

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A MEETING OF THE MATAURA COMMUNITY BOARD WILL BE HELD IN THE ELDERLY CITIZENS CENTRE, McQUEEN AVENUE, MATAURA, ON MONDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2006, AT 5:30 pm

**Steve Parry
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

12 September 2006

AGENDA

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
Confirmation of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Maitaura Community Board, held on Thursday 20 July 2006.
2. UPDATE ON BRIDGE STREET FUNDING (Page 1)
3. ASQUITH STREET SPEED PROBLEM (Pages 2-3)
4. MATAURA SWIMMING POOL HOURS (Pages 4-5)
5. MATAURA SWIMMING POOL UPDATE (Page 6)
6. TULLOCH PARK TOILETS (Page 7)
7. MATAURA COMMUNITY CENTRE (Pages 8-11)
8. REPORT FROM ROADING MANAGER (Page 12)
9. REPORT FROM PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER (Pages 13-15)
10. CUSTOMER SERVICE REPORT (Pages 16-23)
11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 20 November 2006

2. UPDATE ON BRIDGE STREET FUNDING

(Memo from General Manager, District Assets – 05.09.06)

The Board has requested an updated on the level of funding that is now available for the Bridge Street upgrade project. I can advise that the project is going to be managed by the Roading Manager and it is intended to commence the physical construction once major site works for the new Community Centre have been completed. This work will be completed just prior to the opening of the new facility.

The first funding for the project was allocated in the 2005/06 year's budget which was for a sum \$20,000. Another \$20,000 has been approved in the 2006/07 year and for each of the next ten years thereafter in the LTCCP. None of this money has been spent so there is a grand total of \$40,000 now available to fund the project.

Historically, \$5,000 was spent in the 2004/05 year on compilation of draft plans for the project. Although no funding was specifically budgeted for in 2004/05 it was able to be included as an expense in that year.

We intend to keep the Board updated as the project progresses and as milestones are reached.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received.

3. ASQUITH STREET SPEED PROBLEM

(Memo from Roading Manager – 08.09.06)

The residents adjacent to the no exit section of Asquith Street, south of Albion Street, (refer photo below) have expressed concern about an ongoing problem with “hoons” travelling at speed on this short section of gravel road. Several crashes have occurred where drivers have lost control and hit fences. The residents have reported a number of incidents to the Police in the past and some prosecutions have resulted. The road is apparently a favourite for the “hoons” to snake their vehicles on the gravel because in addition to being gravel it also has a flat, wide open road reserve.

Closing the road is not an option as it provides access, via a pedestrian bridge over the Waimumu Stream, to Burton Road.

Making the road less attractive for the hoons to play on is likely to be the best solution to the problem. Reduction of the road width or perceived width will achieve this.

It is therefore suggested that fencing be allowed close to the existing road edge. The road is in a 50km/hr speed restricted area so legitimate road users are unlikely to be detrimentally affected by doing this. Hazard reflectors would be installed at the northern end of the fence to warn motorists of the constriction at night.



RECOMMENDATION

THAT that fencing be permitted close to the existing road edge,

AND THAT hazard reflectors be installed at the northern end of the fence to warn motorists of the constriction at night.

4. MATAURA SWIMMING POOL HOURS

(Memo from General Manager, District Assets – 05.09.06)

The Aquatic Services Working Party has been progressing well. One of the issues that has arisen was changes to swimming pool hours to better fit with patronage levels versus expense. The Working Party has come up with a new proposal for the opening hours of the Matura pool which roughly cuts the hours open in half. This results in an approximately saving of \$35,000 on staff costs and makes the Matura operation more efficient when comparing opening hours versus the number of patrons utilising the facility.

The proposed hours are listed at the end of this memo and the Chair of the Pools Working Party, Cr Nicky Davis, will be at the meeting to speak with the Board.

One of the key indicators of pool performance can be measured by the ratio of expense versus fees and charges income. In recent years, the Matura pool has earned between 8 to 10% of the expense by fees and charges. In comparison, the Gore pool recovers between 24 to 28% of operational costs through fees and charges income.

The new opening hours proposal will close that gap somewhat to somewhere between 11 to 12% of the pool operating expense being able to be covered by fees and charges income. Although this movement is by no means substantial, it will help to make the Matura pool a more viable operation than it was previously.

The new hours have been arrived at by an analysis of usage patterns after ascertaining when the low use times and when high use periods usually occur. The Working Party, which includes representatives from Matura, unanimously agreed that a change in hours was required in Matura. However, the Working Party also recognised that there are different demands on the pool depending whether it is term time or holiday time. Therefore, two sets of hours have been formed to best meet these needs.

One of the key aspects of the proposal is that group bookings will be able to make arrangements outside of these hours should they wish to hire the facility, for example, schools. In addition, private lessons would be able to take place in the pool outside normal hours. This is because all Council instructors have their National Pool Lifeguard Awards and therefore can meet health and safety requirements while taking a private lesson. This arrangement is quite flexible, while still maintaining a more efficient pool operation.

The proposed hours are not set in stone and will be able to be reviewed periodically depending on demand and pool usage. The new hours should ensure that the Matura pool is able to recover a greater portion of its operational costs through the gate charge than it has been able to in the past. This must be a good thing to ensure the continued operation of the Matura Pool into the future.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Mataura Community Board endorse the new pool hours as shown below:

	Existing Term Hours	Proposed Term Hours*
	(55.5 hours per week)	(23 hours per week)
Monday	10.00 am - 5.30 pm	2.30 pm - 5:30 pm
Tuesday	10.00 am - 8.00 pm	10.00 am - 1.00 pm
Wednesday	10.00 am - 5.30 pm	2.30 pm - 5:30 pm
Thursday	10.00 am - 8.00 pm	10.00 am - 1.00 pm
Friday	10.00 am - 6.30 pm	2.30 pm - 5:30 pm
Saturday	11.00 am - 5.00 pm	1.00 pm - 5.00 pm
Sunday	11.00 am - 5.00 pm	1.00 pm - 5.00 pm
Public Holidays	11.00 am - 5.00 pm	closed

	Existing Holiday Hours	Proposed Holiday Hours*
	(55.5 hours per week)	(32 hours per week)
Monday	10.00 am - 5.30 pm	1.00 pm - 5.00 pm
Tuesday	10.00 am - 8.00 pm	11.00 am - 5.00 pm
Wednesday	10.00 am - 5.30 pm	1.00 pm - 5.00 pm
Thursday	10.00 am - 8.00 pm	11.00 am - 5.00 pm
Friday	10.00 am - 6.30 pm	1.00 pm - 5.00 pm
Saturday	11.00 am - 5.00 pm	1.00 pm - 5.00 pm
Sunday	11.00 am - 5.00 pm	1.00 pm - 5.00 pm
Public Holidays	11.00 am - 5.00 pm	closed

* Private or group bookings by appointment out of hours

5. MATAURA POOL UPDATE

(Memo from Assets Manager, Utilities – 08.09.06)

The report presented to the Mataura Community Board in July reported the problem of losing water from the pool. A camera was put into the old pipe that revealed a section of cast pipe had deteriorated and was losing water. Other joints in the pipe line also were showing signs of deterioration. The decision was made to install a new pipe.

Staff have now completed fitting a new discharge pipe from the main pool to the balance tank. This involved cutting the concrete from poolside to the balance tank including going under the storeroom. The pool was then filled and the water level has been checked with no new water entering the pool.

In addition, other work was carried out to meet the safety requirement with using chlorine gas for treatment of the water. This meant lining the chlorine room ceiling and sealing the door between the plant and chlorine room.

The following work was also undertaken:

- A foot valve was installed in the balance tank on the heat circulating pump intake pipe.
- The heat exchanger was dismantled and cleaned.
- The drive on the coal auger was replaced.
- Pipes from the boiler room to the pool were lagged.
- An air bleed valve was installed to the over head heating system.
- The slide was removed for painting and refitted.
- Other general maintenance items were completed to prepare for the forthcoming swimming season.

The boiler was started and at the time of writing this report the pool is at 26°C with still 2 weeks to achieve the desired temperature of 29°C .

Having all this work completed will allow for the pool water to be better controlled at the required temperature. The volume of cold water entering the pool will be reduced as a result and having to constantly heat the water from cold as we did last season will be avoided.

Staff plan for the boiler to be turned off in December for a day to allow for the firebox and all air supply lines to be cleaned. A warm period will be chosen to do this so the pool temperature can be maintained.

The pool will open for the new season on Saturday 23 September.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received.

6. TULLOCH PARK TOILETS

(Memo from Parks and Recreation Manager – 08.09.06)

Over the last month there have been quotes and estimates received for the planned upgrade of the Tulloch Park toilets to make them legally compliant with the building code for paraplegic access. Also the installation of electricity supplied from the pool site.

Costs/Estimates to date

Item	Estimate range	Total
Install power inc associated lights and night sensor	2.1K – 2.9 K	\$2,500
Convert Doors to sliding steel ones	3.4K	\$3,400
Building work, labour and incidentals, inc plumbing alterations	1.8K – 2.2K	\$2,000
		\$7,900

In addition to the above, Mr N Phillips has given the undertaking to open and close the trench for the power cable from the Pool to the toilet block, which will be a saving in costs outlaid.

As you can see from the table above, we are looking at approximately \$8,000 as being the cost to convert.

After discussions with the Chief Executive, we are in agreement that the cost of this conversion should be borne by and included in the new Community Centre funding equation, as the Community Centre project has necessitated the need for this conversion.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received.

7. MATAURA COMMUNITY CENTRE

(Memo from Chief Executive – 13.09.06)

As Board members will be aware funding requests have been submitted to both the Matura Licensing Trust and the Community Trust of Southland to secure additional funding for the Matura Community Centre project in light of the projected increase in cost from \$900,000 to \$1.2 million.

I attach copies of letters received from both of these institutions which stipulate that no decision on extra funding for the project can be made until questions posed by the Matura Licensing Trust are satisfactorily answered.

In the circumstances it would be appreciated if the Board could give consideration to the questions posed and be in a position to provide some feedback in order that I can compile suitable responses that address the concerns raised by both Trusts.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board provide guidance in respect of compiling responses to the questions posed by the Matura Licensing Trust and the Community Trust of Southland.

8. REPORT FROM ROADING MANAGER

1. Kana Forth Street Intersection

The survey for this project has been arranged and will be executed within the next few weeks. Permanent modification of the kerbed “nose” of the intersection will be completed first followed by the trial sand bagging of the new layout.

This work is expected to be completed by the end of October.

2. Glendhu Road Parking/Safety Issues

It is expected that the parking and entry signs will be in place prior to the Community Board meeting.

3. Road Maintenance Programme

Works Infrastructure have completed identifying pre-reseal repairs required on Mataura streets programmed for reseal. The pre-reseal repairs have been underway in Gore for some time and the Mataura repairs will follow on from those in Gore.

4. Reseal Programme

Tenders for the reseal contract for the 2006/07 have closed and the contract is about to be awarded. The recent rapid increase in world oil prices is likely to have some effect on tender prices and may in turn have an effect on the quantity of sealing able to be undertaken.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received.

9. REPORT FROM PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER

Spring is well and truly here with us now. There are blossoms appearing all around the town, camellias in full bloom and the early tree Magnolias are now showing colour. Along with this growth come the dreaded weeds, so the gardening teams are making a concerted effort to get on top of these now. In the nursery seed has been sown and pricking out is under way. This is a very tedious and labour intensive exercise and to keep on top of the heavy Spring workload we have employed another labour unit on a fixed term contract, to see us through.

We were found wanting last Spring in some key areas, namely the Spraying round and Main street maintenance and edging, so an adjusted team make-up and amended work streams within those teams, coupled with the extra labour input should see a better result this year.

The spray team is also very busy as the optimal time to get the initial weed growth under control is before the end of September, failure to do that by then leads to weeds setting seed and seeding in a very short space of time, then we have a problem for the whole season and beyond. An old saying of “one years seeding is seven years weeding” is very true.

The mowing teams are into their work now, and the regularity is increasing with the growth pattern. Whilst we did have a cold snap around 15 August, it was not long and cold enough to have much effect on growth patterns.

We have recently undertaken the six monthly audit of playgrounds. This is over and above the monthly checks that occur. They have highlighted some issues which we are in the process of addressing. Some are deferred maintenance items, others are items of equipment that has failed due to years of use, so replacement parts are being installed. Last month, Vic Herring the Council’s playground inspector, attended a one day course on playgrounds, playground safety and how to interpret NZS 5828:2004 the national standard pertaining to playgrounds. He found this very informative and learnt more about the practical application of the audit process that we are required to follow.

Physical Activity Strategy

Work on this is now well under way. The initial survey has been sent out to the community for consultation, and this will be followed up in October with Focus group meetings where more raw data will be gleaned. This data will form the basis for the strategies development.

The press release circulated prior to the Survey going out follows.

1. Overview from Brian Milne, ProphetIAM, Strategy Consultant

SURVEY ON PHYSICAL ACTIVITY TO BE DELIVERED TO HOUSEHOLDS IN THE DISTRICT THIS WEEK – BIKE AND POOL PASSES TO BE WON.

As part of the development of a physical activity strategy for the Gore district a survey is being undertaken to help determine current levels of activity and to identify barriers that may be stopping people from being more active. One individual in each household is requested to complete the survey and return to the Council.

The Strategy is being lead by the Gore District Council with funding support from SPARC.

A survey form will be delivered to each household in the district over the next week and people are encouraged to complete the survey by 22 September 2006 and return Freepost to the Gore District Council. All surveys returned by this date will go in a draw to win a bicycle from Murray Kawasaki and free swimming pool passes.

The benefits of an active lifestyle have been linked to people's health and well being for many years. Physical activity does not necessarily need to be sports or fitness activities but can include simple activities such as household chores or walking, as long as some physical activity is involved. SPARC states that at least 30 minutes per day of moderate physical activity is sufficient to contribute towards good health.

We may have a perception that as a whole we are a generally active and "sporty" nation, however national studies over recent years record that one third of both adults and young people are inactive. This means that they either do no physical activity or less than 2.5 hours per week.

Across NZ there is a significant increase in people who are overweight, and this is leading to a range of health problems, of which Type Two Diabetes is a major concern for health providers. If the continuing trend of an overweight and obese population continues, this issue and the costs of treatment will be one of this countries major future health issues. Improving nutrition, increasing physical activity and reducing obesity are three of the thirteen health priorities identified in the NZ Health Strategy. Research indicates that two out of five deaths are due to nutrition related risk factors (approximately 11,000 annually) of these 2,000 to 3,000 are due to a lack of adequate physical activity.

It is for this reason that nationally SPARC is promoting a more active lifestyle for the whole population through such campaigns as Push Play. The development of local physical activity strategies is being undertaken throughout the country so that local barriers to participation can be identified. From this information we will be able to identify priority actions that can be undertaken to help people to be more active, more often.

Management of the project is lead by a partnership of agencies including Sport Southland, Southland District Health Board, Gore Health Ltd, Public Health South, Hokonui Rununga and the District Schools.

For further information please contact: Ian Soper (Parks and Recreation Manager) Gore District Council.

2. Statement from His Worship the Mayor, Mr Tracy Hicks

“I believe that our Physical Activity Strategy is going to give good insight into our community and I fully support the reasons behind this strategy, knowing what our community wants so we can strive to deliver it to them”.

3. Statement from the Parks and Recreation Manager, Mr Ian Soper

“The information gleaned from a Physical Activity Strategy will prove invaluable for the future direction that the Gore District Council Parks and Recreation Department take over the coming years.” “We want to provide the people with what they want, and doing a survey and conducting focus groups to consult with the community is the best way of achieving this.”

With the Gore District having a fairly stable community we can be confident that the needs of the community this year, is not going to change in the near future. We would also like to acknowledge the financial support given from SPARC to enable this strategy to happen.

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Mataura Walkway upgrade

In late August a start was made utilising Parks and Reserves staff. Vic Herring is overseeing the work, assisted by Periodic Detention labourers. Initially posts have been dug in and concreted and these will be left to harden before the railings and batons are added.

Ian Soper
PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER

10. CUSTOMER SERVICE REPORT

(Memo from Chief Executive – 08.09.06)

Attached is a summary of customer service requests received for the period 11 July until 11 September 2006.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received.