

REPORT OF A MEETING OF THE MATAURA COMMUNITY BOARD, HELD IN THE ELDERLY CITIZENS CENTRE, McQUEEN AVENUE, MATAURA, ON MONDAY 17 MARCH 2008, AT 5:30 pm

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

IN ATTENDANCE The Roding Manager (Mr Murray Hasler), Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper), Corporate Support Officer (Mrs Jo Waddell), Maitaura Service Centre Co-ordinator (Miss Pam Courtney) and three members of the public in the Gallery.

APOLOGIES The Chief Executive, General Manager, District Assets and Asset Manager, Utilities apologised for absence.

1. URGENT LATE BUSINESS (10.19)

Cr McLennan advised he had received a letter from Mrs Doreen Lee about the difficulty for residents dumping green waste into the Maitaura skip bins.

The Board agreed to consider the item later in the meeting.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of P Crake, seconded by N Phillips, THAT the report of the Statutory Meeting of the Maitaura Community Board, held on Monday 19 November 2007, as circulated, be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true and complete record.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of N Phillips, seconded by P Crake, THAT the report of the Ordinary Meeting of the Maitaura Community Board, held on Monday 19 November 2007, as circulated, be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true and complete record.

Clause 6 – Customer Service Report (46.36.1)

B Lee asked the Parks and Recreation Manager to clarify the status of Kana Street. Was it a paper road?

The Parks and Recreation Manager replied it was not.

Clause 7 – Urgent late business – Proposed Mataura Community Centre (37.19.3)

N Phillips announced the Community Trust of Southland had granted a total of \$400,000 for the proposed Mataura Community Centre. He thanked the Trust for its support and advised the project would commence in April.

Cr McLennan added it was good news and hoped other funders showed the same generosity.

2. MATAURA COMMUNITY BOARD BY-ELECTION (33.17)

A memo had been received from the Electoral Officer about the by-election for the Community Board. Three nominations had been received and the election would be held on Wednesday 2 April.

P Crake reported he had not received his voting papers.

The Parks and Recreation Manager advised anyone who had not received voting papers would need to contact either the Mataura Service Centre or the Electoral Officer in order to obtain a special vote.

M Appleby attended the meeting from 5:35 pm.

Cr McLennan asked if it would be publicly notified.

His Worship advised it would be.

N Phillips said it was heartening to have three candidates and he wished them well for the coming election. He looked forward to welcoming the successful candidate on board.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of P Crake, seconded by B Lee, THAT the information be received.

3. MATAURA SKIP BIN SERVICE (10.19)

A memo had been received from the Asset Manager, Utilities about the recent increase in refuse being dumped at the Mataura Skip, which could result in a budget overspend. The situation would be monitored and if the trend continued, the Board might need to consider what options there could be for controlling the budget.

Cr McLennan referred to a letter from Mrs Doreen Lee asking for the Board to address an issue regarding complaints about the difficulty of disposing refuse, especially green waste, into the bins. It was not easy to throw it over the side of the bins. It was suggested that flatter skips could be considered for the green waste.

The Parks and Recreation Manager advised he would speak with the General Manager, District Assets and report to the May meeting with a potential remedy.

P Crake suggested that putting the bins against the concrete wall could make for easier access.

B Lee said the ground around the large bin was susceptible to being wet in the winter. A new fence was being built which would cut off access to the concrete wall and shorten the area around the bin.

The Manager advised there was still time to change the fenced area.

His Worship suggested the Board meet onsite to discuss a potential solution rather than waiting until its May meeting.

Cr McLennan said Mataura residents paid a premium to take rubbish to Gore and believed a better solution was required. He asked whether its residents should be asked to bear the costs from a budget overspend or it be spread over the whole District.

In response to B Lee, N Phillips advised the previous Board had decided to provide the skip bin service. Residents with trailers were expected to go to the Gore transfer station rather than using the skip bins. He felt it needed to be reviewed and agreed it was difficult for elderly residents to put green waste into the bins. He asked for a breakdown of the total cost of the skip bin service so it could be discussed further. At this stage, it was still under budget. If it went over budget, the cost may need to be found from somewhere else.

The Parks and Recreation Manager would arrange a site inspection with the Board.

P Crake congratulated the Mataura Bowling Club on its good work in keeping the site tidy.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of P Crake, seconded by M Appleby, THAT the information be received.

4. REPORT FROM THE PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER (18.1.2)

The meeting perused a report from the Parks and Recreation Manager.

The Parks and Recreation Manager added the two options for the Board to consider were installing a new litter bin or relocating a bin from another area, following the request to install a rubbish bin in the vicinity of Queens Park. Both options had financial implications.

B Lee said he would like to see a bin installed in Queens Park and for the cost to be met from the District wide rates not just Mataura.

The Parks and Recreation Manager advised the Board would need make a request through the Council's Annual Plan process and thought a relocation of a bin might be a better option.

Cr McLennan agreed with B Lee that the Gore District share the cost of a new bin as people using it were more often travelling through the District.

The Manager asked if the Board wished for a request to be made to the Annual Plan.

His Worship thought it would be good for the Board to meet with the Council's senior staff to discuss its aspirations for Matura before the Annual Plan was finalised.

The Manager said he would arrange it.

N Phillips noted with some concern the amount of vandalism and felt the residents of Matura knew who the culprits were. The residents needed to help identify them so disciplinary action could be taken. Vandalism was costing ratepayers a huge amount of money and could result in the town's footpaths not being repaired.

The Roding Manager agreed it was an ongoing problem and residents needed to be made aware of the costs involved.

Cr McLennan thought any offenders caught should suffer the maximum penalty.

The Roding Manager agreed but it was difficult to catch the culprits.

N Phillips said the Board had zero tolerance to graffiti and residents and businesses in Matura should feel the same.

His Worship added that \$10,000 had been spent in the last year on fixing vandalism.

The Parks and Recreation Manager advised the Police were aware of the issue, but did not have enough evidence to identify one particular person. He suggested the Board could liaise with the Police.

M Appleby thought the Police could visit the parents of the culprits and set an example. He thought a wall in the town which could be used by the graffiti artists could be an option, but he was concerned about the tagging.

N Phillips agreed to seeking a meeting with the Police. As there was not a resident police officer in Matura, it was probably the cause for the increase in vandalism.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of M Appleby, seconded by N Phillips, THAT the report be received.

5. REPORT FROM THE ROADING MANAGER (2.1.6)

The meeting perused a report from the Roding Manager.

B Lee was concerned about the lack of street sweeping being carried out. It had only been done three times since November. When a complaint was made, the street was swept the next day.

The Roding Manager said his staff had conducted random inspections and it had met the requirements. The contractor had an

obligation to remove loose material from the footpaths and clear the channels.

B Lee did not believe the job was being done properly.

The Manager advised he would conduct some checks, but his staff and the contractor were reporting the requirements were being satisfied.

B Lee disagreed and felt that nothing was achieved until a complaint was made to the Service Centre.

Cr McLennan suggested the contractor fill in a log book of the areas being cleaned.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of B Lee, seconded by N Phillips, THAT the report be received.

6. CUSTOMER SERVICE REPORT (46.36.1)

The Board perused a summary of customer service requests received for the period 13 November 2007 until 7 March 2008.

P Crake was concerned with the number of unresolved roading issues.

The Roding Manager agreed and said he had analysed the report and noted there were a number of duplicate issues, some issues had been resolved but not signed off, or the issue was not Mataura related and the person who reported the complaint lived in Mataura. He would update the report accordingly.

B Lee noted the one way signs in River Terrace had not been replaced yet.

The Roding Manager assumed it had not been done because the signs needed to be ordered.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 19 May 2008

N Phillips expressed his thanks to the General Manager, District Assets for his work with the board.

Cr McLennan concurred and wished him well on his future endeavours.

The meeting concluded at 6:19 pm