

MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE MATAURA COMMUNITY BOARD, HELD IN THE ELDERLY CITIZENS CENTRE, McQUEEN AVENUE, MATAURA, ON WEDNESDAY 19 DECEMBER 2007, AT 5:15 pm

PRESENT His Worship the Mayor (Mr Tracy Hicks JP), Cr Alister McLennan (Chairman), N Phillips, P Crake, B Lee and M Appleby.

IN ATTENDANCE The Chief Executive (Mr Steve Parry), Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper), HR/Administration Manager (Susan Jones), Mataura Service Centre Co-Ordinator (Miss Pam Courtney), L Turnbull and R McGowan

1. PROPOSED MATAURA COMMUNITY CENTRE (37.19.4)

A memo had been received from the General Manager, District Assets with a summary of the funding arrangements in place for the Community Centre project. The funding available was \$1,142,000.

The most recent survey canvassed five options for consideration and these were detailed. The costs had been adjusted to what was anticipated as at about March 2008. A number of recommendations had also been suggested to assist the Board with progressing the matter.

Following publicity in the Southland Times on 19 December, a copy of a letter from the Community Trust of Southland was tabled at the meeting. The Trust was keen to clarify a point in the General Manager's report that it had not promised a further \$100,000, but rather had agreed to consider if it was prepared to grant additional funding.

His Worship confirmed that the Community Trust had approved \$300,000 for the project and had agreed to consider a further \$100,000 upon application from the Community Board.

Some discussion centred around comments relayed in a letter dated 13 December 2006 from the Community Trust.

P Crake asked who had wanted the four sites at Tulloch Park to be included in the survey. He thought it was a whitewash. If it was either a Tulloch Park and a McQueen Avenue option, the support for Tulloch Park would have been 69%.

The Chief Executive could not recall who decided to include the four, but his recollection was to capture all known candidates at that point in time. He took Mr Crake's point that it was Tulloch Park vs McQueen Avenue, but at the time, it was putting the known candidates up for consideration.

P Crake said according to the latest survey, 69% of the people the Board was supposed to represent wanted Tulloch Park.

B Lee thought a question that had been left out was whether people were prepared to pay extra on their rates or rent if the survey had been in favour of Tulloch Park.

P Crake had never seen a breakdown of the cost options for the sites. There was no quantification of the figures provided. He could not make a decision without having those.

The Chief Executive advised the figures had been provided by a registered and reputable Quantity Surveyor.

P Crake asked if a site was chosen, what provision was in place for any cost over runs.

The Chairman advised there would be a contingency amount allowed.

The Chief Executive said it was intended to engage Signal Management as Project Manager who had delivered all projects completed in the Gore District under budget and on time.

M Appleby asked if the funds that the Board had been told were available had included the extra \$100,000 from the Community Trust.

The Chairman did not think it would have. He thought the figures detailed in the report were correct as being available. Based on the figures provided and the estimated cost, he thought the shortfall could be about \$400-500,000.

B Lee thought the time had come that a decision had to be made.

M Appleby had also read comments made by people in the survey, and there were a number who were not happy about it being at McQueen Avenue. There was no clear favourite site.

M Appleby moved THAT the Community Centre be sited at McQueen Avenue,

AND THAT planning for the Community Centre be advanced and tenders called.

The motion was seconded by B Lee.

In response to P Crake, His Worship thought it was up to the individual concerned about whether to declare a conflict of interest.

The motion was put and it was carried.

N Phillips congratulated and thanked the Board on making a decision. He looked forward to meeting with the Community Trust to secure some extra funding.

His Worship also congratulated the Board. It was probably one of the toughest decisions it would make. Tulloch Park was a vital piece in the development of the District and there was room for the Community Board to be involved in that in the future also.

N Phillips thanked the Council staff for their support over the year and extended Seasons Greetings to them and his fellow Board members.

The meeting concluded at 5:38 pm