



**REPORT OF THE ORDINARY MONTHLY MEETING OF THE  
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL  
CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE ON WEDNESDAY 14  
OCTOBER 2009, AT 4.06 pm.**

**PRESENT** His Worship the Mayor (Mr Tracy Hicks JP)  
(from 4.10 pm), Cr Harvey (Chairperson),  
Crs Bolger, Davis, Dixey, Dixon, Gardyne,  
Heller, Highsted, McLennan and Sharp.

**IN ATTENDANCE** The Chief Executive (Mr Stephen Parry),  
General Manager, District Assets (Mr Paul  
Withers), General Manager, Corporate  
Services (Mr Russell Duthie), Parks and  
Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper),  
Roading Manager (Mr Murray Hasler),  
Assets Manager, Utilities (Mr Ross  
Haslemore), Planning Consultant (Mr Keith  
Hovell), Aquatics Services Manager (Kim  
Peterson), Building Control Manager (Mr  
Russell Paterson), Plumbing and Drainage  
Inspector (Mr Lester Paisley), Corporate  
Support Officer (Mrs Tracey Millan) and six  
members of the public in the gallery.

**APOLOGY** Cr Grant apologised for absence.

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**1. REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (18.79)**

The Committee perused the report from the Community  
Development Officer.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Highsted, seconded by  
Cr Bolger, THAT the report be received.**

**2. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT ARTS AND HERITAGE CURATOR  
(23.5)**

The Committee perused the report from the Arts and Heritage  
Curator.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Dixey, seconded by Cr  
Heller, THAT the report be received.**

3. REPORT OF THE LIBRARY MANAGER (25.1)

The Committee perused the report from the Library Manager.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr Dixon, THAT the report be received.**

4. REPORT OF THE AQUATIC SERVICES MANAGER (24.11.1)

The Committee perused the report from the Aquatics Services Manager.

The Manager advised the holiday programme and public sessions had been well supported over the holiday period. The Aflex inflatables had proved to be very popular.

Cr Davis thought the joint venture between the library and pool had been a good initiative. It was good to see staff thinking outside the square.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Sharp, seconded by Cr Gardyne, THAT the report be received.**

5. REPORT FROM GORE i-SITE VISITOR CENTRE (18.18.1)

The Committee perused the report from the i-Site Information Centre Manager.

Cr Gardyne thought for comparison reasons, it would be good for the visitors report to include previous monthly figures.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Dixey, seconded by Cr Davis, THAT the report be received.**

6. REPORT OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER (18.1.2)

The Committee perused the report from the Parks and Recreation Manager.

Cr Harvey reported a memorial tree planting ceremony had been held recently at Bannerman Park in memory of the late Mrs Irene McGregor, a former member of the Gore Garden Club and Gore Borough Council.

In response to Cr Dixon, the Manager advised about half of the Parks staff held a certificate in horticulture.

Cr Dixon wondered if that many qualified people were required on staff.

The Manager said a quality product was delivered and that required quality staff.

In response to Cr Dixon, the General Manager, District Assets said the skilling of the staff provided a good skill base to be able to maintain a good level of service for the future. Council did pay for their training. However, staff were not locked in to stay as it was not ideal to have staff employed who did not want to be there.

The Chief Executive advised some positions within the Council where intensive training was given, were covered by a bond agreement so if the employee left there was some money refunded back to the Council.

His Worship thought the most valuable asset any organisation could have was its employees. It was an investment that paid dividends.

Cr Dixon asked if Solid Energy had been approached to assist with recouping some of the cost of the new boiler for the Mataura pool.

The Manager said the Council had already agreed to fund the boiler.

The Chief Executive said the resolution to the Council said that the cost would be funded by a loan. If there were other opportunities for funding contributions from other stakeholders, it would be appropriate to give them the chance to participate away from the public arena.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Gardyne, seconded by Cr Sharp, THAT the report be received.**

7. TOWN AND DISTRICT SIGNAGE (3.24.9)

A memo had been received from the Parks and Recreation Manager regarding the sorry state of the town and district signage. The Manager wanted to promote a way forward to remedy the situation.

Cr Davis thought the existing signs were very old and would eventually disintegrate. It would not cost anything to look at what was available.

Cr Dixey thought signage to the Aquatic Centre also needed looked at and improved.

Crs Sharp and Harvey agreed.

The Manager advised the Council was currently looking at bulking up signage on State Highway, Coutts Road, Robertson Street and Charlton Road.

Cr Heller wondered how long it would take. He had been waiting for three months to hear a response back from Transit NZ regarding the upgrade of Tamworth Lane.

The Manager said there had been a hold up with Transit NZ.

In response to Cr Heller, the Roading Manager was hopeful it would happen in the next month or two. A change in organisation and personnel had seemed to bring about a change in attitude.

His Worship said the signage for facilities in the town was important. Some work to lift the town's profile would also be good.

Cr Gardyne wanted the Council to make a decision not to employ a consultant. He thought a touch up was all that was required with the district boundary signs. Caution was required to avoid cluttering and spoiling the town entrances with too many signs.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Dixey, seconded by Cr Sharp, THAT the report be received,**

**AND THAT the Council approve in principle Council officers exploring signage options and reporting back to the Council.**

#### 8. GORE DISTRICT ALCOHOL STRATEGY (50.53)

A memo had been received from the Community Development Officer together with a copy of the memorandum that generated the resolution to appoint a panel to consider submissions to the draft Gore District Alcohol Strategy. A report from the submissions hearing had also been circulated. Following further consideration and advice from the Alcohol Strategy Advisory Group, specific recommendations in regard to the amendment had been proposed.

Cr Bolger thought the town was very fortunate to have a Licensing Trust that was the main alcohol supplier. Other small towns had huge problems with lots of small outlets selling liquor.

Cr Heller said the recommendations that came from the committee had incorporated the wishes of all involved.

Cr Dixon referred to *page 14 – 5.3.2 Harms*. He thought relationship breakups were also a contributor to youth male suicide.

Cr Bolger said the strategy was concerned mainly about alcohol issues.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr McLennan, seconded by Cr Heller, THAT the Council incorporate the suggested amendments into the strategy,**

**AND THAT the Gore District Alcohol Strategy be adopted.**

9. MATAURA POOL WORKING PARTY (24.2.3)

A report had been received from the Parks and Recreation Manager advising that following the failure of the Mataura pool boiler and the Council's subsequent extraordinary meeting held on 8 September to deal with that issue, the Council also resolved at that meeting to establish a working party to analyse and look at future options for the Mataura pool in terms of operation and operational style.

Cr Bolger thought the list of terms of reference were very expansive. Costs would be a big consideration for the Mataura pool. The people selected for the working party would need to be frugal.

The Chief Executive said the terms of reference had been framed so that the Council could identify what the issues were in Mataura, instead of being reactionary to problems as it had been in past.

Cr Sharp said the steel beams in the rafters were rusted and would not be cheap to fix.

Cr Gardyne wondered if the Council was working for the Mataura benevolent society. He thought the terms of reference should have been discussed prior to the decision being made about the boiler last month. He said the Council had five other pools in the district that received a pittance in funding compared to Mataura. He advised the Kaiwera pool was no longer operational.

He thought the Council had been rushed into making the decision for a coal fired boiler without being given the costs of other heating options. A pool cover would make about a 30% saving in heating costs.

His Worship said the Council had determined it would invest in the pool in Mataura. It behoved the Council to make sure it got

the best return on its investment. In the past it had been reactionary in responding to different events, ie reducing the pool hours. It was a good opportunity to look at all the options for a good facility that was an important part of the community.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr McLennan, seconded by His Worship,**

**THAT the Council appoint His Worship the Mayor, Crs McLennan, Sharp and Dixey, one representative from the Mataura Community Board, one representative from the Mataura Taskforce and one representative from the Mataura School to the Mataura Pool Working Party,**

**AND THAT the terms of reference for the Working Party, as outlined in this report, be endorsed.**

**10. GORE SISTER CITY COMMITTEE – REJUVINATION AND REVIEW OF CONSTITUTION (35.2.4)**

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive together with the existing constitution for the Gore Sister City Committee and a suggested amended constitution.

The Chief Executive said the town had enjoyed a warm and solid relationship with Tamworth for the past 17 years and now wanted to foster an expansion of those links with Tamworth, rather than just keeping the relationship as it was.

Discussions had been held with the outgoing chairperson, Mrs Barbara Mackay, Cr Davis and the Administration Manager, Susan Jones about a way forward for the Committee. It was decided with no criticism intended at the current members, that the Committee needed a new spice of life. He suggested there could be merit in touching base with organisations that currently enjoyed representation on the Committee, before putting a recommendation to the full Council.

In response to Cr Dixon, the Chief Executive said Committee members had mentioned the budget had been quite limiting and were looking at an increase of about \$5,000, but it would go forward in the estimates for consideration.

Cr Gardyne thought the existing structure might be okay as long as the three community representatives were mindful of the other sectors that needed to be involved.

Cr Davis thought the Council needed to look for Committee members who wanted to be involved all year round and then bring in the interest groups at the appropriate time when their

particular events were taking place to make sure they were run well.

In response to Cr Gardyne, Cr Davis said the Committee had no money of their own as such, and was allocated a small budget from the Council, mainly utilised to transport the Young Ambassador and speech competition winner.

In response to Cr Dixey's concerns about wording of "will" in the second part of the recommendation, the Chief Executive said estimates were only a draft.

His Worship endorsed Cr Davis' comments and said the Committee had been a good one that had served the district well, however, a revised group should not be afraid to bring it up two or three cogs.

Cr Sharp commended the contribution Mrs Barbara Mackay had made during her time on the Sister City Committee.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr McLennan, seconded by Cr Davis, THAT subject to consultation taking place with those organisations that enjoy separate representation in terms of constitution, the Council endorse suggested amendments to the constitution to the Sister City Committee in order that it can be rejuvenated with a view to fostering broader links with Tamworth,**

**AND THAT the Council note that the draft estimates for 2010/11 will provide for an increase in the budget allocated to the Gore Sister Committee.**

The meeting concluded at 4.59 pm.