

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE, WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE, ON TUESDAY 12 AUGUST 2008, FOLLOWING THE CONCLUSION OF THE REGULATORY COMMITTEE MEETING

**Stephen Parry
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

6 August 2008

A G E N D A

1. Financial Assistance Towards Swimming Lessons (Pages 1-4)
2. 2009 Otago Goldfields Heritage Trust Cavalcade (Pages 5-6)
3. BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT 1987:
 - Animal Control Contract
 - Noise Control Contract
 - Penny Per Unit Agreement
 - Rates Arrears

1. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TOWARDS SWIMMING LESSONS

(Memo from Chief Executive – 6.8.08)

I have recently been approached by the Matura Licensing Trust to find out whether the Council would be receptive to joining the Trust in providing financial assistance towards swimming lessons for primary school children. Please find enclosed a letter received from the General Manger of the Trust, together with an accompanying request for funding assistance received from the West Gore Home and School Committee.

As the General Manager of the Matura Licensing Trust, Mr John Wyeth, points out in his letter, any funding assistance granted towards the West Gore School request would obviously have to be made having in mind that this assistance would have to be replicated amongst other primary schools in the District, at least. West Gore School would have the largest student roll of any primary school in the District, however, there is still a good number of children attending other primary school institutions in the District that would like and deserve financial assistance for swimming lessons.

I have been in touch with the Ministry of Education in Invercargill and it has been conveyed to me that school swimming is a legitimate part of the school curriculum. However, what has equally been emphasised to me is that funding for a suitably qualified instructor is not provided for in monies advanced to the schools by the Ministry of Education. Therefore, each education institution has to raise the funding required for a qualified coach by itself.

Funding of swimming lessons for children may seem to be a stretch on what is normally perceived to be conventional local government business. However, Councillors will recall the rather dire statistics presented by the Aquatic Services Manager in relation to the percentage of school age children that could successfully swim 100 metres. This percentage was of course 36% which suggests that the need for swimming lessons is very real.

In addition, the Council has the following community outcome which would be enhanced by a financial contribution to remove potential barriers to primary school children receiving swimming lessons:

1. *Outcome:* *We are healthy people*
Intermediate Outcome: *We live in a compassionate, caring community*

2. *Outcome:* *A well-educated and skilled community continually seeking further opportunities to learn*
Intermediate Outcome: *We have accessible learning opportunities*

There is obviously no provision in the current budget to fund this type of activity. Therefore, if the Council was of mind to advance funds it would have to be done either as a budget amendment or carried as a deficit and funded next financial year. Alternatively, the Council could approve the concept in principle with a view to implementing any actual financial contribution in the next financial year.

Given that the Maitaura Licensing Trust seeks to have dialogue on how this project can be developed, the latter suggestion of implementation in the next financial year is preferred.

At this juncture, I would suggest that the Council approve the concept in principle and perhaps give an indication as to the percentage split it believes to be equitable in respect of funding contribution between the Council, Maitaura Licensing Trust and the school or child concerned.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Council approve in principle the concept of making a financial contribution for swimming lessons for primary school children in the Gore District

AND THAT the Council indicate its quantum of contribution via a percentage of the swimming lesson cost per child

AND THAT details of this contribution and how it will be advanced be worked through in tandem with the Maitaura Licensing Trust.

2. 2009 OTAGO GOLDFIELDS HERITAGE TRUST CAVALCADE:
WAIKAKA

(Memo from Chief Executive – 6.8.08)

Please find enclosed a letter received from the Waikaka Host Committee for the 2009 Otago Goldfields Heritage Trust Cavalcade seeking a grant of \$5,000 to provide seed capital for administration of the 2009 event which is to be held in Waikaka on Saturday 28 February 2009.

While the timing of this request is a little awkward in terms of the Council already confirming its budget for 2008/09, it must be emphasised that the event is an important coup for Waikaka. The Council funds other events held in the District, such as the Hokonui Moonshine Festival, Christmas Parade and Christmas in the Park. Therefore, a contribution to assist the committee in hosting this prestigious and popular event does not appear to be out of kilter with current and past practice of the Council.

Should the Council agree with this proposition, the Council could pay the grant in the 2008/09 financial year with a view to making a funding recovery by including the same amount in the 2009/10 Council budget.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Council advance a grant in the sum of \$5,000 in favour of the Waikaka Host Committee of the 2009 Otago Goldfields Trust Cavalcade

AND THAT funding recovery for this grant be included in the 2009/10 Council budget.

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Cr Bolger to move

I move that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely the items as listed below.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing the resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

<u>General Subject Matter</u>	<u>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</u>	<u>Grounds under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</u>
Animal Services and Noise Control Contracts	Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage,	7 (2) (i)
Penny Per Unit Agreement	negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	
Rates Arrears	Protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons	7 (2) (a)