

Report No:	RMCB11-07-02
File No:	
Date:	30 June 2011
<i>Information Only – no decision required</i>	

REPORT SUMMARY

Report to: Motueka Community Board
Meeting Date: 12 July 2011
Report Author: David Ogilvie
Subject: **Community Board Chair's Report – RMCB11-07-02**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Chair's monthly report is included in the agenda

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the report be received.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

THAT the Motueka Community Board receives the Community Board Chair's Report – RMCB11-07-02.

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1. Introduction

1.1 The following four main points (from the Rotorua Conference) are repeated:

- a) Be actively and positively involved in all aspects of your community;
- b) Engage with Council at every level, politicians and all management;
- c) Raise your expectations. Don't be conditioned into accepting less, or lower standards.
- d) Decentralisation is a developing New Zealand theme.

2. Proposal for the Union of Nelson City and Tasman District

2.1 The Local Government Commission issued a draft reorganisation scheme on 16 June 2011.

2.2 The main elements of that scheme have been well publicised.

2.3 The next phase involves submissions (to 19 August 2011), preparation of a final reorganisation scheme; referenda on that scheme by Nelson and Tasman electors.

2.4 Should the votes favour Union, a Transition Committee will be set up, local elections for the combined Nelson – Tasman to take place in October 2012.

2.5 I wrote the following for Motueka Online:

“The Local Government Commission pointed out two major issues with the current two Council arrangement. These two principles seemed to dominate the proposed scheme:

- a) It was inhibiting regional growth and development. While acknowledging areas of co-ordination (eg airport, museum), there were other areas of lack of agreement. Each council also had separate rules (eg building, planning)

which were, at times, confusing. Moreover the links between Richmond and Nelson City for employment, entertainment, shopping etc were strong and growing. The Champion Road boundary was artificial.

- b) TDC was not recognising and providing for the communities of interest within the district. Their local services and activities could be more efficiently provided by delegation of functions with appropriate funding to those communities.

For our Motueka ward, I see benefits in that the community board will be given more autonomy and the opportunity to make local decisions on local matters, and that council headquarters in Richmond should make the transition easier and more acceptable to Motueka residents. Regional government will develop as a reality.

What are the negatives for Motueka? The council voice for Motueka ward will be two out of 16 or 17, when now it has three out of 13 or 14. The rural/urban splits at council becomes 6/10, by including the Richmond councillors as urban, alongside Nelson. And the Schedule detailing community boards' powers could be more extensive. (The final scheme may extend these powers, or the new council could.)

Will there be cost savings? It would be nice to say yes, but any savings in councillor numbers, a single mayor, chief executive and council administration will be balanced by increases in other delivery areas, especially in policy formation and especially in resource management. Also in community board costs. I would expect however that the rating level can remain at nil increase for one or even two years, subject to there being no interest rate increases on the council's debts.

If we can identify local matters and be allowed local decisions on those matters, then local government for the Nelson/Tasman district will be enhanced."

- 2.6 I am favourably inclined towards the proposed scheme – I accept the two principles noted by the Local Government Commission are critical for the future of the region and locally.
- 2.7 Board members however, may have differing conclusions; definitely, many of our residents will be undeniably, strongly opposed to any form of union with Nelson. (The wounds of 1989 amalgamation can still bleed; as the promises and assurances became mirages.)

- 2.8 I acknowledge and understand any opposition to the proposed reorganisation scheme.
- 2.9 Notwithstanding, does the Board make a submission to the Local Government Commission in time for closure on 19 August 2011.

2.10 Recommendation

That the Motueka Community Board make a submission to the Local Government Commission supporting the Draft Reorganisation Scheme, but recommending further powers for community boards (schedule) and extending the period to at least nine years as described (Provision 10(2) of the Draft Reorganisation Scheme).

3. Community Board Delegations

- 3.1 The Chief Executive, Paul Wylie, presented a report to Council for discussion on 30 June 2011 re the delegations proposed by the Local Government Commission being referred to the Community Boards for immediate effect (see enclosed report).
- 3.2 This is a welcome step forward. The report refers to the community halls and the Sunday Market being transferred to the Board, among the other delegations referred to in the Local Government Commission schedule. I am hoping to meet with the Chief Executive to discuss the matter, prior to our meeting on 12 July 2011.
- 3.3 My initial reaction is favourable, giving the Board the opportunity to show its potential, to working alongside Council managers to provide an effective “shared” service.

3.4 Recommendation

That:

- a) the Motueka Community Board supports the Chief Executive’s Report (RCN11-06-18);**
- b) the Chairperson and Board Members liaise with the Council Managers concerning the details of the delegations;**
- c) a further report be prepared for the Motueka Community Board meeting of 9 August 2011;**

- d) the Motueka Community Board supports the Chief Executive's intention that the delegations can be brought into effect as soon as is practically possible.**

4. Motueka Library

- 4.1 The Community Issues class at Motueka High School presented the results of its survey to the District and Motueka Librarians and myself on 23 June 2011. 432 people had been interviewed.
- 4.2 A sizeable majority (84%) preferred the current site, and for an upgrade rather than a rebuild.
- 4.3 Should the present site be unsuitable, then an alternative site would be Deck's Reserve.
- 4.4 The class considered that people expressed their views on the basis that the cost of the rebuild would be borne by Motueka ratepayers rather than all Tasman District ratepayers.
- 4.5 This was a well conducted survey, by a keen and interested class. Their results, although not surprising, are quite clear.
- 4.6 Reminder note: The library needs to be almost twice the current size. There is \$20,000 budgeted for a feasibility study during 2011 – 2012.
- 4.7 The current library was established by Edward Fearon in 1957, perhaps not on the present site. Any design and plans for the new library will recognise the long life and adaptability required.

5. Correspondence

- 5.1 There are some items of the correspondence which need highlighting:

1/2 June 2011 – Engineering Services
14 June 2011 – Walkway from Recreation Centre
20 June 2011 – Motueka River Management

6. Council and Council Committee Reports

- 6.1 Some of the Council/Committee reports of strong interest have been included with the agenda:
- a) Community Board Delegations from Chief Executive, Paul Wylie to the Council on 30 June 2011;
 - b) Motueka and Pohara Water Supplies from Utilities Asset Manager, Jeff Cuthbertson, 23 June 2011
 - c) Motueka Flood Control Project, from Transportation Planning Officer, Sarah Downs, 23 June 2011
 - d) Motueka Ward report from Reserves Manager, Beryl Wilkes, 16 June 2011;
 - e) The Swimming Experience, from Trevor James, Resource Scientist, 2 June 2011.
- 6.2 Note: The Flood Control report and Swimming report to be available on the meeting night.

7. Projects

- 7.1 Ching Contracting continuing along High Street, from Fearon Street to Poole Street, with the stormwater and wastewater contract. Eginton Street is also included.
- 7.2 CJ Industries, cleaning road shoulders along Lower Moutere, Main Road.
- 7.3 Sicon completed an upgrade of the streetscape kerbside plantings in Wallace Street.
- 7.4 Central and West Motueka Strategy – report form Rose Biss to be ready by 12 July 2011 meeting.
- 7.5 Wharf Road. Resource consent is being negotiated with iwi, environmental groups, DOC, Keep Motueka Beautiful Committee and Council.

8. Meeting With Glenn Thorn, Reserves Officer 24 June 2011

- 8.1 **Play equipment at Ledger Goodman Reserve** – to replace the privately-owned equipment in place now.

Glenn indicated a basic set of equipment could be put in position for \$10,000 - \$20,000.

The position would be generally where the present items are, perhaps a little further away.

The project could be completed within six months.

8.2 **Play Equipment at Deck's Reserve**

This is the main playground for the town. The existing equipment should be upgraded in the next two years, probable cost \$75,000.

I suggested that money (\$40,000) allocated for the Memorial Park fence could be added to the play equipment budget of \$54,854, to enable the work to be done during 2011 – 2012. However staff have advised that the Memorial Park fence funds cannot be used as the decision on the fence was only to defer the decision on the fence for 12 months. .

Glenn will prepare a playground plan after consulting with the public before coming back to the board with draft plans..

8.3 **Play Equipment at Memorial Park**

This equipment also needs an upgrade, but is regarded as secondary to Deck's Reserve.

Glenn suggested the steel work should be repainted, and some minor repairs done, at a cost of \$5,000.

There may be Department money available for this, should the Reserve levies account not be available.

8.4 **Memorial Park Drainage**

I have had an offer to trial some drainage sumps at the northern end of Memorial Park – away from any tree roots – along the back line of the soccer pitch and in front of the goal area.

Glenn wasn't convinced that such sumps would be successful – the gravel is already close to the surface and the top 100mm would need to be soil and grass.

He considered the park was in good condition, compared with others in the District, and allowing for all the wet weather. He would however, discuss the drainage offer with Lloyd Kennedy.

8.5 Stormwater outside the Tennis Club Pavilion

Glenn thought it was possible to resolve this matter with a short drain to the existing sump/drain. He would discuss with Steve Elkington in Engineering.

8.6 Glenn expected to have the playground plans for the July 2011 meeting (ie Ledger Avenue Reserve), with prices.

8.7 Recommendation

- a) **That the Parks and Reserves staff consult with the public regarding the Deck's Reserve play equipment upgrade and then prepare a plan for consideration by the Community Board. Note: The cost of this playground upgrade could be spread over two financial years.**
- b) **That play equipment at the Ledger Avenue Reserve be put in place, subject to a plan being acceptable to the Motueka Community Board, to a maximum of \$20,000;**
- c) **That the Community Services Department be formally requested to liaise with Engineering Services to resolve the drainage problem outside the Motueka Tennis Pavilion in Memorial Park.**

9. Items from the Annual Plan 2011 – 2012
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- 9.1 Interest rate on Council debt be 6.6% for 2011 – 2012
- 9.2 Council debt on 9 June 2011 was \$130 million
- 9.3 Council's contribution to LAPP increased by \$67,000 to \$268,000.
- 9.4 Council approves, in principle, joining the Local Government Funding Agency Scheme.
- 9.5 Motueka Swimming Pool capital funding retained at \$750,000 (District Facilities Rate)
- 9.6 Airport grass runway deferred for 12 months to 2012 – 2013
- 9.7 Airport Management, Development and Emergency Plans to be written (\$15,000)
- 9.8 Wastewater treatment plant budget reduced to \$500,000 to cover any land purchase costs. Design, consents and rib trial have been completed.
- 9.9 Undergrounding power lines in High Street, Motueka has been deferred for one year to 2012 – 2013.

9.10 Some items not included:

- a full upgrade of the Riwaka – Kaiteriteri Road
- various works at Port Motueka
- Manoy Street – Talbot Street link
- Upgrade of the walkway/cycleway from Old Wharf Road to Harbour Road
- Litter cart funding

10. Proposed Rates for 2011 – 2012 (all figures exclude GST)

- General Rate @ 0.2060 cents per capital value (CV)
- UAGC @ \$251.11
- Stormwater @ 0.0410 cents per CV
- Water Supply @ \$1.50 per m³
- Motueka Supply @ \$66.97
- Stephens Bay/Kaiteriteri @ \$109.33
- Wastewater @ \$550.92
- Regional River @ 0.1123 cents per Land Value (LV) for X and Y areas
- Regional River @ 0.237 cents per LV for Z area
- District Facilities Rate @ \$42.90
- Motueka stop Bank Rate @ 0.0084 cents per LV for Area A
- Motueka Stop Bank Rate @ 0.0016 cents per LV for Area B
- Shared Facilities Rate @ \$47.80
- Facilities Operations Rate @ \$27.65
- Museum Facilities @ \$48.75
- Refuse/Recycling @ \$111.07
- Mapua Rehabilitation @ \$10.67
- Tourism Rate @ \$100
- Motueka Community Board @ \$12.57
- Torrent Bay Replenishment @ \$1,333 (a) and \$400 (B)

The overall increase will vary from area to area, but on average will be 6.05%. This includes a 1.98% levy for the flood damage during 2010 – 2011 to replenish the relevant Disaster Funds.

11. Motueka Airport

11.1 At the June 2011 meeting, the Board deferred discussion on the Motueka Airport.

11.2 A new resolution is suggested:

“That the Motueka Community Board requests the Tasman District Council to begin a process to transfer governance and operational issues for the Motueka Airport from the Council’s Enterprises Subcommittee to a new subcommittee comprising representatives of the Motueka Community Board, Tasman District Council, Airport “users” and with an independent Chairperson.”

11.3 Notes:

- a) The new subcommittee could be of 5 – 7 members, possibly with two from each of the Board, Council, “users”, with an independent Chairperson. Secretarial and management services could be retained within the Motueka Council administration.
- b) Transfer to the new structure could occur at any time during 2011 – 2012 Council year, but to take effect no later than 1 July 2012.

12. Litter

12.1 The litter problem is growing!

12.2 Ideally, every person should take ownership of their littler, but it is too easy to discard cans, bottles, paper etc.

12.3 Keep Motueka Beautiful Committee’s Litter Cart was very successful but was not sustainable for funding reasons, mainly.

12.4 The possibility of the 2010 – 2011 surplus being used for the litter cart is worth serious consideration. The cost of an operator using the litter cart would be approximately \$10,000 for 12 hours per week – but this funding would not be sustainable either!

12.5 Should any surplus arising from the new delegations occur (eg Sunday market), it may be used for litter collection?

12.6 Any suggestions are welcomed. A solution to the problem is urgent.

12.7 Recommendation:

- a) **That the Motueka Community Board allocate \$10,000 from its Community Board account to fund a litter collector during 2011 – 2012.**

- b) That the litter collector be employed, as soon as possible, once the contractual details have been finalised with Council.**

13. Reserve Financial Contributions/Development Levies (DILs)

13.1 Arising from the debate/discussion with the Community Services Manager, Lloyd Kennedy, at the June 2011 meeting, I should explain my viewpoint towards aspects of the Reserves (DILs) funding.

13.2 Motueka Museum Exterior Restoration (\$25,000)

Tasman District ratepayers are to pay \$56.06 for the Museum Facilities Rate. This raises over \$1 million. Nelson City probably raises a similar amount, for a total exceeding \$2 million.

The District's museums in Murchison, Golden Bay and Motueka receive less than \$100,000, which is 15.3% of the \$280,000 which the Motueka Ward itself provides.

Sensibly, the repair and maintenance of the Museum building (roof and exterior) should come from the Museum Facilities Rate – it does not!

Council received a report (15 April 2011) that the restoration could cost \$150,000 and that money be allocated accordingly if the 2011 – 2012 Annual Plan. The current estimate for the project is \$73,812, to which has been added a contingency factor raising the cost to \$100,000.

Motueka (and District) ratepayers are paying a Museum Facilities Rate, which does not include its District Museum facilities.

Apart from the rate, Council and the Museum have a contract. The lease between the Tasman District Council and the Motueka Museum states: "The building exterior ... to be the total responsibility of the Tasman District Council and to include all future maintenance, repair ...". The implication is that the District Council will fund (through general rate, if not the museum rate) any repairs. Currently this happens for mainly maintenance jobs. Is there a depreciation factor for this type of activity?

It does not seem contractually fair or appropriate, for the Motueka Museum restoration project to be funded out of the Reserves Development Levies. The museum frontage is a reserve, but not the Museum building.

The Community Services Manager has advised that the building is not the Museum but the activity inside the building. The Museum Rate has been set based on a tight budget and unless the rate was increased there is no spare funds in this account.

13.3 **Library Feasibility Study (\$20,000)**

Similar surveys in Richmond (for the extension of the District Library) and in Golden Bay (for construction of their new library) have been funded from the District's general rate.

The same method should apply for the proposed extension (or relocation) for the Motueka Library.

The Community Services Manager has advised that Reserve Financial Contributions are used for Library Books and work around libraries such as the former drive through area of the Richmond library.

13.4 **Sportspark Carpark (\$103,257)**

The proposed carpark is to service the Sportspark facility and the "planned-for" swimming pool. (Both facilities are funded by the District Facilities Rate).

The standard arrangement, as applied to comparable facilities at Upper Moutere, Richmond Aquatic Centre, Motueka Recreation Centre, is that the car parking cost come from the District Facilities Rate.

This is not happening for Motueka and the reasons supplied ("a condition of the resource consent") don't indicate why the policy has not been followed.

The Community Services Manager has advised that there is no policy regarding carparks and facilities and in fact the only one of those mentioned that was funded from the Facilities Rate was the Moutere Hills Centre. The Richmond Pool received \$2.1m of Reserve Financial Contributions and only \$2.0m from the Facilities Rate and the Recreation Centre carpark is not being funded from the Facilities Rate.

13.5 These three situations, **in my opinion**, reflect a concerning inconsistency by the Council in setting these rates and policies.

13.6 \$145,000 in total (and likely to increase to over \$200,000) is being denied for other reserves fund projects in Motueka Ward, which meet the appropriate criteria.

14. Bruce Mitchell Sculpture

- 14.1 Mike Tasman-Jones e-mail (30 June 2011) that, subject to some building consents etc, the sculpture could be in position by mid to late September 2011.
- 14.2 Earlier, I received a letter from the Motueka Arts Council asking for further details. The Mike Tasman-Jones e-mail had been sent to the Arts Council secretary (Pam Marchant) and I followed with an e-mail suggesting any responses to be forwarded by our 12 July 2011 meeting.

15. Abel Tasman Foreshore Reserve Management Plan

- 15.1 The presentation on 30 June 2011 was attended by approximately 50 people, representing a wide-range of interest.
- 15.2 I have asked Mark Chapman to prepare a draft submission from the Community Board which needs to be considered and finalised before submissions close on 8 August 2011.

16. Community Outcomes

- 16.1 Submissions are due by end of July 2011 and will be discussed at the Community Board meeting on 9 August 2011.

17. Projects

- 17.1 The Council approved the \$5 increase (\$4.34 excluding GST) for the Community Board at its meeting on 30 June 2011.
- 17.2 This approval is subject to the Board “undertaking further consultation with the Motueka Ward community on what the funding ... is to be spent on,” and also subject to the Board “working with Council staff on the delivery and implementation of the projects”.
- 17.3 An advertisement in a local weekly newspaper is, possibly the best consultation means (similar to that used for High Street last year). A “mock-up” will be prepared for the Board meeting, for discussion.

18. DRAFT RESOLUTION

THAT the Motueka Community Board receives the Chair's Report (RMCB11-07-02).

Appendices:

Motueka Ward Reserves Projects
Community Board Delegations Report
Motueka and Pohara Water Supplies

Meetings and Activities : June 2011

June	
1	Met with Don Clifford (MWH), Cr Eileen Wilkins and local resident Scott Sinclair to inspect and discuss Motueka River flood control
6	Discussion with TDC staff whether the old and disused toilets at Memorial Park could be available for Sports Clubs' storage
9	Attended District Council meeting on the draft annual plan. The Board's \$5 "extra" rate was approved.
10	Met with John Charleton (Chief Operating Officer for Ngati Rarua Atiawa Iwi Trust) to discuss a likely agenda for our 25 July 2011 meeting.
11/12	Heavy rain locally with stormwater problems occurring.
13	Motueka Museum Trust Board meeting Our Town Motueka meeting
14	Motueka Community Board monthly meeting. Lloyd Kennedy attended re Reserves Fund allocations. Mark Tregurtha explained the long term plan process – initial submissions close on 9 August 2011.
16	Local Government Commission's presentation of the draft reorganisation scheme for the union of Nelson City and Tasman District. (Further submissions close on 16 August 2011; a final scheme likely in early 2012 followed by a referendum.
17	Met with local resident re the availability of Broadband in Motueka.
18	Attended SeniorNet Digital Interest Group Photography Exhibition and Competition. I presented the prizes on behalf of the Community Board. A stunning, artistic display. Another period of heavy rain locally
20	Attended Abbeyfield Motueka Management Committee meeting Attended Keep Motueka Beautiful Committee monthly meeting.
21	Attended Tasman Bay Promotions Association meeting
23	Brief appearance at Engineering Services Committee Attended Motueka High School Community Issues class re the proposed "new" library for Motueka. Their survey showed a preference for a two-storeyed upgrade on the existing site. Glennis Coote and Helen McCubbin (District Library Manager and Motueka Librarian respectively) also attended. Attended Rotary Motueka function to induct the incoming President (Peter Herrick) who replaces Paul Heyward. Mariri orchardist Dan Strong, was given a special presentation becoming a Paul Harris Fellow for his long community service.
24	Met Glenn Thorn re various play equipment projects for Motueka 2011 2012; also some drainage issues in Memorial Park. Meet Chris Auchinvole (MP) to discuss ongoing transportation issues (High Street and Bypass), Freedom Camping legislation, the Local Government Commission's recommendations.

25	Attended Motueka Memorial RSA's AGM. Philip Sharkie re-elected as President.
28	Met with Bob Cooke and Leo van Workum regarding the Wharf Road walkway project and the draft resource consent conditions. Start expected in mid – late August 2011. Attended the Nelson Cycle Trails Trust presentation in Mapua. (Motueka Trustee is Darryl Wilson). Emphasis on the potential economic benefits from the trail and specific “hubs”.
29	Met Guy Barns from Going Digital, NZ, re digital television broadcasting signal by April 2013 in our area.
30	Attended Abel Tasman Foreshore Reserve Management Plan presentation. (NB Submissions close 8 August 2011)