



REPORT OF THE ORDINARY MONTHLY MEETING OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE ON TUESDAY 12 JUNE 2007, AT 4 pm.

PRESENT His Worship the Mayor (Mr Tracy Hicks JP), Cr Davis (Chairperson) Crs Bolger, Dore, Harvey, Hellier, McFadzien, McIntyre, McLennan, Ogg, Sutherland and Turnbull.

IN ATTENDANCE The Chief Executive (Mr Steve Parry), General Manager, District Assets (Mr Neil Jorgensen), General Manager, Corporate Services (Mr Russell Duthie), Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper), Roading Manager (Mr Murray Hasler), Asset Manager, Utilities (Mr Ross Haslemore), Aquatic Services Manager (Kim Peterson), Gore i-SITE Visitor Centre Senior Consultant (Mrs Rose McMillan), District Arts and Heritage Curator (Mr Jim Geddes), Children's Librarian (Denise George), HR/Administration Manager (Susan Jones) and two members of the public in the Gallery.

1. OPERATIONS BULLETIN

The Committee perused the operations bulletin containing reports from the Gore i-SITE Visitor Centre, District Arts and Heritage Curator, Animal Control Contractor, Deputy Librarian, Parks and Recreation Manager, Aquatic Services Manager, Roading Manager, and the Asset Manager, Utilities.

Report of Gore i-Site Visitor Information Centre (18.18)

His Worship thanked the Centre staff for the work put into the Tamworth Queen's recent visit.

Cr Hellier congratulated the staff on the excellent mystery shopper results.

Report of the District Arts and Heritage Curator (23.5)

The Curator advised he had tabled the May report as he had inadvertently sent the April report which had been copied in the Bulletin.

Report of Deputy Librarian (25.1.1)

Cr Davis noted it was the last report to be furnished by the Deputy Librarian.

Cr Harvey extended thanks to Ms George for her work over the years and said she had done a very good job in looking after the library in recent months.

His Worship concurred with the comments and thanked her for her work and extended best wishes to her for her retirement.

Report of the Parks and Recreation Manager (18.1.2)

Councillors expressed interest in the history of the golden rose “Gold Guitar.”

Cr Dore noted there was very little information available about Tamworth in Gore.

His Worship commented the Sister City relationship was one that needed to be built and concentrated on. From his perspective when he had visited Tamworth, he was surprised at the level of awareness in the Tamworth community about Gore. He suspected the awareness was not reciprocated in Gore.

Cr McIntyre thanked the parks staff for the pansy display in the Main Street to commemorate the worldwide scouting centenary.

Report of the Roothing Manager (2.1.6)

Cr Bolger said roading was the biggest budget item and it was a shame that people were unaware of the considerable amount of work that was undertaken unless they had access to the Roothing Manager’s reports.

The Manager pointed out that on the noticeboard page in the Newslink a report had been included over the past 3-4 months about intended roading works to keep the public informed.

Cr Ogg thanked the Manager for the professional way he had actioned complaints recently.

Cr Hellier noted that cars, boats and caravans parking on footpaths had become a problem again. He asked if there was anything that could be done.

The Manager replied outside normal working hours the Council relied on the public to report any problems with vehicles parking on footpaths. It had also been highlighted on the Council's noticeboard page and people would be issued with tickets if the problem persisted.

Cr Dore suggested having cards available with contact details of the contractor for sending to people who had concerns about roading projects.

The Manager suggested those details could be included on the next noticeboard page.

Cr Turnbull advised there seemed to be some concern about the location of a plot and the resulting loss of car parking outside a certain business as a result of the upgrade of Bridge Street in Matura. Had there been any complaints received.

The Manager advised the project had been consulted on during 2004-05 and was also approved through the Community Board. He had received a comment from a member of the public but the shop referred to had not conveyed any direct feedback to him.

His Worship suggested the Roothing Manager's report be included on the Council's web site.

Report of the Asset Manager, Utilities (2.1.6)

Concern was expressed at the dumping of rubbish on River Road. The Manager said it had required a truck and trailer to cart it to the regional landfill.

His Worship said it was an issue that the Council needed to come to grips with. As the costs of disposing of refuse rose, there would be more incidents of illegal dumping. He noted another dumping of rubbish on River Road earlier in the day.

Cr Davis said it did occur before the charges were increased and it seemed to be sheer laziness on the part of local residents.

She added that WasteNet had discussed fly tipping at its last meeting. She thought this was the appropriate organisation to

promote a regional approach to the issue and suggested the General Manager raise it at the next meeting.

The Manager said there had been thought given to siting a camera at various spots to identify illegal dumpers.

In response to Cr Davis, he advised the Council did not own a camera but there were several high profile sites that could prove useful in placing a camera to deter illegal dumping.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Hellier, seconded by Cr Turnbull, THAT the Manager investigate the cost of a camera and report back to the next meeting.

Cr Bolger cautioned the Council at becoming a police state.

The Roding Manager said the Council had already established a Litter Working Party mainly to cover the Main Street area and any recommendations arising from it could assist with illegal dumping outside the central business area.

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

The Aquatic Services Manager, Senior i-Site Consultant and Deputy Librarian departed the meeting at 4:38 pm

2. PRESENTATION ON SOUTHERN ODYSSEY PROJECT (23.2.1)

The District Arts and Heritage Curator provided a presentation on the Southern Odyssey project which had originated about the time when research was being undertaken for the Hokonui Moonshine Museum.

A total of seven trails had been identified and established that told very interesting stories. The first part related to State Highway 94.

Cr Bolger asked if there was any likely number of visitors arising from the project.

The Curator replied he had no idea, but there would initially be 2000 packs printed.

Cr Bolger thought the indirect commercial benefit to Gore from the arts and heritage activity including the Southern Odyssey had huge potential to profit the whole District.

Cr Davis thanked the Curator for his presentation and extended thanks to those who had been involved with the project to date.

3. DRAFT PHYSICAL ACTIVITY STRATEGY (18.70)

A memo had been received from the Parks and Recreation Manager advising that in December 2003 the Council resolved to allocate funding via its 2005/06 budget and to furnish an application to Sport and Recreation New Zealand (SPARC) for funding assistance for the development of a Physical Activity Strategy. The application for funding had been successful and the overall cost was \$25,000.

The draft strategy had been circulated with the agenda. It had been developed by a group of organisations and led by Phophet iam consultancy. The strategy had been widely consulted with the community.

Mr Brian Milne from Phophet iam was in attendance at the meeting and provided a presentation on the strategy.

Cr Harvey thought it was important for the use of the multi-sports complex to be maximised. The Council may also need to explore the possibility of a co-ordinated approach with the groups involved.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr McLennan, seconded by Cr Hellier, THAT the Council adopt the draft Physical Activity Strategy.

His Worship acknowledged the work put into the Strategy.

The District Arts and Heritage Curator departed the meeting at 5:14 pm

4. VETERANS AFFAIRS NEW ZEALAND (20.2.2)

The Parks and Recreation Manager had advised that the Veterans Affairs Supervisor annually inspected cemeteries and reported back to the relevant local authority. Reports on the Gore Services cemetery and the Charlton Park Services cemetery had been circulated with the agenda.

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

The meeting concluded at 5:15 pm