

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A MEETING OF THE MATAURA COMMUNITY BOARD WILL BE HELD IN THE MATAURA BOWLING CLUBROOMS, OAKLAND STREET, MATAURA, ON MONDAY 13 OCTOBER 2008, AT 5:30 pm

**Susan Jones
ADMINISTRATION MANAGER**

7 October 2008

AGENDA

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
Confirmation of the Report of the Ordinary Meeting of the Mataura Community Board, held on Monday 1 September 2008.
2. UPDATE ON MATAURA COMMUNITY CENTRE PROJECT (Page 1)
3. MATAURA SWIMMING POOL HOURS AND STAFFING (Pages 2-5)
4. NZ COMMUNITY BOARDS CONFERENCE (Pages 6-11)
5. RAILWAY CROSSING REINSTATEMENT (Pages 12-13)
6. BRIDGE STREET TRAFFIC MIRROR (Page 14)
7. MAIN STREET FOOTPATH (Pages 15-16)
8. NOXIOUS WEEDS – MATAURA BRIDGE (Page 17)
9. PLANS FOR OPENING OF MATAURA COMMUNITY CENTRE (Page 18)
10. REPORT FROM THE ROADING MANAGER (Page 19)
11. REPORT FROM THE PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER (Pages 20-21)
12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 17 November 2008

2. UPDATE ON MATAURA COMMUNITY CENTRE PROJECT

Messrs Dave Driver and Tony Burton from Signal Management Group will be in attendance to provide an update on progress on the Mataura Community Centre project.

3. MATAURA SWIMMING POOL HOURS AND STAFFING

(Memo from Administration Manager – 06.10.08)

Attached is a letter received from Keri Lee and signed by 32 other persons concerned at the proposed hours of the Mataura swimming pool.

The opening hours were raised at the last Community Board meeting in the hope that a later opening and closing time would attract more patrons to the pool, especially to those who wished to swim after work. The signatories also need to be aware that aquatic services are funded across the District, and not separately by Gore and Mataura ratepayers.

The operational cost of the Mataura pool in the 2007/08 year amounted to \$86,000, of which \$27,000 related to maintenance. The operational cost in the 2006/07 year amounted to \$63,000. This followed adoption - in December 2006 - of the Aquatic Services Working Party recommendations that resulted in savings of approximately \$35,000, primarily relating to staff costs.

Compounding the current situation is the overwhelming lack of interest in the Seasonal Supervisor position that has been advertised in local newspapers on seven occasions since 11 September as well as a further 8 days on the radio. At the time of writing, the advertising has cost a total of \$1,530 without one application being received.

Whilst the pool has been able to be open during the school holidays, this has only been achieved by having student lifeguards on duty as well as the Aquatic Services Manager covering a total of four days herself. Coverage by the Manager is unsustainable beyond the end of the school holidays.

The Mataura Swimming Club had booked the pool for its season due to commence after the school holidays, and has been kept informed about the staffing situation by the Aquatic Services Manager.

Swimming lessons were also due to start on Monday 13 October however, these have been relocated to the Gore pool in the interim.

Unless there are sufficient staffing resources available to man the pool after the school holidays, it will not be possible to open it until at least a Supervisor has been recruited. The situation is very unfortunate but is totally beyond the Council's control and is symptomatic of a very tight employment market. In the event that no applications are received by the next closing date of 10 October, the Council will continue advertising in an attempt to recruit a suitable candidate.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the letter from Keri Lee and signatories be received,

AND THAT every endeavour continue to be made to recruit a seasonal Supervisor for the Mataura swimming pool.

4. NZ COMMUNITY BOARDS CONFERENCE

(Memo from Administration Manager – 06.10.08)

Attached is a copy of the programme for the 2009 New Zealand Community Boards conference to be held in Christchurch from 19-21 March.

The estimated cost of sending a delegate would be in the order of \$1,163 which includes travel, registration and accommodation.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board consider the appointment of a delegate/s to attend the Conference.

5. RAILWAY CROSSING REINSTATEMENT

(Memo from Administration Manager – 06.10.08)

The attached letter has been received from Mr Kevin Harpur.

The Roding Manager has advised that Selbourne Street and Albion Street railway crossings were reconstructed by Ontrack some time ago. Unfortunately Ontrack has not carried out the permanent reinstatement of the asphalt surface at these crossings yet. The Council has made several requests to Ontrack for this work to be completed. The Ontrack project engineer has recently been contacted regarding this and he has provided an assurance that it will be undertaken urgently.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the letter be received and Mr Harpur advised of the response from Ontrack.

6. BRIDGE STREET TRAFFIC MIRROR

(Memo from Roothing Manager – 06.10.08)

I can advise that a customer service request has been forwarded to the NZ Transport Agency via its network consultant asking that it investigate the possible installation of a traffic mirror at the Bridge Street (SH93) intersection with River Street.

There is very limited sight distance to the west for the drivers of vehicles turning onto Bridge Street from River Street due to the obscuring effect of the concrete arches on the Mataura River Bridge.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received.

7. MAIN STREET FOOTPATH

(Memo from Roding Manager – 06.10.08)

The attached letter has been received from Mr Kevin Harpur, requesting the extension of the footpath on the west side of Main Street (SH1) from 297 Main Street to Cardigan Bay Road.

Mr Harpur is requesting a gravel footpath be constructed. However there is already an existing gravel footpath which requires some relatively minor maintenance work. Downer EDI Works have been instructed to grade the footpath and remove the moss at the edges. The existing gravel footpath has more than adequate width and once several puddles are dealt with it will be adequate for the pedestrian traffic in the area.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the letter be received, and Mr Harpur advised of the comments from the Roding Manager.

8. NOXIOUS WEEDS – MATAURA BRIDGE

(Memo from Administration Manager – 06.10.08)

Following an approach from the Chairman to Environment Southland concerned at the growth of broom, gorse and other weeds on the north side of the River Street bridge, the following response has been received from the Senior Biosecurity Officer, Mr Keith Crothers, at Environment Southland:

“Thank you for your email from last week alerting us to the issue of broom and gorse in the Mataura riverbed at Mataura.

We were aware of the issue last year and some of this was treated by the Gore District Council. There is still quite a problem in the riverbed itself and hanging off the embankments so this does need to be addressed.

The riverbed itself is of course Crown land so I will be talking to Land information NZ which administers/manages the land on behalf of the Crown and endeavour to get them to treat the pest plant growth. I do not envisage that this will be a problem as we have an excellent working relationship with them in riverbed management of pest plants.

In reference to your concern about “noxious weeds within Mataura” an inspection of the township is scheduled within the next fortnight. We had quite a good result from our inspections last year and this is a follow-up to catch those that may have been overlooked or where regrowth has occurred.

I will refer the issue of rubbish in the waterway to our compliance section.

I trust that we can rectify your concerns in the near future and thank you for alerting us to this.”

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received.

9. PLANS FOR OPENING OF MATAURA COMMUNITY CENTRE

(Memo from Administration Manager – 06.10.08)

Following a meeting with some Board members recently, the following programme has been agreed on to mark the official opening of the Mataura Community Centre on Friday 14 November:

Order of Ceremony from 1.30 pm

- *Introduction and welcome – Ian Tulloch*
- *Item from Mataura School Kapahaka Group*
- *Item from Mataura Senior Citizens Choir*
- *Comment and invitation to His Worship to declare building open by Community Board Chairman, Bill Lee*
- *Official opening by His Worship the Mayor, unveiling of the plaque and cutting of cake*
- *Comments from Community Trust of Southland representative*
- *Comments from Mataura Licensing Trust representative*
- *Singing of the New Zealand national anthem by Mataura Primary School*
- *Item from Mataura Senior Citizens Music Group*
- *Afternoon tea*

It is expected that invitations will be sent out by the Council during the week 6 October.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received.

10. REPORT FROM THE ROADING MANAGER

Maintenance Programme

- Routine maintenance activities continue.
- Road reserve vegetation control underway. Includes footpaths and kerbs.
- Pre-reseal repairs including footpath and kerb repairs.

Burns Street Footpath

- Lawn reinstatement will be completed by mid November.

McQueen Avenue Disability Carpark

A disabled carpark will be marked and a sign erected on McQueen Avenue at an appropriate location as close as practicable to the new Community Centre.

Main Street Broken Glass Removal

The Chairman received a letter from Mr Kevin Harpur regarding the removal of broken glass from Main Street (SH1) Maitua, from a Maitua resident. I can confirm that a reply has already been sent to Mr Harpur explaining the situation.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received.

11. REPORT FROM PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER

Spring is here with soil temperatures increasing, the Parks and Reserves staff are busy dealing with spring growth on a number of fronts.

The spraying teams are now fully committed to spraying duties with weed growth now rampant. The Gore spraying round is complete and Mataura will be finished by the end of the second week of October, then it is back to Gore. We are also actively spraying protective fungicide and insecticides on the perennials and roses as new season's growth bursts forth. Having good coverage at this stage of the season will set the plants up for a healthy season's growth without infestations significantly affecting their ultimate floral displays.

The annual plots are all looking good with Polyanthus, Pansies and Primula flowering well. The spring bulbs are all flowering in amongst the annuals and are putting on a great display. The recent winds did however bring the tulip displays to an untimely end.

Our three mowing staff and their machines are fully committed to their mowing rounds as the spring growth dictates this workload.

Progress on the conversion of the Tulloch Park public conveniences is progressing. The cubicle nearest the playground is being converted to a unisex facility that is able to accommodate paraplegic access. It is envisaged that completion of the conversion will be by the end of October.

Whilst signage has been installed, current feedback is that more is required in the CBD. As signage in this area - where two state highways meet - is overseen by Transit New Zealand, discussions are currently underway to accommodate this additional signage within Transits guidelines. It is hoped that installation will coincide with the facility conversion timeline.

Mataura Community Centre Update

Signal Management advises that as at 3 October 2008:

“Progress on the community centre is going well.

- *Building works apart from the timber floor and some joinery items is complete. Flooring in the hall is to be laid over the next 2 weeks.*
- *Internal painting is 90% complete and exterior to start on the 6th October, weather permitting.*
- *Internal fit out of electrical, fire, alarms & mechanical systems should be completed by Wednesday 8 October.*
- *Plumbing to be completed after the vinyl has been laid which is starting 7 October.*
- *Carpet laying is also programmed to start on 7 October.*
- *Landscaping is programmed to start early the following week.*
- *Completion of project is again still on target of 31 October.”*



Early October and the Community Centre is now taking shape.

Overall the project is on track from a construction and fiscal perspective.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received.