

STAFF REPORT

TO: Motueka Community Board
FROM: Service Centres Manager
REFERENCE: E859
DATE: 19 June 2006
SUBJECT: June 2006 Report

FROM LAST MEETING

Reinstatement of Fearon and Thorp Streets

The matter raised by Les Simpson was referred to Eric Newport, consulting engineer from MWH, who services Motueka.

Eric's report was referred to Engineering Services Consents Officer for response.

Both the report and response are attached for information.

Poster Tower

This was referred to Council's Recreation Co-ordinator, Mike Tasman Jones, and was also discussed with Our Town Motueka Co-ordinator, Jacqui Taylor.

This is a project that is a 'work in progress' and there will be further meetings with Council staff and Our Town Motueka between writing this report and the Board meeting, so any updates I will provide verbally.

Street Sweeping

The matter of clearing blocked street gutters was raised at last month's Board Meeting. The level of service for this activity was raised with Council's Engineering Services Department. They advise that this matter is provided for in a contract with Fulton Hogan that requires them to keep streets and footpaths within central business districts clear of debris at all times. This includes leaf drop in gutters and they increase frequency of street sweeping at this time of the year. With regard to High Street the sweeping, the subcontractor sweeps this regularly and carries out the sweep early in the morning before cars are parked so their presence is probably not so apparent although the work is being done. The contractors sweep High St every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the same time as they empty the rubbish bins.

Intersections and Crossings

I have discussed this matter with Council's Administrative Adviser, Sandra Hartley, and also Board Member Fry.

The provisions of Standing Orders 3.9.15 would indeed require a notice of such revocation being sent to the Chief Executive five clear working days before the meeting proposing to change the motion, and would have to be signed by not less than one third of the members of the local authority.

An alternative and more practical way for the Board to change resolution MK06/04/09 is for the Board Members to vote to dispense with Standing Orders as provided in Clauses 2.1.3 & 3.2.1, which provides that "A local authority or committee may temporarily suspend one or more standing orders during a meeting by a vote of not less than 75% of the members present and voting. The reason for the suspension and the specific order suspended must be stated in the resolution of suspension".

The standing order to be suspended would be 3.9.15 and the reason would be to permit a variation of resolution MK/06/04/09 to direct the Board's concerns through the Engineering Services Manager, with copies to other Government Agencies for information rather than send the letter direct to the Minister of Transport as originally proposed.

Recommended Resolution

That the Motueka Community Board as provided in Clauses 2.1.3 and 3.2.1 suspends standing orders 3.9.15, so that the Board may rescind motion MK/06/04/09 which reads:

"THAT the Motueka Community Board write to the Minister of Transport advising of their concerns about anomalies in the warrant system for pedestrian crossings - using Motueka as an example. A copy of the letter is to be copied to the local MP's and to the Director of Land Transport New Zealand."

And to replace with a new motion to read:

"THAT the Motueka Community Board write to Council's Engineering Services Committee advising of their concerns about anomalies in the warrant system for pedestrian crossings - using Motueka as an example. The Board also requests that the Committee resolves to ask the relevant Government Agencies to consider options for dispensations to the warrant system for pedestrian crossings where special circumstances can be determined to promote the development of such crossings notwithstanding the prescriptive standards in the warrant rules. A copy of the letter is to be copied to the Minister of Transport, local MP's and to the Director of Land Transport New Zealand. Further that a covering letter be sent with the copy of the letter to Damien O'Connor MP requesting his assistance in this matter"

The reason for suspending standing orders is to provide a simpler and more practical way to vary the subject resolution.

In addition the proposed procedure has been considered at a Board workshop held on 20 June 2006 and has been agreed to.

River Care Group

The inaugural Rive Care Group Meeting for the Motueka area was convened on the 13 June 2006. The Motueka Community Board Chair, after introducing Council's River Engineer, Phil Drummond, asked him to brief the attendees on the purpose of the proposed Group following which a call for nominations for Chair and Deputy Chair was made, with Tony Fry being elected Chairman and David Ogilvie Deputy Chairman.

Shortly after those formal proceedings had concluded, myself and the Board Chair retired from the meeting.

Marahau Bridges

The issue of sand build-up under the Marahau Bridges raised by Cr Inglis was referred to Council's Engineering and Environment and Planning Staff. The material is considered to be a natural build-up and DOC had concerns that any removal would reduce spawning areas for whitebait and that to off-set this additional channels would need to be created in the estuary. The requirements for resource consents plus the fact that the build up is a natural and recurring phenomenon has resulted in Council not proceeding with this.

TOPICAL ISSUES

Representation Review

The Board will be aware that at the meeting of the 1 June 2006, the Council decided to stick with the 'Status Quo' rather than follow the model as provided in the Staff Report.

The Board should be aware that if there are no submissions opposing the status quo, then the matter will not be subject to further consideration by the Electoral Commissioner.

It would be important to consider that the Electoral Commissioner may be required to follow the legislative parameters which could mean further consideration of the matter.

The only likely source of opposition would appear to be from Richmond Ward who 'miss out' on an extra Councillor.

In view of the potential for the matter to be put before the Electoral Commissioner, I would recommend that this Board makes a submission supporting the Council's decision to keep the status quo, but adding that if any submission in opposition are obtained, that the Board would reserve its right to be heard before the Electoral Commissioner to support the three Councillor plus Community Board option for Motueka Ward.

Note that the Golden Bay Community Board has made a similar resolution and in addition are actively seeking support from the Golden Bay Community.

Fire Wells

It has been reported in the papers the comments made by the Takaka Fire Chief following a confidential report to Council's Engineering Committee of the 8 June 2006.

The following resolution from that meeting has been confirmed in open meeting:

THAT the Engineering Services Committee approve the funding to undertake the feasibility report to:

- a) Establish a pressurised reticulation system around the Takaka Commercial Business District, including estimated costs and methods of payment for such a reticulation network.**
- b) Undertake pipework linkages between the existing pressurised reticulation extremities in Motueka including costs and methods of payment.**
- c) Report back to the Engineering Services Committee by October 2006 with a proposal to resolve the fire-fighting issues in the commercial areas of Takaka and Motueka that satisfies both Council and the New Zealand Fire Service needs.**

Business After 5

On Thursday 15 June 2005 the Board Chair and I attended a 'Business After Five' Meeting organised by Commerce Nelson in conjunction with Our Town Motueka, Bowater Motors and BNZ. Convenor was Sharon McGuire, Chief Executive of Commerce Nelson, and keynote Speaker was Bill Findlater, CEO of the Nelson Economic Development Agency.

The message from Bill was generally one of continual positive imaging for our region and to shut out negativism which can be very destructive. Bill also noted the need to provide a holistic approach to development so that not only wealth, but good social outcomes were achieved.

Following the meeting Cliff asked whether Sharon would be available as a keynote speaker for the Board, and Sharon has indicated positively on this but because of prior commitments cannot attend until the August Board meeting.

Office Changes

The AA/LTSA Service was recently relocated from the Motueka Service Centre to the offices of the Nelson Building Society (NBS) which is located in High Street next to the AMI offices.

The changeover went smoothly and we wish both AA and NBS every success for the future.

Maxine will be leaving her job as Office Senior to take on a new challenge as a PA with the Nelson District Health Board.

It would take too long to express how much we all have appreciated Max's drive and enthusiasm, and it is a mark of her qualities that she expressly has given longer notice of resignation than required so that she could not only attend this Board Meeting, but get the minutes out as well.

Maxine will leave us on 30 June 2006 and we wish her all the very best for the future in her new role so this will be the last Board meeting for her.

Bob Askew

Service Centres Manager

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