



**REPORT OF THE GORE DISTRICT YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING,
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE ON
THURSDAY 16 APRIL 2009, AT 7.00 pm**

PRESENT Cr Dixey and Youth Crs G Austin, S Dickie, N Dickson S Dodds, A Heslip, L Keenan, F Maslin, K Millard M Morris, T Osborne, S Pay, H Rawiri, A Rennie, D Smith and B Stark

IN ATTENDANCE His Worship the Mayor (Mr Tracy Hicks), Community Development Officer (CDO) (Ms Colleen Te Au) and Corporate Support Officer (Mrs Tracey Millan).

APOLOGIES Youth Crs M Vercoe, A Miller and H Wilson apologised for their absence.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED on the motion of A Heslip, seconded by N Dickson, THAT the report of the Youth Council meeting held on 10 February 2009, be accepted as an accurate and complete record.

2. DECLARATION

His Worship took declarations from Amy Heslip, Hannah Rawiri and Danielle Smith.

His Worship introduced himself and explained one of the challenges for the Gore District Council was the lack of youth on the Council. The Council needed to know what the Youth Councillors thought about the projects it was involved in. They were in a privileged position and he encouraged them to make the most of it for their town. He was looking forward to working with them.

The Youth Councillors all gave a brief introduction about themselves.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

Cr Dixey gave an overview of what the duties of a Chairperson would entail:

1. A member and leader of the Youth Council who facilitated discussion.
2. Assists with the drawing up of the agenda and work closely with the secretary and Council representatives.
3. Sub-groups report back to the Chairperson who kept the secretary and Council representative informed.
4. Controls the meeting. They may start the discussion or have another member or speaker do so.
5. After a fair time for discussion a motion would be called for, seconded, and if agreed would become the direction for the Council to move in. If no motion arose, the Chairperson would move onto the next item on the agenda.
6. The Chairperson does not generally move or second motions but should be able to sum up the points of view if required.
7. The Chairperson should encourage all members to take part in discussion.
8. The Chairperson's job is made easier when all members listen to the views of others and seek to keep themselves well informed.
9. The Chairperson listens to ideas of the Council and seeks to include them on the agenda for discussion.

The Community Development Officer added it was important a Chairperson possessed good listening skills.

His Worship said the Chairperson would be required to attend the occasional full Council meeting to share ideas and create a connection with the Council.

F Maslin nominated N Dickson as Chairman. Seconded by L Keenan.

N Dickson nominated F Maslin as Deputy Chairperson. Seconded by Kate Millard.

A vote was held by a show of hands and N Dickson was duly elected as Chairman.

A vote was held by a show of hands and F Maslin was duly elected as Deputy Chairperson.

Cr Dixey invited the Youth Councillors to write down any ideas of things they would like to achieve within the community and any ideas of how they would like the meetings to work, formal or informal. These ideas would be collated and included on the agenda for the next meeting.

His Worship said most Youth Councils commenced their meetings with some food in an informal environment before the formal part of the meeting. He said it could do anything within reason. A tour around the Council building was a possibility and a meeting with the Invercargill or Balclutha Youth Councils could be arranged.

N Dickson now took the chair.

4. CHILDREN'S COMMISSIONER INVITATION

An invitation had been received from the Children's Commissioner, Dr Cindy Kiro, for any youth interested in attending a meeting about the rights and issues of young people. The CDO would take a car. N Dickson, S Pay and M Morris agreed to attend.

5. YOUTH WEEK 2009 – 23-31 MAY 2009

Information received from the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs offering \$500 grants to Youth Councils to contribute towards an activity run by the Youth Council was perused.

N Dickson said there was a talent quest being held in the Mataura Community Centre on 23 May. There could be an opportunity to do something at it.

The theme this year was Aroha (love), with the focus being on the interaction between adults and children.

Last year a hoodie day was held and another would be held later in the year.

The CDO said the Invercargill Youth Council was using its grant money to buy food for a barbeque to be supplied at a games afternoon for adults and children.

L Keenan thought the Youth Councillors could visit Gore primary schools and play games with the children.

F Maslin thought a similar event to the Invercargill Youth Council would be a good idea.

His Worship suggested an event at the swimming pool.

F Maslin said Children's Day had been successfully organised by Youthlink. The day had included colouring in competitions, bike rides, free admission to the ice rink and pool and free food and drink.

Cr Dixey though a school team relay could be held afterwards at Hamilton Park. The funding could be used for prizes or a sausage sizzle. Some Top Town contestants could be encouraged to attend.

K Millard thought older kids might not be interested and it could end up one sided.

A Heslip suggested an event aimed at small children who would bring parents along could be organised.

RESOLVED on the motion of F Maslin, seconded by A Heslip, THAT the Youth Council participate in hosting an event for Youth Week, based on the theme of relationships, at the Gore Multi Sports complex.

6. AFTERBALL PARTIES

A memo from the Community Development Officer regarding an update on the Gore and Districts Alcohol Strategy and a proposed presentation from Youth Access to Alcohol had been received and was perused by the meeting.

The Officer said this was an opportunity for the Youth Council to take on a leadership role in organising after ball parties if it wanted to.

N Dickson said SADD representatives at local high schools were organising the parties.

The Officer suggested the initiative be left with the SADD school committees.

F Maslin asked what was happening with the draft Alcohol Strategy.

The Officer replied she was preparing a summary power point presentation about it.

Cr Dixey said a survey had been completed on drinking problems in the Gore area. It would be looked at along with the strategy in the near future.

Cr Dixey advised the LTCCP summary was being delivered to all householders and he encouraged the Youth Councillors to read it as there were things in the LTCCP that affected them. Submissions were invited.

His Worship said it would be good to get feedback about the LTCCP from the Youth Council. A full copy of the LTCCP was also available.

In response to A Heslip, N Dickson read aloud the goals set by last year's Youth Council and its mission statement.

The art/graffiti event did not eventuate due to lack of funding.

The Oscar survey established there was a need for after school care.

N Dickson said new goals set needed to be achievable.

Cr Dixey said when exam time came around, plans tended to fall down. Organising projects around them to ensure the support of everyone would be important.

C Te Au suggested a short informal meeting, commencing with some food at 7pm on 7 May be held to go over ideas for the events of Youth Week.

N Dickson advised a Council Expo was being held on 23 April from 12pm to 6pm in the Council Chambers. Councillors could attend at their own leisure.

N Dickson reminded the Council to put in an apology if they were unavailable to attend, or send a replacement person on their behalf.

Cr Dixey said it was important that Councillors reported back to their schools about the items discussed at the Youth Council meetings and that they bring ideas from the schools back to the Youth Council forum. It was a two way thing.

The meeting concluded at 7.58pm.