

STAFF REPORT

TO: Motueka Community Board
FROM: Service Centres Manager
REFERENCE: E859
DATE: 15 July 2006
SUBJECT: July 2006 Report

FROM LAST MEETING

Civil Defence Contingencies

The matter raised by John Craze was referred to Jim Burrows, Emergency Management Officer for the Nelson/Tasman Area and Jim was keen to liaise with Grey Power through John to provide an appropriate seminar on emergency management.

Poster Tower

Progress on this is to look at a first tower located on the southern side of the Motueka Museum site. Both the Museum Curator (Pauline) and Coordinator of Our Town Motueka (Jacqui Taylor) have no problems with the proposed location but as the land is just within the Parklands School Title (although within the fenced area of the Museum) I still need to contact the Parklands School Principal for comment. Jacqui has suggested that rather than a basic pole tower that the tower have a brick circular base that would be in keeping with the Museum brickwork and could also double up as a seating area.

Fearon Street Reinstatement

I undertook a site visit with Les Simpson who had raised concerns regarding the poor standard of reinstatement work following the stormwater upgrade down Fearon Street.

Inspection showed that the road surface was very poor in some places (see pictures attached).

I later did a further inspection with Council Consulting Engineer, Eric Newport, who advised that the works had not been accepted and would not be until improvements made and that some temporary patching would be done meanwhile to fill potholes.

Eric also noted that work on the Proposed Fearon Subdivision which is currently proceeding will also temporarily exacerbate road conditions but that the final outcome which will include kerb and channelling down Fearon Street will be much improved.

OTHER ISSUES

Representation Review

The submissions are in and hearings will include one at the St John's Hall on 31 July commencing 9.30 am for those who have requested to be heard on their submission. Note submitters will be advised of their allocated time to be present at the hearing.

Stormwater Problems

I have had previous concerns raised to me about the functioning of the stormwater catchment area located on the new subdivision at Glenaven Drive. Recently I had a call from Murray Helliwell regarding the water ponding in this area and that he was having problems (even at this time of year) with mosquitoes. I have inspected the area on the date of this report and noted that indeed a lot of water lies in the catchment area (long after rain has ceased – see pictures attached).

Following an on-site meeting with Council's Utilities Asset Engineer, Jeff Cuthbertson, it appears that what on first look might be a straight forward matter to fix is not quite that simple. The concept apparently is working as it was designed to and as required by the Resource Consent conditions. That is it is a drainage ponding area that also serves as a wetland. The pond is designed to cater for a five yearly flood intensity and 'improving' the drainage by building up the ground to form an effective cross-fall would reduce its capacity significantly to perform its primary function as a stormwater drainage area. The base of the ponding area is currently below the ground water table level so the area never dries up at this time of year. The concern amongst residents is in regards to safety with small children being at risk and also the potential for mosquito breeding as stated earlier.

Jeff is to organise a clean-up of the area to improve drainage following which any further opportunities to improve the environmental conditions of the ponding area will be looked at.

Community Awards

An extremely creditable showing from the many brilliant community groups operating in the Motueka Area at these awards.

Great to see Taste Tasman getting the Supreme Award at this event and also BIG congratulations to Motueka Special Olympics who were winners of the Sport and Leisure Award. Also well done to Ngatimoti Parent Group who were runners up in the Child/Youth Development category.

It was also my privilege together with Pat Frater to receive the Health and Well-Being runners-up Award on behalf of the Motueka Branch of NZ Red Cross at the Tasman Community Awards.

The work of all community groups is often overlooked in society but they provide an incredible amount of free service to our communities and it was great that TrustPower has provided this initiative to recognise and showcase the work of Community Groups.

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Bob Askew
Service Centres Manager

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