

**REPORT OF THE GORE DISTRICT YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE ON
TUESDAY 20 MAY 2008, AT 7:39 pm.**

PRESENT His Worship the Mayor (Mr Tracy Hicks JP), Cr Dixey and Youth Crs D Luoni (Chairman), K Barron, J Bone, M Boyd, N Dickson, R Gibson, M Hansen, A Heslip, J Jenkinson, R King, F Maslin, E Paterson, A Rennie and H White.

IN ATTENDANCE The Chief Executive (Mr Steve Parry) and Corporate Support Officer (Mrs Jo Waddell).

APOLOGIES Cr Stark apologised for absence.

1. DECLARATIONS

His Worship took the declaration from Rebecca King.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

J Bone nominated J Jenkinson as Chairman. Seconded by D Luoni.

N Dickson nominated D Luoni as Chairman. Seconded by J Jenkinson.

A vote was held by a show of hands and D Luoni was duly elected as Chairman.

3. OSCAR PROGRAMME

The Principal from St Mary's Primary School, Mr Chris Moriarty and the Manager of its OSCAR programme, Margaret Parata were in attendance and spoke about the current OSCAR programme held at the school. Due to increasing numbers, the school's Board of Trustees had made the decision to limit attendees to 11 years. Recent publicity had resulted from this decision but it did not intend to extend the programme.

C Moriarty challenged the Youth Council to look at setting up a programme for the 11-13 age group, using existing facilities around the town such as the gym, pool, golf driving range and squash club. A room was not necessarily required, although there would need to be close monitoring of attendance.

M Parata added that it may be difficult to get approved by Child, Youth and Family Services in order to be able to qualify for subsidised care with not having a permanent residence. However, there were many resources around the town that could be tapped into. Variety was necessary to keep that age group interested and was something the St Mary's programme found difficult with such a broad range of ages.

The OSCAR programme ran five days a week from 2:50 to 6:00 pm with a ratio of 1:6 which was better than the standard required of 1:10.

RESOLVED on the motion of M Hansen, seconded by J Bone, THAT a working party be formed to prepare a draft survey on the viability of setting up an after school care programme and activities that could be provided.

3. SKATEBOARD BAN BYLAW

A copy of the Council's skateboard ban bylaw had been circulated.

The bylaw had been introduced after the skateboard park was completed, due to problems with safety because of skateboarders using the Main Street. Signs had been erected to indicate areas covered by the ban.

Discussion took place about whether Ardwick Street should be included as many school children used their scooters or skateboards to get to the two schools located on that street.

It was suggested that the bylaw be publicised in schools.

4. NATIONAL HOODIE DAY

A National Hoodie Day was being held on 30 May as part of "Youth Week" to get people to look past certain types of clothing to see the young person inside.

The consensus was that the Youth Council could look at having a photo opportunity with His Worship and the Council wearing their hoodies.

RESOLVED on the motion of D Luoni, seconded by J Jenkinson, THAT M Hansen (Blue Mountain College), J Jenkinson (St Peters College) and D Luoni (Gore High School) approach their respective schools asking for approval to hold a "National Hoodie" mufti day on 30 May with a gold coin donation required from the students,

AND THAT half of the proceeds from the “National Hoodie” mufti day be given to a charity of the school’s choice and the rest be given to the Gore District Youth Council to be used in a future project.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

It was suggested that the Youth Council could be involved in a project in the community to raise public awareness of it, such as painting the skateboard park.

The meeting concluded at 8:47 pm.