

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE, WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE, ON WEDNESDAY 14 OCTOBER 2009, AT 4 pm**

**Stephen Parry  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**7 October 2009**

## ***A G E N D A***

1. Report of the Community Development Officer  
(Pages 1-7)
2. Report from the District Arts and Heritage Curator  
(Pages 8-9)
3. Report of the Library Manager  
(Pages 10-11)
4. Report of the Aquatic Services Manager  
(Pages 12-14)
5. Report of the Gore i-Site Visitor Information Centre Manager  
(Pages 15-17)
6. Report of the Parks and Recreation Manager  
(Pages 18-19)
7. Town and District Signage  
(Pages 20-23)

8. Gore Alcohol Strategy (Pages 24-34)
9. Gore Sister City Committee – Rejuvenation and Review of Constitution (Pages 35-44)

# COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE AGENDA

OCTOBER 2009

## 1. REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

### **Meetings Attended:**

- Launch of Service for Pregnant Women at Hokonui Runanga
- Community Trust of Southland – Maitaura revitalisation proposal
- Early Childhood Meeting – Playcentre
- Southland District Council – Community Max Initiatives
- Maitaura Taskforce monthly meeting
- Law Commission Meeting with Val Sim – Liquor review report
- Eastern Southland Multi Cultural Network planning meeting
- Southland District Council – Southland Road Safety Network submission on Safer Journeys document
- Children’s Day 7 March 2010 - planning meeting
- Maitaura – Gore Transport Link meeting
- Maitaura Main Road crossing
- Regional Liquor Liaison meeting

### **Gore District Alcohol Strategy**

After submissions and advice of the local Steering Group, final admissions were made to the strategy. There were only minor changes regarding grammatical entries and additions to the document. This is testament to its strong constitution. Although submissions were comprehensive in support and information, most recommendations are regarding the ‘work’ of the strategy. This is already underway. Of particular note will be the submission made to the Law Commission on Liquor Law Reform at the end of this month by the Council Hearing Panel. There are also initiatives underway by the Maitaura Licensing Trust to support the ‘Get into it not out of it’ health promotion at selected establishments and provision of training to staff by Rape Prevention Education. This is a one day ‘Host Responsibility and Sexual Violence’ workshop where participants will be made aware of the links between alcohol and high risk situations, which will increase confidence in identifying and appropriately intervening if necessary.

### **Gore District Youth Council**

Two Youth Councillors attended the Law Commission meeting and were actively involved with the discussions that took place. They felt this was a great way to be involved.

The General Manager, District Assets, Mr Paul Withers attended the Youth Council meeting and explained his role and his involvement with Civil Defence. Disaster Awareness Week will run from 12-17 October. During this time the 'Get Ready Get Through' campaign will be promoted in various ways nationally. The General Manager invited the Youth Council to participate in promotion locally and they are rostered to assist throughout the week raising awareness and providing information to the public.

**Eastern Southland Multi Cultural Network**

This group is undergoing transformation and exploring the option of becoming a part of the New Zealand Newcomers Network and in so doing providing a service unique to the Gore District.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the report be received.**

## 2. REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT ARTS AND HERITAGE CURATOR

### **Eastern Southland Gallery**

Edward Bullmore's *A Surrealist Odyssey* exhibition continued throughout September, and it has been successful in attracting considerable outside interest - especially from the Otago region with many people making special trips south to see it.

The annual Muka Youth Print Exhibition proved highly successful this year with a record attendance and record sales. It also provided an opportunity for Frans Baetens and Magda van Gils of Muka to view progress with the East Gore Art Centre project.

All exterior cladding, roofing and painting is now complete on the west wing of the East Gore building and work is continuing on the interior fit-out of the artists' flat. It is hoped that this section will be fully commissioned by Christmas.

Staff members have been working with the Art Escape Trust to help plan its 2009 event. Proceeds for this year's art auction will go towards the East Gore project so to that end a number of our most supportive artists have donated works outright to assist our cause - Grahame Sydney, Marilynn Webb and Nigel Brown to name just three.

### **Exhibitions and Activities**

'*A Surrealist Odyssey*' - paintings by Edward Bullmore (from 8 August)

'*Muka Youth Prints*' - 12 September

### **Hokonui Heritage Centre**

Our research centre has remained busy throughout the year and work continues on collection and archive management within our storage areas. A full inventory of the museum's fishing collection is complete and further research is continuing into histories surrounding indigenous and introduced species within the Maitai Valley catchment, and associated angling activity. On-going research and documentation continues into the district's built heritage, as well as WWI, WWII and local cemetery databases.

### **General**

Staff members continue to work with groups on a variety of funding proposals and submissions. Liaison continues with a variety of local community development and event initiatives.

**Talks and Tours**

- Cue TV
- NZ i-Site Famil
- Ravensdown Tour Party

**Meetings and Representations**

- 2010 Hokonui Moonshiners Festival
- 2010 NZ Country Music Awards
- Supervision of Southland Roving Museum Officer
- National Library of NZ
- Gore District Memorial RSA

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the report be received.**

### 3. REPORT OF THE LIBRARY MANAGER

#### **LIANZA weekend school**

The Otago/Southland branch of LIANZA held their weekend school in Gore this year, on 19 and 20 September. The venue was the James Cumming Wing and sessions ran all day Saturday and Sunday morning. Two staff from the Gore District attended. Participants had the option to visit Gore and Mataura libraries, and those who visited Mataura were able to hear Valmai talk about her additional role as a storyteller and the benefits and value of this skill.

#### **Toddler Time**

Toddler Time continues to go from strength to strength, with an average attendance over Term Three of 13 children, plus parent/caregiver, per session.

#### **Joint Library Management System**

Joint standards for cataloguing and bibliographic records are being developed in preparation for closer co-operation between the libraries of Otago and Southland as more libraries join the SirsiDynix LMS Consortia. Jane and PJ attended the second meeting of cataloguing staff from the two regions that was held in Balclutha on 10 September. A set of guiding principles has been agreed across the consortia – a first for New Zealand public libraries.

To up skill in preparation for using these new standards a staff member attended a two-day cataloguing course for librarians from the consortia districts, held in Wanaka.

#### **Training**

All staff attended training in the Breakout and Fundview databases, plus the careers service website, provided by two external trainers.

#### **Holiday Programme**

The school holiday programme has started well in both Gore and Mataura. For the second time library staff partnered with the multi-sports complex to offer a combined library/aquatic centre session. Jenny Smith from the library and Fiona Shrigley from the pool worked together and held a “Make Your Boat and Float It” craft and fun swim session. This was a great success with 26 children attending, all of whom had a great time.

#### **Working with Schools**

In early September Valmai was invited to be one of two judges at Waikaka School for their oral reading competition. It was a positive experience and a good opportunity to further promote

the library, as this followed on from Valmai's recent visit to tell stories and give the children some advice about oral reading.

East Gore School classes have each visited Gore Library once this term and the senior class has been exhibiting some of their recycled artwork here at the library during the last three weeks.

St Mary's middle school classes came to Gore Library to learn how to use our computer catalogue, to extend their access to reading material and to learn how to research topics they are currently studying.

**Talks/Visits/Displays**

- East Gore School (2 visits)
- Waikaka School
- Oxford Kindergarten
- St Mary's (2 classes)
- Scholastic
- Harper Collins
- Australian Book Company
- Hachette Livre

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the report be received.**

#### 4. REPORT OF THE AQUATIC SERVICES MANAGER

When I attended the Jaws Conference in Queenstown in August, Aflex Technology had new inflatables on display; I had spoken to the supplier from Aflex about supplying the new toys for us to trial over the holiday period. They were more than happy to accommodate. The children were very excited and were lining up for a turn on the new toys.



Our first scheduled holiday programme, the Boat Regatta, was run in conjunction with the Gore Library on Tuesday 29 September, with 26 participating on the day. The children made three different types of boats, and then an age group race was held in the leisure pool, followed by lifejacket skills and a little bit of boat safety. Spot prizes and prizes for the best boat were given. The feedback from the event was very positive with parents impressed to see that the library and the pool were working together. Staff have fielded many enquiries regarding the remaining holiday programme events.



#### **Complex updates**

The new reception counter has been installed and functions very well. Staff find it fantastic to work in and have had a lot of positive comments from members of the public. We have had a busy month with contractors on site, working on completion of the new reception area, installing hot and cold units, the family

changing rooms had a touch up paint job, carpet was patched in the foyer area and the entrance into stage three has been painted.



I am currently working on getting prices from various outlets and local vendors for food items to sell from the hot and cold units.

We have had a total of 16 bookings this month, some of them having multiple bookings. Gore Main School completed its scheduled sessions and finished up with a fun day after all their hard work throughout the term. Aquazone held a swim meet in Gore and had 222 people. This included swimmers and spectators and only had room for 20-30 more people.

### **Leaping Frogs Swim School**

Two new instructors have joined our team of instructors. One of these previously taught in Wellington and was able to jump in straight away to help out. The other instructor, who has completed an Assistant Swim Teachers Award and has come from the English system, has been helping out with our school bookings.

Bookings for term four have started and assessments have been completed. Enrolments open a week early for those already in swim school, prior to opening up to public. Schools have been booking their spaces for the next term, which looks to be keeping the swim instructors busy with nearly every week containing school lessons. Clinton school is considering booking in for swimming lessons as well.

A new instructor assessment system has been put in place, with a change to week 5 instead of week 7. Instructor feedback will given after lessons that day. This is to streamline and improve the system.

<b>Visitor Numbers Gore</b>		
<b>Month</b>	<b>July 08 - June 09</b>	<b>July 09 - June 2010</b>
July	5927	6825
August	5111	7165
September	6606	6562
October	6850	
November	8145	
December	6528	
Janauary	7955	
February	6727	
March	8041	
April	6861	
May	6224	
June	6200	
<b>Total</b>	<b>81175</b>	<b>20552</b>

<b>Leaping Frogs Swim School</b>		
<b>Term Three lessons</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
Group Lessons	238	245
Privates	30	39
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>284</b>

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the report be received.**

5. REPORT OF THE GORE i-SITE VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE MANAGER

**SKI SEASON HELPS NEW ZEALAND TO A STRONG WINTER**

Latest figures out from Statistics New Zealand show Australian holiday arrivals over the winter season of June, July and August were up 28 per cent on the same three months last year.

Australian holiday arrivals for those three months were also 2 per cent higher than arrivals over the peak 2007/2008 summer months of December, January and February.

Tourism New Zealand attributes the results to the recession and a combined New Zealand marketing push in Australia earlier in the year.

Overall visitor arrivals in August were down one per cent, or 1385 visitors, compared to the same month last year. However, holiday arrivals were up one per cent on August 2008.

Though the UK is continuing to show weakness, with arrivals in August down 12 per cent, Germany is showing some strength, with arrivals up almost 8 per cent.

Feedback from the market is that Germany has held up well, particularly the youth sector. German travellers have proved to be more resilient to the whole crisis despite the credit crunch and swine flu.

Arrivals from the US were also up 7.4 per cent overall and holiday arrivals were up 20 per cent.

Though arrivals from Asia are still in negative territory, they are starting to pull back from recent lows caused by the impact of Influenza A (H1N1) (Swine Flu).

***International Visitor Arrivals***

- Australia: 88,347 up 11.6%
- UK: 10,353 down 12.2%
- USA: 10,752 up 7.4%
- Japan: 5,586 down 38.7%
- Canada: 2,247 up 5.3%
- China: 4,578 down 29.0 %
- South Korea: 4,200 down 33.7%
- Japan: 5,586 down 38.7%
- Germany: 2,247 up 5.3%

*Source: Tourism New Zealand Media Release*

### **Gore i-SITE Visitor Centre**

Jill McLaughlan and I attended the i-SITE conference held in Wanaka in mid-September where we were given the opportunity to attend famils, learn new product information and informed of their new summer campaign.

i-SITE New Zealand will be focusing on locals in its new campaign and have introduced a new website that has been set up in regions allowing the i-SITES in that region to communicate directly to each other during the day. i-SITE New Zealand's main focus is for all consultants and managers to gain as much knowledge as possible and to be more knowledgeable than a local. The i-SITE staff have been busy seeking out as much information (historical and present) regarding our local and rural areas. This has proven a success as it has enabled the team to provide our customers with factual information regarding Gore's history, icons and local information.

The school holidays have proven once again to be a busy time for the Centre with bookings increasing over this period.

Sales statistics show there has been an increase in 2009 sales of 1.15%. This is a good result considering tourism is still in a recession and swine flu is still having an impact.

### **Tourist's positive impression of Gore**

Friendly people

Everything is so clean and tidy

The Museum

The Art Gallery

Real cars in the car yards

Helpful staff

Gore has grown

Theatrical production

The fish

Amazing views

Things are very good I loved my visit here Brilliant!

So old for NZ

### **Tourist's other comments**

Longer opening hours for the i-SITE

Get a working still

More wax people – they are cool

Hard to find the main door of the i-SITE

Turn the lights on! Could not see all the objects in detail

When the bishop is saying his sermon to be motion activated

## Gore Visitors Centre Statistics Report – August 2009

	1-2 August	3-9 August	10-16 August	17-23 August	24-31 August	Total
Domestic	20	119	158	113	185	595
International	1	32	58	33	109	233
Tour Groups (Bookings Only)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bus tours	0	0	12	12	0	24
Accompanied children	3	6	24	2	8	43
Telephone calls	10	52	49	54	84	249
School tours	0	0	0	0	0	0
Website & Emails	1	3	4	2	2	12
Transport Enquiries Central						
Otago/Queenstown		2	0	2	3	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>1163</b>

### **Moonshine and Hokonui Museums**

The Moonshine Museum had 169 visitors through in July. The Hokonui Museum had a steady flow of visitors come through in August, as always both museums constantly receive a very positive response from our visitors.

### **Summary**

The i-SITE team is looking forward to a busy summer period. With tourists now more aware of the i-SITE branding most are seeking out information New Zealand wide specifically at i-SITES.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the report be received.**

## 6. REPORT OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER

Spring for the reserves department started off well with good consistently increasing soil temperatures but received a check when we experienced a cold southerly blast in late September.

We are experiencing good growth currently with the gardeners busy keeping on top of the weed growth. On the brighter side, the annual bedding plots have come through the winter well and are currently producing some wonderful displays around the towns where positive comments have been numerous. Over the past month, the Main Street gardeners have been busy pricking out the new season's annuals. This is tedious work but the results speak for themselves.

The main gardens staff are currently preparing the gardens for the upcoming annual rhododendron festival which is scheduled for Sunday 18 October. With nearly 50 stallholders currently booked it we are hoping for a fine day to increase the crowd and look forward to another successful event. The Council has recently employed another apprentice and we welcome Sean Donaldson to the main gardens team. Sean will work towards achieving a level four advanced certificate in Amenity Horticulture over the coming three years.



*Spring flowering, bronze and yellow Fritillaria imperialis in full flower in the Gore Main Gardens*

The ornamental flowering cherries in the reserves and street plots have again provided some magic vistas with blossoms turning a dull winter street into a sea of colour for the duration of the flowering period. The other highlight this year has been the amount of colour produced by the numerous daffodils and

as they open, colour proliferates and adds another dimension to any garden where they are present.

The spraying teams are now fully committed to spraying duties with weed growth now rampant. The Gore spraying round is complete and Matura 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 their 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 recent winds have been challenging for our spray operators and the wind severely restricts the available time to undertake this task. From a tree perspective we have not suffered any wind damage from the recent equinoctial winds.

The increasing soil temperature has now triggered the annual spring growth flush and our mowing staff are now fully committed to their rounds, being undertaken on a regular cyclical basis. We are currently keeping up with growth, with minimal 'bulk' being left after the mower has undertaken a cut.

Various turf maintenance tasks have been undertaken in early spring. The sports fields have been cored and spiked to aid aeration of the playing surface. They have also been ripped with our large slicing aerator which also has the effect of breaking up a 'pan' effect which is created throughout the year by use and mowing, thus aiding aeration and drainage to the sub-soil. In the Main Gardens lawns we have vibra-moled and verti-drained the surface, while the croquet green and office lawns have been verti-drained. In addition there has been some re-seeding and or over-sowing of areas where the turf cover is getting a little thin. The sports fields have been sprayed with a selective herbicide to weed out inappropriate species.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the report be received.**

## 7. TOWN AND DISTRICT SIGNAGE

(Memo from Parks and Recreation Manager – 02.09.09)

### **Purpose of Report**

This report is to bring to the Council's attention the sorry state of its town and district signage and promote a way forward to remedy the current situation. We are nationally recognised as having quality facilities and amenities and we wish to align the signage with this image.

### **Background**

The Council has a number of high profile events coming to the District in the coming year and the current state of our existing signage has already come in for an amount of criticism.

We have a vibrant hub to the district where we promote widely our arts and heritage, parks and reserves, multi-sports complex, A & P showgrounds and the like but the quality of our signage dose not match that of the facilities and amenities outlined above. As we have now finally dealt with the issue of public toilets which was seen as Gores' Achilles heel, we propose to now address the issue of updating our image through signage.

The Council has also recently updated its logo so it is opportune to revisit this issue now.

### **Current Situation**

We have routed timber signs at 13 different road entrances into the District. At Arthurton, Waikoikoi, Merino Downs, Crossans Corner, Leithan Road, Mt Wendon, Pyramid, Mandeville, Otapiri Gorge, Waitane, Brydone, Tukurau and Old Coach Road. These signs are very basic and now somewhat dated. There are also two larger signs at the northern state highway entrances to Gore that are designed to welcome and attract visitors. These are faded, dated, moss infested and look shabby. They have been in service for approximately 20 years.

Our District has many 'claims to fame' to name but a few

- Trout fishing
- Hokonui Moonshine
- Eastern Southland Gallery
- Arts and Heritage
- Gold Guitars
- Hokonui Fashion awards
- Agriculture

Many of these sectors have individual statues or monuments promoting and celebrating their specific activity. It would be nice to incorporate some of these recognised icons into an entry sign or structure but we need to exercise caution so as not to either preclude a section of the community or unfairly promote another. Any choice to incorporate any of these will need to be given careful consideration.

Council officers believe we have two issues here before us.

First, one of ‘branding’ our towns with good quality permanent signs on the three State Highway entrances welcoming people to Gore. These signs may or may not reflect a ‘claim to fame’ icon, theme or themes.

Secondly, the branding of the District with uniform signage informing people that they have entered the Gore District. We have four State Highway entrances, and nine other entrances to the District.



*State Highway 1 McNab.*



*State Highway 94 Croydon*

The town of Mataura is currently exploring options of branding itself “A Town of Champions”. This will no doubt include signage in the future. Two years ago the town of Waikaka had its town signs redesigned and rebuilt. In consultation with the Waikaka Progress League, these signs incorporate a local flavour with ‘Cheese Rolling’ featuring on the signage.

### **Where to from here**

Council officers' intend to consult with other Councils where 'branding' signage has been instigated in recent times such as Waitaki District Council, Clutha District Council and Dunedin City Council.

From a core of staff including the Arts and Heritage Curator, Community Development Officer, Parks and Recreation Manager and local professionals experienced in structure concept and design, hold discussions with a view to presenting the Council with at least three costed options.

### **Social Wellbeing Impact**

This could have a significant and positive impact on the local population as they see pride in their District and a sense of belonging.

### **Economic Wellbeing Impact**

If there is a plan implemented there will be a cost to bear for the ratepayers, but this effect has to be balanced with the potential increase in esteem and image, understanding that measuring any increase may be subjective.

### **Environmental Wellbeing Impact**

There will be minimal impact to the environment from the proposal and recommendation contained within this report as there currently are signs in these locations.

### **Cultural Wellbeing Impact**

All cultures should benefit from an increased profile for their local community. District pride for all cultures.

### **Impact on Promotion of Community Outcomes**

<i>Outcome 1</i>	"Southland is a great place to live"
<i>Intermediate Outcome</i>	-We value our history and heritage -We are proud to be Southlanders
<i>Outcome 2</i>	"A diverse economy built from our strengths for growth and prosperity"
<i>Intermediate Outcome</i>	- We have quality infrastructure with potential for growth - We have an innovative and vibrant culture that supports business

**Impact on LTCCP**

This proposal would not have a financial implication on the LTCCP. Once a report is drafted and presented to the Council it shall contain cost estimates which upon the Council confirming its preferred option, will have a financial implication to be discussed at that time.

**Community Views**

Based upon the comments to date, an upgrade of town signage shall reflect in a positive way on the local population where residents are proud of their town and how it is portrayed to others.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**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

(Memo from Community Development Officer – 30.09.09)

At the July council meeting, a panel comprising Councillors Bolger, Heller and Highsted were appointed to consider submissions to the draft Gore District Alcohol Strategy. A copy of the memorandum that generated this resolution and outlined the process used in adopting this policy is attached.

The Hearing Panel heard submissions on the strategy on 21 August 2009 - a copy of minutes is attached. Following further consideration and advice from the Alcohol Strategy Advisory Group, the panel has now made specific recommendations in regard to the amendment of the strategy. The recommendations are:

### **Page 10 – 3.6 Goal of the Strategy**

- The overall goal of the strategy is “*to encourage a community that works together to reduce the harm to people and property from alcohol misuse and fosters responsible drinking through a mix of preventive and treatment measures (Young and Old)*” It is recommended that the reference at the end of the statement **(Young and Old)** be omitted and continue ‘*...for people of all ages.*’

### **Page 13 – 5.3 Alcohol in New Zealand and Southland**

- ‘*Alcohol is enjoyed safely by the majority of the population most of the time and it’s production, distribution....*’

This statement is contradicted by evidence presented by the Law Commission. It is recommended this be written as:

*‘Alcohol is enjoyed safely by most of the population and it’s production, distribution.....’*

### **Page 14 – 5.3.2 Harms**

#### **I. – For the Gore and district communities the following should also be considered:**

- Given the huge concern regarding suicide especially amongst young men in our district it is recommended that the following addition to this list is made:

*‘Suicide/Depression especially amongst young men in the Gore District Community’*

**Page 23 – 5.6.5 The Local Culture**

- It is recommended that the sentence *‘Many people leave town at 18 and return with ‘city traditions’’* be omitted as it is anecdotal rather than evidence based.

**Page 26 – 6.2.3 The Public’s Role**

- Second paragraph last sentence: *‘If it is seen as a priority, educating people about the process for objecting about licences are to be considered’*

Public participation is desirable during the licensing process therefore stakeholders should be encouraged to educate the public on making submissions not objections, it is recommended this statement read:

*‘If it is seen as a priority, educating people about the process for submitting about licenses are to be considered’*

**Page 30 – Priority Areas, Responsible Hosts**

- It is recommended that the following inclusion is made: *‘Role Modelling - Discourage the use of alcohol at youth related events such as at sports clubs prize givings’*

**Page 36 – Actions, Reviews**

- To ensure the effectiveness of the strategy and a consistent effort is made by council and community stakeholders it is recommended that the following inclusion is made: *‘Review the action points/work of the strategy every six months’*

The Hearing Panel also acknowledges that the issue of transport should be addressed at the time of the licence application and a link between the hours of operation and the provision of transport be clarified. This could be addressed at the time of our own Sale of Liquor Policy Review.

Overall submissions to the Strategy were positive and supported the Council in the work it is endeavouring to undertake as a community leader. The Hearing Panel acknowledges that the ratification of the strategy is an important part of the process. However it is now up to not only the council but the community and stakeholders to bring the action points of the strategy to life and pursue the objectives to minimise alcohol related harm in our district.

Once the strategy is adopted it will be available to view on the Council website.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the Council incorporate the above amendments into the strategy,**

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

## 9. MATAURA POOL WORKING PARTY

(Report from the Parks and Recreation Manager 24.09.09)

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.

### **Terms of Reference**

1. To critically examine the efficiency of heating the air and water at the Mataura Pool having regard to issues of sustainability.
2. To critically examine the condition and appropriateness of the design of the Mataura Pool building.
3. To critically examine and identify shortcomings in the interior design and floor plan of the Mataura pool complex in respect of present and future needs.
4. To recommend to the Council a course of action to address issues and projects identified in 1-3 above.

Staff that shall be involved in the working party are the General Manager, District Assets, the Parks and Recreation Manager and the Aquatic Services Manager.

The working party shall also seek representation and input from the Mataura Community Board.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the Council appoint His Worship the Mayor, three Councillors, 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: REJUVENATION AND REVIEW OF CONSTITUTION

(Memo from Chief Executive – 01.10.09)

In April of this year the Council received with regret a letter of resignation from Mrs Barbara Mackay in regard to her position of chairperson of the Gore Sister City Committee. At that time the Council also resolved to consider the future structure and work programme of the Sister City Committee and bring some recommendations back to the Community Services Committee.

Since April, the Council has sent a delegation to Tamworth comprising of Julie Mitchell from the Gore Country Music Club, Cr Davis and Administration and Human Resources Manager, Susan Jones. This delegation gave very positive feedback about its reception whilst in Tamworth together with the level of warmth and importance placed by Tamworth on its relationship with Gore.

Discussions have also been held with outgoing chairperson, Mrs Barbara Mackay to ascertain her views about how the Sister City Committee can be rejuvenated and structured.

Following these happenings, discussion was also held with Cr Davis and Mrs Jones, with myself to suggest a way forward for the Committee. These discussions took on board views previously expressed by Mrs Mackay.

What became clear to us all is that the Sister City Committee does need some amendments in terms of its constitution to allow it to fully flourish. With the benefit of hindsight it appears that the Council has saddled the Committee with a structure that provides representation from various interest groups, yet does not provide for a sufficient quotient of general community/sister city relationship enthusiasts that are not focussed on one particular sector. It appears to those of us that have been reviewing the structure and performance of the Sister City Committee that members selected from a specific sector will in all likelihood only be geared up and enthused about the particular sector they represent. This is perhaps not conducive to nurturing an expansion of contacts between Gore and Tamworth.

It is therefore suggested that the Council dispense with sector representation in the constitution of the Sister City Committee in favour of general community representation by individuals that have a passion and energy for fostering stronger links between Gore and Tamworth. It could well be that such an

approach could result in certain individuals being appointed to the Sister City Committee who have strong links with an existing sector (eg country music). However on the premise that rejuvenation of the Committee is needed, it is suggested that the constitution be amended to provide for this.

- ✦ Enclosed please find as Appendix A, the existing constitution for the Gore Sister City Committee. A suggested amended constitution which makes allowance for six committee members is enclosed as Appendix B. It is envisaged that each of these members which will include a Gore District Councillor will have responsibility for a specific portfolio or sector of the community.

It appears to those that have participated in this review that there are considerable opportunities for regular contact with Tamworth in the areas of rugby, netball and equine interests.

The other areas of proposed change in the constitution is the deletion of the rule (clause 6 (a) refers) that the chairperson or deputy chairperson cannot be an elected member of the Gore District Council. This particular rule was introduced in 2002 in the belief that after 10 years of operation it was felt the Sister City Committee should command a degree of independence and not have an umbilical cord to the Council by virtue of a council member chairing the Committee. However, given that the Committee is very much a creature of the Council's creation and the links it needs to retain between the Council and the community, it is suggested that the prohibition on an elected member chairing the Committee be removed. It should be noted that if this suggestion is embraced it does not automatically mean that a council member will chair the Committee.

The other area of concern raised in the review process was the budget allocated to the Sister City Committee. At \$5,448 there is only a limited amount of scope within this budget to advance initiatives. Any air travel that may be incurred between Gore, Tamworth and return is financed from this budget therefore leaving little else for the Committee to utilise. It is appreciated that contacts do not have to be face to face and with the likes of modern technology in the form of Facebook and even email or art exchanges a number of possibilities can be realised. It is suggested however that a modest increase in this budgetary allocation would assist in rejuvenating the enthusiasm within the Committee. Perhaps therefore the Council can look favourably on a budget increase for the Committee when it considers 2010-11 estimates.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT 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 City,**

**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 City Committee.**