

Report of a meeting of the Community Services Committee, held in the Council Chambers, 29 Bowler Avenue, Gore, on Tuesday 5 March 2019, at 4.04pm.

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

**In Attendance** The Chief Executive (Mr Stephen Parry), Chief Financial Officer (Mr Luke Blackbeard), General Manager Regulatory and Planning (Dr Ian Davidson-Watts), General Manager Infrastructure (Mr Ramesh Sharma), Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper), Transport Manager (Mr Peter Standing), Project Manager Infrastructure (Mr Hashem Ramezan-zadeh), Communications/ Marketing Manager (Sonia Gerken), Corporate Support Officer (Suzanne Lucas) District Library Manager (Ms Lorraine Weston-Webb), Events and Promotions Coordinator (Ms Emma Carle), Aquatic Services Manager (Mr Martin Mackereth), Gore Visitor Centre Senior Consultant (Renatta Hardy), Building Control Manager Russell Paterson, Fran Davies (Planner – from 4.41pm), Frances Shepherd (Senior Regulatory Officer and two members of the public in the gallery).

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1. SPORT SOUTHLAND (SC2327)

The Council perused a memo from the Parks and Recreation Manager. A copy of the Sport Southland six monthly report had been circulated with the agenda.

The Manager introduced Gemma O’Neill who had replaced Martin Mackereth as the new Eastern Southland coordinator.

The Manager thanked Martin for his high level of service to the people of Eastern Southland.

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

**2. SOUTHLAND LEISURE STRATEGY (SC2268)**

The Council perused a report from the Parks and Reserves Manager updating the Council on the 2018 review of the 2002 Southland Leisure Strategy.

Sport Southland's General Manager, Vanessa Hughey, was in attendance at the meeting. She said the findings and recommendations of the review was presented to community funders and support had been given for the development of a Regional Spaces Plan. The intention was to approach territorial authorities to gauge whether there was an interest in becoming a partner.

Ms Hughey commented that the Gore District Council was the first to present the findings to its Councillors. It was anticipated that the strategy would be a collective approach to a challenging area of aging facilities and a growing demand for infrastructure in terms of new builds as well as upgrades and maintenance. The plan would attempt to provide opportunities for investors to make decisions based on good planning principals, regular updates on up and coming projects across the region and information on projects and priorities.

The cost of the plan would be approximately \$100,000-130,000. Sport NZ and Sport Southland would together cover 50% of that cost and territorial authorities would be approached as well as community funders to cover the remainder. The original cost to the Gore District Council had been estimated at \$10,000 but that had been revised and should now be no more than \$5,000.00.

His Worship asked what the timeframe was for implementation of the strategy and what was required of the Council.

Ms Hughey replied that the plan should be completed within the next 12 months. Sport Southland would fund 50% but was wanting funders to underwrite the remaining cost.

The Parks and Recreation Manager informed the Council Community Trust South fund could be approached into assistance.

Ms Hughey thanked the Council for the positive partnership it had with Sport Southland.

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

### 3. REPORT FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS/MARKETING MANAGER

A report from the Communications Marketing Manager had been received.

Vanessa Hughey and Gemma O'Neill left the meeting at 4.13pm.

The Chief Executive congratulated the Manager on the Council stand at the recent A & P Show and particularly noted the display visualising water supply to residents.

His Worship spoke favourably of the Antenna roll out and uptake.

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

### 4. REPORT FROM THE LIBRARY MANAGER

The Council perused a report from the Library Manager.

The Library Manager informed the Council of the success of the summer reading challenge and commented that there had been an increase in engagement compared to previous years.

The Manager said it was disappointing there had been incidents of vandalism at both Gore and Mataura Libraries. Cameras at the Gore Library had assisted in identifying the offender.

Cr Philips commented that the Mataura Community Board was looking at options for monitoring the area around the library in Mataura as there were some blind spots that needed to be addressed.

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

### 5. REPORT FROM TOURISM/VISITOR CENTRE SENIOR CONSULTANT

The Council perused a report from the Tourism/Visitor Centre Senior Consultant.

The Chief Executive endorsed the great job the Senior Consultant was doing and said that the statistics and customer feedback was reassuring. The Visitor Centre's team was providing a great image for Gore.

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

**6. REPORT FROM THE PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER**

A report from the Parks and Recreation Manager had been received.

The Manager said he attended a Predator Free 2050 presentation recently. The new predator control technology and techniques available could provide an opportunity for the Council to benefit from this methodology for pest management.

Cr Sharp said he was impressed with the flower beds on display around Gore and asked his compliments be passed onto the Parks team.

Cr Sharp expressed his concerns with regard to the lack of visibility hindered by trees at the Huron Street intersection. He had a near miss at the intersection recently and had great concern for the safety of motorists exiting Huron Street. He had the support from the police that the intersection was dangerous. He recommended a motion that the trees and shrubs be removed from that intersection to make it safe for vehicles turning onto State Highway 1.

The Chief Executive suggested that while Cr Sharp could put forward a recommendation for the removal of trees he suggested a better course of action would be for staff to prepare a report highlighting the issues and identifying what options were available to mitigate the problem.

Cr Sharp mentioned speed was also a factor with cars accelerating when approaching the 70km zone which was near the intersection. He said that he believed cars could increase their speed prior to reaching the 70km zone.

Cr Beale agreed that vehicles accelerated upon leaving the bridge and prior to the 70km sign.

Cr Davis asked if would be worthwhile obtaining feedback from the police regarding speed to complement the report.

His Worship said that the report needed to be wide ranging and input from Roading and Parks and Reserves regarding the nature of intersection, was necessary.

The Chief Executive said the trees would be looked at as well as the road alignment and traffic behaviour and there might be a multi-dimensional approach.

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

**AND THAT a report be prepared about the safety issues of the intersection of Huron Street and State Highway 1 seeking input from the local police to identify the source of the problem and potential options to overcome that problem.**

**7. REPORT FROM EVENTS AND PROMOTIONS COORDINATOR**

The Council perused a report from the Events and Promotions Coordinator

The Coordinator commented that the River Terrace Market day went well and there had been excellent feedback from the community. A survey had been distributed to participants for comment.

Cr Philips congratulated the Coordinator on the success of the event.

Cr Beale noted numbers at the Mandeville Fly In were down on previous years and asked if there would there be an opportunity to schedule these events on different days.

The Coordinator said the Market day was scheduled to commence after The Fly In had finished however this would be reviewed once the results of the survey have been received.

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

**8. REPORT FROM AQUATIC SERVICES MANAGER**

A report from the Aquatic Services Manager had been received.

Cr D Grant referred to the procedure around high winds and asked if the number of days of closing still stood at one.

The Manager confirmed that was the case.

Cr D Grant asked if the report from Opus regarding the design of the lateral roof support improvements would be peer reviewed.

The Chief Executive explained it was a detailed structural assessment that would be peer reviewed by Opus. He also confirmed there had not been any damage caused by exposure to wind gusts up until now. The protocol of evacuating the complex would only be an issue for the next 12 months at the most and the assessment had not revealed any other structural issues.

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

**9. ANTENNO LAUNCH**

A report from the Communications/Marketing Manager had been received.

The Manager said the launch of Antenno had been very successful and had been well received by the public.

Cr Reid asked if the public, when reporting an issue, included supporting photos.

The Chief Financial Officer said approximately 60% of reports had photos attached.

Cr Dickson asked if feedback was received by the customer through Antenno.

The Officer said Antenno was not used to provide feedback but that a customer services officer would contact them directly if needed.

Cr Bolger asked if the customer needed to be on site to log a call.

The Officer replied that was only necessary if the customer was using the GPS function.

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

**10. REPORT FROM DISTRICT ARTS HERITAGE CURATOR**

The Council perused a report from the District Arts Heritage Curator.

The Chief Executive presented the report in the Curator's absence. He praised the Hokonui Moonshiners' Festival and commented that the format of stages along with the food options and craft beers had provided a good balance throughout the event.

Cr Phillips mentioned that the Curator had been very helpful working with the Mataura Community Board advising on conservation of the railway station.

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

**11. REPORT FROM MIGRANT SERVICES COORDINATOR**

The Council perused a report from the Migrant Services Coordinator.

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

The meeting concluded 4.47pm.