



GORE DISTRICT YOUTH COUNCIL

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**REPORT OF THE GORE DISTRICT YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING,
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE ON
THURSDAY 27 AUGUST 2009, AT 7.00 pm**

PRESENT Cr Dixey and Youth Crs H Diack, N Dickson, S Dodds, A Heslip, L Keenan, F Maslin, G McVicar, K Millard, A Miller, T Osborne, S Pay, A Rennie, D Smith, B Stark, M Vercoe and H Wilson.

IN ATTENDANCE Community Development Officer (Mrs Colleen TeAu) and Corporate Support Officer (Mrs Tracey Millan).

APOLOGIES Cr Dixey, Youth Councillors G Austin, M Morris and S Dickie apologised for their absence.

1. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Confirmation of the meeting of the Gore District Youth Council held on Thursday 23 July 2009.

RESOLVED on the motion of L Keenan, seconded by F Maslin, THAT the report of the Youth Council meeting held on 23 July 2009, be accepted as an accurate and complete record.

L Keenan advised in March 2010 that a sports diversity and culture forum would be run by FIFA. It was something worthwhile to put on the calendar.

2. PRESENTATION FROM MANAAKI GREEN, GORE AND DISTRICTS COMMUNITY YOUTH WORKER TRUST

Manaaki Green was in attendance and spoke about his role and experiences as a Gore and Districts Community Youth Worker.

He thought the Youth Council was a wonderful opportunity for the youth in the district and offered his support.

M Green invited the Youth Councillors to offer his assistance in the community when appropriate.

3. LETTER FROM OFFICE OF HON PAULA BENNETT

A letter had been received from the Minister of Affairs, the Hon Paula Bennett seeking help from the Youth Council with the new Community Max programme by putting forward ideas for community projects that could be worked on by young people.

The Community Development Officer thought a good example could be for a young person to work on the new cycle track.

The meeting perused the website that was updated weekly and decided they wanted to think about some ideas and would report back at the next meeting.

4. THE GORE DISTRICT ALCOHOL STRATEGY

The Community Development Officer provided feedback following the hearing of submissions to the Gore District Alcohol Strategy held on 21 August.

She said there had been four quite comprehensive and positive submissions were made by Public Health South, ACC, ALAC and The Primary Health Organisation (PHO). The panel had comprised of Cr Heller, Highsted and Bolger.

N Dickson said the advisory group had met earlier in the day and he felt there had been no prejudice toward youth.

Concerns raised included the lack of transport available once local taverns closed and 24 hour licensing for liquor sales.

In response to F Maslin, The Officer said the advisory group was formed in 2006 and received funding from the Crime Prevention Unit and the Ministry Of Justice.

F Maslin wondered if the advisory group could write to schools to get more involvement from the Youth.

The CDO wanted the Youth Councillors and Women's Refuge to become more involved with the advisory group. She thought the strategy needed to be adopted in order for the real work to commence.

5. NATIONAL HOODIE DAY

National Hoodie Day was held on Wednesday 12 August. Confirmation of proceeds raised required from Gore High School and St Peters College. Discussion will be held on how the Youth Council intend to use the funds.

L Keenan advised funds of \$52 from the St Peters Hostel and \$565 from the St Peters College were raised.

The Community Development Officer thought it was an awesome effort and careful consideration needed to be given as to how the funds would be used. A report advising how the funds were used would be sent to the schools.

Gore High School was planning a Hoodie Day at a later date.

6. NATIONAL YOUTH FORUM

The Gore District Council funded N Dickson's flight costs and Koha to attend the National Youth Forum in Wellington on 22-24 August. Youthlink, together with St Peters College kindly provided financial assistance for L Keenan to also attend the Forum.

N Dickson and L Keenan reported on their attendance and showed a power point presentation. They had both thoroughly enjoyed the experience, especially networking with other Youth Councillors of New Zealand. They were keen to attend again next year. Forty students had attended the forum.

7. SUBMISSION TO MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

The Ministry of Transport has released some suggested initiatives to improve the safety of our roads. The Southland District Youth Council is inviting other Youth Councils in the region to discuss this issue, particularly regarding raising the driving age and extending the length of time for the learner license period.

The meeting discussed the initiatives. All the Youth Councillors thought the driving age should not be increased.

K Millard, L Keenan and F Maslin thought more practical defensive driving should be a compulsory part at the beginning of the learning to drive process. They thought reckless drivers would continue to drive recklessly. In other countries where the

driving age had been raised, there had been no reduction in the accident statistics.

A Heslip thought a defensive driving course should be a compulsory part of the learner driver process.

B Stark thought increasing the driving age would make commuting for rural families with teenage children extremely difficult.

The Community Development Officer agreed that increasing the driving age could have a negative effect on family dynamics.

N Dickson and M Vercoe thought it would not be fair to discriminate by having a lower driving age for rural youth to drive than urban youth.

The meeting agreed opinion was that inexperience was the reason for the high accident rates and thought defensive driving needed to be more hands on, practical and more comprehensive.

The Officer would follow up and forward the Gore Youth Council's support to the Southland District Youth Council.

8. LAW COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS PAPER

Val Sim, from the Law Commission would be visiting Gore on 15 September to discuss the Law Commission's recommendations paper on the reform of New Zealand's Liquor Law.

In response to the Community Development Officer the Youth Councillors said they were interested in attending and assisting with the serving of food at the meeting.

9. WEB PAGE AND SOCIAL EVENT SUB COMMITTEES

The committee split into their two subgroups to discuss their projects.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 17 September 2009

The meeting concluded at 8.38 pm.