



**REPORT OF THE GORE DISTRICT YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING,
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE ON
TUESDAY 21 OCTOBER 2008, AT 7:36 pm**

PRESENT Crs Dixey, and Youth Crs D Luoni
(Chairman), K Barron, J Bone, N Dickson,
R Gibson, J Jenkinson, R King, F Maslin,
E Paterson, A Rennie and B Stark

IN ATTENDANCE Corporate Support Officer (Mrs Tracey
Millan).

APOLOGY Marc Hansen apologised for absence.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED on the motion of J Jenkinson, seconded by M
Boyd, **THAT** the report of the Youth Council meeting held
on Tuesday 16 September 2008, be accepted as an accurate
and complete record.

2. RESULTS OF THE SURVEY FOR OUT OF SCHOOL CARE

D Luoni advised that the results were not yet available.

3. YOUTH IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT FORUM

Following an application from the Gore District Council
requesting financial assistance for Daniel to attend the forum, a
cheque for \$500 was received from The Mataura Licensing
Trust.

D Luoni reported on his attendance at the Youth in Local
Government Forum in Christchurch. The first day was Youth
Day; all young people from the youth advisory groups received
an introduction to the National Youth Council Network, while
adults went on a tour of the city.

Items discussed were: -

- The network was all about having a summit of voice for
the Youth Councils around the country and funnelling
their ideas through to the Minister of Youth Affairs.
- Public speaking and ideas of what the Youth Councils
wanted to happen around the country to boost the

opportunities of young people. These ideas were then presented to the Mayor of Christchurch, Mr Bob Parker.

- Better access to resources – especially in smaller communities.
- Keeping on improving discretion in sexual health and youth health care
- Having councils take more responsibility for Youth Council.
- The importance of positive portrayal of young people in the media.

An evening social and quiz were held which D Luoni won.

On day two, the youth and adults came together. A powhiri was held with the Mayor and councillors.

Kane Dabar, of South African origin, who had been working with Canadian Youth Councils as a volunteer community worker, was a guest speaker. He raised lots of questions for youth to think about and had encouraged the councillors to keep the youth movement moving ahead.

Attendees then selected seminars they wished to attend - electoral commission, youth employment and better access to education choices, following school.

A dinner followed and awards were presented to Youth Councils. It was an opportunity to get dressed up and enjoy some dancing. There were panel discussions with the older Youth Councillors. They discussed their experiences and visions for the future of Youth Councils.

D Luoni said that he really enjoyed listening to the different perspectives of what was right and wrong, directions for the Youth Council future and local government as a whole.

His highlight of the forum was the networking opportunities. All the attendees were keen to keep in contact and pass ideas around, and would assist each other with problem solving.

In the future D Luoni suggested that two or three people attend, so that experiences gained could be retained.

Cr Dixey advised that he would contact the Ensign to run an article about D Luoni's experience at the forum as it would be of interest to the community to hear his feedback.

4. ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION IN THE YOUTH COUNCIL

Frankie Maslin spoke about how the Youth Council could become more involved with alternative education. She had been approached by Grant Leishman, a local REAP learning tutor, following the article in the Ensign regarding her involvement with the Youth Council. He wanted to know if it was possible for one of the 8 REAP students to be represented on the Youth Council.

J Bone thought the REAP students should use the same community voting system as the other Youth Council representatives.

N Dickson suggested that maybe next term, an amendment to the constitution to include a REAP student could be looked at.

K Barron thought the REAP students should come forward on their own.

Cr Dixey confirmed that F Maslin was the Youth Council Representative for Health and Social Services. N Dickson unofficially represented the Mataura Youth Centre and there was a place for four from the community.

D Luoni suggested that next time the positions were advertised, if they did not come forward, then REAP be invited to apply.

K Barron thought that the media coverage from this terms meetings would help encourage young people to be involved.

F Maslin reported that she had visited the REAP house and attended a meeting.

5. SOCIAL EVENT AND ART/GRAFFITI EXHIBITION SUB COMMITTEES

J Jenkinson discussed the progress of the Art/Graffiti Exhibition Sub Committee and advised that he had spoken to Mr Jim Geddes seeking assistance.

- Mr Geddes would help out where he could, although he was very busy.
- J Waddell had provided a funding sheet for paint etc. This would be used to approach businesses for iron and other items needed.
- Cr Dixey advised that the Gore A & P Showgrounds were still able to be used as a venue for the exhibition, but the

date and where to store the art pieces had to be finalised, possibly behind the grandstands.

Nathan Dickson discussed the Social Event sub committee progress.

- The date of 12 December had been decided, but was still to be confirmed.
- Two half page advertisements would appear in the Newslink.
- The Council had advised that they would cover the cost for the hire of the James Cumming Wing.
- Ticket proceeds would cover the cost of the catering.
- The Matura Licensing Trust had been approached and would possibly cover the cost of the DJ or band used.
- Campbell's Gardens would donate some plants for decorative purposes.
- Year 10-13 students would be eligible to attend.

D Luoni suggested that at the conclusion of the meeting, the two sub-committees could meet to discuss their plans.

6. REPORT FROM COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS CENTRE MEETING

D Luoni advised that he and Cr Dixey had recently attended a Community Connections Centre Meeting. They had spoken with Glenda Pritchard, a social worker for Family Work Southland. She had advised that the centre had a buddy mentoring programme available for children aged 4-12 and were seeking potential buddies aged 18 years to become involved.

One days training would be completed initially, and then two hours a week was all that would be required.

D Luoni suggested that the local high schools could be approached to help with advertising for volunteers early next year.

7. REPORT FROM NATHAN DICKSON

N Dickson reported that a venue had not yet been secured. The Matura Community Board needed to decide about the old Town Hall. A formal proposal would hopefully be tabled at November's Matura Community Board meeting.

7. REPORT FROM CR DIXEY

D Dixey advised that the official opening of the new Mataura Community Centre would be on Friday 14 November.

At the Council Committee Meetings, the annual report had been approved. There had been an update on the wind farm project and the new toilets would be started soon.

The Rhododendron Festival had been very well supported with lots of positive comments from residents.

Cr Dixey distributed a pullout guide to Local Youth Services in the Eastern Southland District.

The meeting concluded at 8:10 pm.