

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE, WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE, ON TUESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2006, AT 4:00 pm

**Steve Parry
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

6 September 2006

A G E N D A

1. Operations Bulletin (Page 1)
2. Gore Water Tower (Pages 2-4)
3. River Terrace Reserve Vandalism (Pages 5-6)

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE AGENDA

SEPTEMBER 2006

1. OPERATIONS BULLETIN

The Operations Bulletin, containing reports from the District Promotions Manager, District Arts and Heritage Curator, Deputy Librarian, Aquatic Services Manager, Parks and Recreation Manager, Roading Manager, Civil Defence Officer and the Animal Control Contractor.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Operations Bulletin be received.

2. GORE WATER TOWER – SHOULD IT STAY OR SHOULD IT GO?

(Memo from General Manager, District Assets - 31.08.06)

The Council wished to leave the water tower project on the table for two months while community feeling was assessed on the subject of the water tower removal. The two months is now up and the Council needs to make a decision whether the tower stays or goes.

In the meantime I can report that the company which has the lowest quote of \$160,000 has generously agreed to hold his price until the Council has decided on its preferred the course of action.

I have personally only had a smattering of feedback from the public. There certainly hasn't been a deluge of requests to keep the tower or to remove the tower for that matter.

The original estimated cost of the project which was included in the LTCCP:

Remove tower	\$60,000
Roof for Pump Station	not included
Pump Station Install	\$60,000
Consultant Fees	\$10,000
Contingency	\$10,000
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$140,000

For the Committee's information I have included the cost estimates of the different options:

OPTION ONE – TOWER REMOVED:

This is the recommended option from staff, which takes advantage of the empty section adjacent to the site to remove the tower.

Remove tower	\$160,000
Roof for Pump Station	\$20,000
Pump Station Install	\$80,000
Consultant Fees	\$20,000
Contingency	\$20,000
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$300,000
Budget	\$140,000
Predicted Deficit	\$160,000

OPTION TWO – TOWER REHABILITATED:

This option is quite feasible, however it will require ongoing assessment and rehabilitation at regular intervals to maintain the integrity of the tower.

2006/07 Budget

Rehabilitate tower	\$100,000*
Pump Station Install	\$80,000
Consultant Fees	\$20,000
Contingency	\$20,000
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TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$220,000

Budget	\$140,000
Predicted Deficit	\$80,000

* Rehabilitation could be undertaken at a later date to assist budget.

OPTION THREE – TOWER REMAINS TO BE REMOVED LATER:

This option means that the tower would be removed in conjunction with the reservoir project. The risk is that the tower removal could be technically more difficult and therefore more expensive because the adjacent section will contain a residential dwelling by at that time.

2006/07 Budget

Pump Station Install	\$80,000
Consultant Fees	\$10,000
Contingency	\$10,000
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TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$100,000*

Budget	\$140,000
Surplus	\$40,000

* Future demolition cost required.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Council approve the removal of the water tower with an additional \$160,000 to be funded from deficit depreciation in the 2006/07 year.

OR

THAT the Council approve the rehabilitation of the water tower with an additional \$100,000 to be funded from deficit depreciation.

OR

THAT the Council approve the removal of the water tower in conjunction with the 2013 water reservoir project.

3. RIVER TERRACE RESERVE VANDALISM

(Memo from Roothing and Parks and Recreation Managers – 01.09.06)

A section of the river bank on the eastern side of the Maitara River from the Gore bridge to and including Walnut Grove continues to suffer damage from vehicles.

Numerous off-road type vehicles are being driven on the grass covered verge alongside the river and these have turned the verge into a quagmire in places. At best, the drivers of these vehicles are very inconsiderate and do not realise the damage they are causing is unacceptable. Much of the damage is however, more likely to be caused by deliberate vandalism.

Neighbouring residents are extremely upset by the continuing damage being caused and have requested that the Council undertake measures to reduce or eliminate the problem.

Broken tree branches have recently been observed lying across the muddy wheel ruts on the grass verge and it is suspected that some irate neighbours may be attempting to physically stop the vehicles causing more damage. This sort of reaction needs to be discouraged as legitimate users of the verge may be endangered.

Unfortunately completely banning all vehicles from driving on the river bank verge – which would eliminate the problem – is not an option as many vehicles legitimately drive on this area without causing damage. This includes picnickers, campervans and fishermen. All of these users drive at low speed and generally are accessing parking spots.

The use of barriers, rails and fences to restrict movement has also been investigated in the past but have not been pursued. If the structures installed are secure enough to not be pulled out by vandals in 4WDs, they are also likely to cause problems with catching flood debris and causing changes in flow patterns during flood events. Installation of these structures would also be likely to create problems for the Council's Parks staff carrying out maintenance activities such as mowing.

The problem has been discussed at recent road maintenance contract meetings. Following the first mention of the problem, the Roothing Manager made enquiries with Environment Southland as to jurisdiction on the river bank reserve and also as to its attitude to potential alleviating measures. Environment Southland was supportive of installation of signs warning

drivers not to damage the river bank verge. It would also install similar signs on adjacent sections of the floodbank which are suffering similar damage.

Installation of the signs however, is not considered to be sufficient to halt the problem. Education of the public and enforcement in conjunction with the signs are required to deal with the problem. Therefore, the local news media will be requested to publish an article about the problem and making it clear that vandalism of the verge will no longer be tolerated. The Police will also be requested to continue enforcement in the area.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received.