

STAFF REPORT

TO: Motueka Community Board
FROM: Service Centres Manager
REFERENCE: E859
DATE: 20 March 2006
SUBJECT: March 2006 Report

FROM LAST MEETING

Policing Issues

Following up from the concern of one speaker at the public forum regarding vandalism, I have received a reply letter from Snr Sergeant G D Andrews of the Motueka Police that the recent spate of vandalism was the result of a small group of youths, the majority of whom have been apprehended and facing youth aid action.

Regarding the incidents at the Sportspark Motueka Stadium, three youths have been charged in relation to the recent fire. Patrols have been increased to curb vandalism at the stadium and this has been effective.

Motueka Riverbank Clean-Up

As suggested by the Board, the Department of Corrections Community Workers were asked to carry-out removal of litter and rubbish dumped along the riverbank and an inspection carried out on the 17th March 2006 revealed that they have done a terrific job. There still remains a few pockets of refuse to be cleaned and I have passed those 'black spot' areas onto the Community Workers Supervisor for attention. The public are now asked to please keep an eye on this area and report any dumping that they find, so that we can get it sorted quickly and hopefully fine the offenders.

Bikewise

Whilst the Board got into the spirit of Bikewise week, we has a number of Motueka Service Centre staff who also did their bit to get on their bikes during that week and at the time of writing this report we have two Service Centre Staff on the Rainbow Rage!

TOPICAL ISSUES

Rivercare Meeting

The proposed Rivercare Meeting which was to be held later this month has been deferred pending completion of an extensive report by River Asset Engineer, Phil Drummond. The report will, amongst other things provide clear guidelines and priorities for the Rivercare Group when it does meet.

Informal Camping

One of the continuing issues I noted during my riverbank inspection was the number of campers on the riverbank. Bob Cooke has told me that the Saltwater Baths Carpark is also a camping problem area at times.

Whilst most campers are considerate and keep their camp area tidy, there are a few that are not adverse to using the ground as a toilet as evident by the accompanying trail of toilet paper. Also campers can preclude the use of the area by daytime visitors by blocking access routes and crowding out the many facilities that do exist in these areas.

Councils policy on freedom camping precludes camping in tents and only self-contained motorhomes/campervans can avail themselves of this provision. Also there are areas where even these self-contained campers are not permitted and where permitted, the maximum length of stay is just two days.

I have asked Councils Control Services Contractor to carry out some checks and have also confirmed that there are plenty of legitimate camping sites available in the licenced camping grounds in the area. Whilst there is a charge to pay, there are proper sanitary facilities and other services (such as laundry), available at licenced camping grounds.

Joint Board Forum

The draft agenda for the Joint Boards' Forum has been completed and venue booked is the upstairs conference room at Siefried's Winery. The morning session which commences at 10.00am will be open to the public and this session will include the presentation from the Rt Hon Georgina Beyer MP.

Motueka Aerodrome Open Day

This open day which was an initiative by the airport tenants should be a wonderful opportunity for residents to have a good look at what happens at their airport.

Members of the Council's Enterprises Subcommittee had a conducted tour following their February meeting held in Motueka and I believe that they were very impressed with the range of activities being carried out, and the professionalism and enthusiasm of all our tenants and their support staff.

Cumulatively the aerodrome is probably one of the most significant employers of people in the area and also it attracts many locals and visitors alike, be it simply to arrange an air taxi from A to B or to engage in some of the exciting thrills available, not only from aerobatics and skydiving, but from participating or just watching the drag racing events.

A verbal update on the open day will be provided at the Board's meeting.

Energy Savings

I attended the first day of a two day seminar held by the Energy Efficiency Conservation Authority (EECA) which included some guest speakers who had very sobering opinions regarding fossil fuel depletion and carbon emissions situation.

The substance of the report was referred to senior management team and the team is looking at the possibility of a working group to focus on these issues although sadly a great deal of what's happening is beyond this Council or this Country. Nevertheless it doesn't stop each one of us making an effort to conserve energy.

The Service Centres will be doing their bit to conserve power as a starter. Two of the simplest things that can be done is to switch off appliances (including computers) when not in use rather than to leave them on in stand-by mode. (Nationally \$66million dollars of energy is wasted through appliances left in stand-by mode). Also the switch from standard to low energy bulbs will not only save you the trouble of replacing bulbs as frequently, but they only use about a small proportion of the power of standard bulbs.

Motueka Skatepark

A query has been raised about installing two toilets at Motueka Skatepark. The cost for one toilet is \$39,000.00 plus associated project costs. The cost for installing two toilets will mean an extra \$24,000.00 on top of the total current project price.

The estimate for two toilets is \$63,267.00 without consent fees, ground tests or architects fees, which are anticipated to cost approximately \$7,000.00. This brings the project to over \$70,000. The budget that has been allowed for this project is \$65,000.00.

The Motueka Community Board needs to advise of its preference of one or two toilets for this project, bearing in mind the extra costs would have to be funded from Motueka DILS.

ENGINEERING SERVICES WORKS THIS MONTH (Information Provided by Steve Elkington)

Woodlands Ave/Monahan St Walkway

Fulton Hogan has been requested to install a pram crossing at Woodlands Ave end of this walkway. The steel plate covering the stormwater structure is to be bolted down, and a small lip caused by a concrete footpath slab settling is to be removed.

Greenwood St - Redundant No Stopping Lines

The No Stopping Lines in front of the former Stanton's Garage site are to be blacked-out and eventually removed.

Motueka Street Lighting

Further upgrade of street lighting in Motueka has been approved and will be undertaken this financial year. This work is being funded from Council's Subsidised Roothing - Minor Safety Budget.

Minor Road Safety Works - Motueka

The proposed minor safety works planned around Motueka including Alexander Bluff Bridge intersection on Motueka Valley Highway, is presently underway. The Contract for this work was awarded to Concrete & Metals Ltd.

Bob Askew

Service Centres Manager

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