



REPORT OF THE ORDINARY MONTHLY MEETING OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE ON TUESDAY 10 OCTOBER 2006, AT 4:04 pm.

PRESENT Cr Davis (Chairperson) Crs Bolger, Dore, Harvey, Hellier, McFadzien, McIntyre, McLennan, Ogg, Sutherland and Turnbull.

IN ATTENDANCE The Chief Executive (Mr Steve Parry), the General Manager, District Assets (Mr Neil Jorgensen), Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper), Roading Manager (Mr Murray Hasler), Asset Manager, Utilities (Mr Ross Haslemore) Chief Financial Officer (Mr Doug Walker), Aquatic Services Manager (Kim Peterson), Arts and Heritage Curator (Mr Jim Geddes), District Promotions Manager (Mrs Melissa King), Gore i-SITE Visitor Centre Senior Consultant (Mrs Rose McMillan), Corporate Support Officer (Mrs Jo Waddell) and one member of the public in the Gallery.

1. OPERATIONS BULLETIN

The Committee perused 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, Asset Manager, Utilities and the Animal Control Contractor.

Report of the Deputy Librarian (25.1)

In response to Cr Harvey, the Chief Executive spoke about a meeting recently held with the “Friends of the Library” group on the different aspects of the Library. The group was currently developing a way forward and the first priority would be to appoint a Library Manager.

Cr Harvey thought it would be beneficial if the Councillors visited the library to familiarise themselves with the issues prior to a Committee meeting.

In response to Cr Davis, the Chief Executive said he would arrange for a meeting at the library before the next Committee meeting.

Report of the Aquatic Services Manager (24.11)

The Aquatic Services Manager said the pool party was a huge success with 400 people through the door and all activities provided were well supported.

Cr Davis echoed the Manager's comments about the input from members of the public at the Working Party meetings.

In response to Cr Turnbull, the Manager said the drinks machine at the Mataura pool had been repaired.

In response to Cr Harvey, the Chief Financial Officer had looked at the monthly figures for the pool and the dollar value was static. He said he would need to perform an in-depth analysis to understand why that was the case.

Cr McIntyre thought it was odd that the increase in numbers had not appeared to increase revenue.

In response to Cr McIntyre, the Manager advised a number of activities were also provided at the Mataura pool.

Report of the Parks and Recreation Manager (18.1.2)

In response to Cr Davis, the Parks and Recreation Manager said that Environment Southland had employed a person to tackle the problem of urban gorse and broome. He had advised that overall Gore had the problem under control with only ten notices being issued.

Cr Sutherland thought that property owners were only required to spray gorse a certain distance from their boundary.

The Roding Manager advised it was only a requirement for rural properties to keep gorse clear for ten metres from the boundary.

Cr Sutherland believed that ten metres was not sufficient for noxious weeds and thought a submission should be made to Environment Southland to increase the distance.

The Parks and Recreation Manager said the Council had the ability to advise Environment Southland of offending properties.

In response to Cr Dore, the Manager advised there had not been any enforcement made to date as the process was still in the cycle of consultation similar to the Council's policy on overhanging vegetation.

Cr Harvey complimented the staff on the presentation of the Gore gardens.

Report of the Roothing Manager (2.1.6)

Cr Bolger queried whether the increase in the tender price for the reseal contract could be covered by the extra \$150,000 in the roading budget.

The Roothing Manager advised the extra land transport subsidy had not been earmarked for any project in particular and it could possibly be used for the reseal programme.

Cr McFadzien asked what proportion of work would be carried out.

The Manager replied a full assessment of the network would be carried out by MWH and Works Infrastructure who would investigate each site and determine the proposed treatment for each site.

His Worship the Mayor attended the meeting from 4:22 pm.

The Manager, in response to Cr Bolger, advised approximately two kilometres of the Waimumu Road reseal would be taken out of the contract as a different treatment was required.

Report of the Asset Manager, Utilities (2.1.5)

In response to Cr McIntyre, the Asset Manager, Utilities said the replacement of the return pipe at the Mataura pool had resolved the problem with maintenance of water temperature. He had known it was leaking at the start of the last season.

In response to Cr Hellier, the Asset Manager was not aware of further damage caused to the pool.

Report of the Animal Control Contractor (34.2)

Cr McIntyre referred to a Council's website that included photos of impounded dogs.

Cr Davis thought it was a good idea and should be followed up.

In response to Cr Hellier, the Chief Executive said animals were kept for seven days, however, if an animal appeared to be well looked after, the Animal Control Contractor would use her discretion before putting it down.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Hellier, seconded by Cr McIntyre, THAT the Operations Bulletin be received.

The District Promotions Manager, Arts and Heritage Curator, Aquatic Services Manager, Gore I-site Visitor Centre Senior Consultant departed the meeting at 4:28 pm.

2. ROAD POLICING END OF YEAR REPORT 2005/2006 (4.4.5)

A memo had been received from the Roding Manager, together with a copy of the NZ Police end of year report for Southland and Invercargill. The report provided a further breakdown of the figures contained in the Regional Land Transport Strategy Annual Report with generally positive figures.

Cr Sutherland had attended the Road Safety Seminar in Invercargill and he was very pleased with the report.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Sutherland, seconded by Cr Turnbull, THAT the report be received.

Cr Harvey referred to Appendix A noting 134% was over the target and he felt that the Gore community was getting good results from its Police officers.

3. CONSULTATION PLAN FOR COMMUNITY RECYCLING (10.15)

A memo had been received from the General Manager, District Assets, together with a copy of the consultation plan, about the Council's recycling options.

Cr Harvey queried whether the public would be part of the Hearing Panel to be appointed.

The General Manager, District Assets said it would be the Council's decision.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr McLennan, seconded by Cr Sutherland, THAT the consultation plan be approved.

The Chief Executive urged caution when choosing the Hearing Panel as it was an issue with two very definitive viewpoints. He felt it might be better to keep it within the Council.

Cr McIntyre was pleased to see rural ratepayers were not included but wondered if the small townships like Pukerau and Waikaka should be included in the survey.

The General Manager believed Pukerau and Waikaka could be included once the process had been decided as it depended on what type of service was being provided and whether the townships would want to be involved.

In response to Cr Ogg, the General Manager said the rural people were not going to be included in the survey as urban ratepayers would be solely responsible for recycling costs.

Cr Ogg said rural people would argue that they were paying for it now.

In response to Cr Dore, the General Manager said depending on what type of recycling was adopted, the recycled goods could still be transported to Invercargill.

The Chief Executive thought Cr Dore meant it was necessary to have reasonable options available before putting it out for public consultation.

The General Manager replied the current options were based on transporting the goods to Invercargill.

In response to Cr Bolger, the General Manager said the survey would be constructed in house with a status quo option included and would be referred back to the Council for its approval.

The Chief Executive said positive feedback had been received from an earlier newsletter circulated by the Council, written by Rosemarie Smith. He wondered whether it might be useful to enlist her help again to make the survey more user friendly.

In response to Cr McFadzien, the General Manager said once an option had been decided, the Council would need to decide whether to tender out the contract or complete it in-house.

The General Manager, in response to His Worship, confirmed the Pakeke Lions had been consulted.

Cr Bolger said the Council could construct a survey which did not give preference to any option and he wondered if the end result chosen by the public could have the effect of a budget blow out.

Cr Hellier said it would be interesting to hear from other Councils on the pitfalls and successes of recycling and he thought the public should be made aware of it too.

Cr Davis thought the community needed to know the costs involved as there was a perception it would not cost anything.

The recommendation was put and it was carried.

4. GORE TRANSFER STATION – SUMMER HOURS (10.17)

A memo from the Asset Manager, Utilities had been received about the change to summer opening hours for the Gore transfer station from 1 October. It appeared that low usage during the extra hour on Thursday evenings was of minimum benefit.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Harvey, seconded by Cr Hellier, THAT the Gore transfer station close at 5 pm on Thursday evenings during summer hours,

AND THAT the other summer hours remain unchanged.

5. 2005/2006 SOUTHLAND REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT ANNUAL REPORT (4.6.3)

A memo had been received from the Roding Manager, together with the 2005/2006 Southland Regional Land Transport Strategy Annual Report and an update on progress made towards achieving its outcomes. A review was currently underway and would be ready for adoption later this year.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Sutherland, seconded by Cr Dore, THAT the report be received.

Cr Dore noted that the Council had performed well in terms of safety and that the Roding Manager was exceptional at initiating the projects.

6. LAND TRANSPORT NZ – 2005 ROAD SAFETY ISSUES REPORT (4.5.1)

A memo from the Roding Manager had been received about the 2005 Road Safety Issues report that had been circulated to Councillors recently. Some road safety problems had been highlighted and additional information was being sought from Land Transport NZ to enable appropriate measures to be taken.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Hellier, seconded by Cr Ogg, THAT the information be received.

The Roading Manager said the Road Safety Issues report gave Councillors a good indication on how the Gore District was performing and he said he would be providing a breakdown on the report to give more meaningful data. He felt the report was generally positive but there was still room for improvement.

In response to Cr McFadzien, the Manager advised the State Highways were included in the overall figures, however, the Highways were not under the Council's control and therefore it had no influence on safety issues.

Cr McIntyre referred to the Council's portion of sealed versus unsealed roads. Did it include the State Highways?

The Manager replied that the State Highways were not included and he would provide the details at a future meeting.

The recommendation was put and it was carried.

7. MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE (25.8)

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive following a query from Cr McIntyre regarding the patronage of the mobile library service provided by the Southland District Council. From the information provided by the Southland District Librarian, Lynda Hodge, it appeared that the service was filling a need in the Gore rural area.

Cr McIntyre thanked the Chief Executive for the report and was pleased to see it being used.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr McIntyre, seconded by Cr McLennan, THAT the report and statistics for the Gore mobile library service be received.

The meeting concluded at 4:49 pm.