all these amazing organisations that do so much to enhance our way of life and to discuss the promotion of these awards in our community.

We were able to nominate several organisations that we believed are worthy and Teresa was going to follow up and make contact with them.

5. Beach Front Erosion

There has been a great deal of damage and foreshore lost in the last high tides which coincided with very low atmospheric pressure. Those folk with properties with beach and esplanade frontage are very anxious when they see their assets disappear overnight.

Unfortunately there does not seem to be any appreciable build-up in between these storm/tide/ low pressure events and consequently the damage is cumulative with more and more land, lawns and gardens lost.

Historically there have been differing responses to beach and coastal erosion. e.g. Mapua, Ruby Bay and Torrent Bay. Golden Bay residents whose coastal properties are currently at risk are enquiring what remedies and/or mitigation is available to them.

Please refer to Correspondence item 6.9 regarding beachfront erosion.

Recommendation:

“That the Golden Bay Community Board writes to seek information from Council staff as to what can be done to prevent/remediate the storm/tide damage that is occurring on beach front properties.

It is further requested that any remedies are seen to be fair, consistent and equitable.”

6. Collingwood Streetscaping and new Rubbish bins

Steve Elkington (Transportation Projects Engineer) has laminated the draft concept plans plus an accompanying explanation with the invitation for Collingwood residents to email us and comment on these plans.

I have distributed these to four different businesses in Collingwood which should give everyone an opportunity to view them.

See concept plans and letter from Steve Elkington also letter regarding rubbish bins for Collingwood - Correspondence item 6.3.

7. Local Government Reform Bill

Government's "Better Local Government" review and the Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Bill had its first reading in Parliament just over a week ago and is out now for submissions which are due by 26 July.

Council will be preparing a submission, and we need to decide whether or not to do our own submission or leave it to Council.

Local Government New Zealand and SOLGM have released a discussion document covering the key issues that are raised in Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Bill (the Bill). This document serves as the basis for consultation with the Local Government sector in advance of preparation of a Local Government New Zealand and SOLGM submission or submissions. SOLGM and Local Government New Zealand welcome comment on the discussion questions contained in the document, and on any other issues relevant to the Bill.

Comments will close on this discussion paper at 4.30pm on Friday 13 July and as submissions on the Bill itself are due on 26 July late comments on this document will not be accepted.

Recommendation:

"That the Golden Bay Community Board makes a decision whether or not to submit to the LGNZ SOLGM discussion document and/or the Bill after reading the LGNZ and SOLGM discussion document and after consulting with Susan Edwards, Strategic Development Manager, Tasman District Council."

8. Council Spray Policy

The application for spraying in the Takaka and Aorere rivers is of concern. We have enquired whether or not the resource consent for the river spraying will be fully notified as the public would like the opportunity to be involved.

We have now had two deputations to the Community Board by concerned residents who require answers about the sort of sprays being used and what additives, if any, are being used.

In response to those concerns, Council staff responded regarding river spraying:

“Resource Consent NN000425 (expires in 2015 whereupon it will be reviewed) allows TDC to use glyphosate, metusulphron (Answer/Escort) and Grazon to control land based river weeds within 5m of waterways throughout the district using ground based techniques.

Additives we use are penetrants and agricultural oil (basically vegetable oil) to ensure penetration into the plant and to control droplet size and increase rain fastness and ‘stickability’ to the target weeds. We only use registered chemicals and strictly follow the label directions. (Information is attached to this report).

The weeds we target for river maintenance are not grasses or soft broadleaves but woody weeds such as gorse, broom, buddleia, crack willow. These weeds are hardy and difficult to kill and synthetic chemicals are recognised as being the most effective way to control these species. The majority of the spraying done is with a hand gun or knapsack sprayer (rather than a boom) to ensure only the target species are sprayed and a minimum of chemical is used.

Spraying is used as part of native re-vegetation work but mainly to keep the fairway clear for floodwaters.”

Staff have offered to attend the August community board meeting regarding river spraying and the Board has accepted that offer.

9. Townships and Reserve Spraying

The public have made enquiries about the type of sprays being used in all the reserve areas around Golden Bay. The Reserves Manager has assured us that the sprays being used are organic however information to the contrary has been received.

We will have a presentation from Selwyn Steedman and Giles Griffith at the August meeting and hopefully we can have these issues clarified.

10. Rototai Reserve

We had a deputation from Room 2 Takaka Primary school wishing to adopt the Rototai reserve .They have all sorts of creative suggestions like rubbish bins painted bright colours, native plantings, anti litter signage, picnic tables, bird houses, a tree hut and the installation of a toilet.

The toilet was already approved and was to have been installed last year; however there have been several delays.

This is a fabulous initiative from these young students and it would be wonderful if we can encourage this enthusiasm by supporting them in whatever way we can. We need to discuss ways in which we can support Room 2 Takaka Primary.

11. Labyrinth Lane Drainage

We had a deputation at Public Forum at the June meeting with real concerns that their properties are being inundated due to inadequate drainage. The documentation that they were able to show us showed that Council is responsible for ensuring the drainage channels are kept open. Cr Sangster has also been working on this issue.

Council staff advise that Fulton Hogan will be carrying out remedial work on Scott's property, and Council staff are investigating the responsibility for drainage through the Scott and Nalder and other downstream properties.

12. Recovery Update

A meeting will be held in the Pohara Hall on 5 July at 6pm.

13. Proposed Dog Control Bylaw Amendment

I was disappointed to see that the proposed bylaw amendment to the dog control bylaw relating to Takaka CBD was included in the Environment and Planning agenda for the 28 June 2012. There had been no consultation with the Golden Bay Community Board prior to its inclusion, nor were we advised that it would be included in this agenda. I believe it would have been a more inclusive process if we could have had input to this report.

We will be interested to see the outcome of this debate.

Since writing this report, we have received the recommendation from the Environment and Planning Committee meeting:

(Please note that it is 'Unconfirmed' at this stage and it has not been allocated a Resolution number):

***'Moved Crs King/Bouillir
EP12-06-00***

THAT the Environment & Planning Committee:-

- 1. Receives the petition from Mrs Pam Nelson and 363 others and;***
- 2. Instructs staff to prepare an amendment to the existing Dog Control Bylaw 2009 (Appendix 1) which proposes that:***

1. Commercial Street, Takaka be excluded from the Dog Prohibited Areas Schedule 3 of the Dog Control Bylaw 2009.

2. Commercial Street, Takaka be designated a Leash Control Area under Schedule 1 of the Dog Control Bylaw 2009.

- 3. Instructs staff to prepare a statement proposal for community consultation and delegates the hearing of submissions received to the Golden Bay Community Board for recommendation back to full Council.***

CARRIED'

Carolyn McLellan