

Report of the ordinary meeting of the Community Services Committee held in the Council Chambers, 29 Bowler Avenue, Gore on Tuesday 14 March 2017, at 4.03pm.

**Present** His Worship the Mayor (Tracy Hicks, JP), Cr P Grant (Chairperson), Crs Beale, Bolger, Davis, Dickson, Gardyne, D Grant, Phillips, Reid and Sharp.

**In Attendance** The Chief Financial Officer (Mr Luke Blackbeard), General Manager Regulatory and Planning (Dr Ian Davidson-Watts), Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper), Transport Manager (Mr Peter Standing), Communications Manager (Sonia Gerken), Building Control Manager (Mr Russell Paterson), 3 Waters Asset Manager (Mr Matt Bayliss), Senior Corporate Support Officer (Ceri Macleod), Library Manager (Ms Lorraine Weston-Webb), Events and Promotions Coordinator (Ms Emma Carle), Policy and Planning Officer (Miss Emma Williams), Animal Control Officer (Mr David McKewen), 3 Waters Project Manager (Mr Sam Bunting), District Arts and Heritage Curator (Mr Jim Geddes), Director, Signal Management Group (Mr Shokit Ali), and one member of the public in the gallery.

**Apologies** Cr Highsted and the Chief Executive apologised for absence.

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Cr P Grant called for any conflicts of interest. None were declared.

1. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT ARTS AND HERITAGE CURATOR - DECEMBER 2016 – FEBRUARY 2017

The Committee perused a report from the District Arts and Heritage Curator from December 2016 to February 2017.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr D Grant, seconded by Cr Gardyne THAT the report be received.**

2. REPORT FROM THE EVENTS AND PROMOTIONS COORDINATOR

The Committee perused a report from the Events and Promotions Coordinator.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Beale, seconded by Cr Phillips THAT the report be received.**

3. REPORT FROM PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER

The Committee perused a report from the Parks and Recreation Manager.

The Manager advised that work on refurbishing the trout statue had been completed since writing the report.

The Manager advised in response to Cr D Grant that the hanging baskets on the west side of Main Street had suffered considerably from mildew this year as a direct result of the weather. He added the affected hanging baskets would be taken down within the next fortnight.

The Manager advised in response to Cr Beale that the GO RE roadside banners were replaced as required, usually every 18 months. He explained the Council had been experiencing some difficulties in replacing worn-looking banners on the State Highway due to access issues and the associated cost of NZTA compliance. A different system of securing and accessing the banners was being investigated. Cost has been a factor and would be reviewed further once costs were known. The Manager also explained the colour had been getting washed out relatively quickly due to the harsh nature of the sunlight.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr D Grant, seconded by Cr Beale THAT the report be received.**

4. REPORT FROM GORE DISTRICT LIBRARY MANAGER – DECEMBER 2016-FEBRUARY 2017

The Committee perused a report from the District Library Manager.

The Manager provided an update on the condition of the tile surface at the main doors. Resurfacing work had commenced and was approximately half completed with good progress being made.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Reid, seconded by Cr Dickson THAT the report be received.**

5. REPORT FROM AQUATIC SERVICES MANAGER – NOVEMBER 2016-FEBRUARY 2017

The Committee perused a report from the Aquatic Services Manager.

In the absence of the Aquatic Services Manager, the Parks and Recreation Manager spoke to the report and advised the Committee that the photos on page 19 should have been included in the Gore Aquatic Centre section of the report, not the section relating to the MLT Event Centre.

In response to Cr Davis, the Manager explained that public reaction to the recent pool closure had been generally positive and accepting of the issue.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr Sharp THAT the report be received.**

**6. REPORT FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS/PROMOTIONS MANAGER**

The Communications Manager spoke to her report and advised that work on the Visitor Centre had almost finished and would be completed in time for the Hokonui Moonshiners festival on Saturday. She also advised the Committee that the new merchandise had been selling well.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Reid, seconded by Cr Dickson THAT the report be received.**

**7. REPORT FROM GORE VISITOR CENTRE SENIOR CONSULTANT**

In the absence of the Visitor Centre Senior Consultant, the Communications Manager advised in response to Cr Gardyne that the significant increase in visitor enquiries had mostly been due to the greater visibility of the Visitor Centre. She suggested that approximately 80% of the increase in numbers could be attributed to greater visibility, and that stronger digital and social media presence was supporting this.

Cr Beale commented it was nice to see some new, quality merchandise for sale at the Visitor Centre.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr D Grant, seconded by Cr Phillips THAT the report be received.**

**8. REPORT FROM EASTERN SOUTHLAND NEWCOMERS NETWORK – SEPTEMBER 2016 - FEBRUARY 2017**

The Committee perused a report from the Eastern Southland Newcomers Network Coordinator.

Cr Bolger raised the issue of the 10,000 population increase identified in SoRDS and its potential implications on the region and this network.

Cr Gardyne questioned whether the Council should consider approaching the Southland District Council and Invercargill City Councils to contribute to the costs for

the provision of the service, given that the Coordinator worked more broadly across the region.

The Chief Financial Officer agreed this was an issue to keep in mind and that it would be looked into as part of the Council's future planning processes.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr D Grant THAT the report be received.**

The meeting concluded at 4.23pm