

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

**Stephen Parry
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

7 October 2009

A G E N D A

1. Report of the Roading Manager (Pages 1-5)
2. Report of the Asset Manager, Utilities (Pages 6-8)
3. Civil Defence Report (Page 9)
4. Report of the Animal Control Contractor (Page 10)
5. Urban Water Supply Working Party (Pages 11-12)
6. Otama Ground Water Take Resource Consent Applications (Pages 13-14)
7. Presentation on Southern Rural Fire Authority (Page 15)
8. BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT 1987:
 - WasteNet Tender – Progress Report

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE AGENDA

OCTOBER 2009

1. REPORT OF ROADING MANAGER

Network Maintenance Contract - General

Generally mild spring weather enabled uninterrupted progress on work programmed.

A trial, on both sealed and gravel roads, was undertaken using the "Tiger claw" machine. The machine which has recently been imported from the USA and is used extensively there and in South Africa provides a low cost way to widen gravel roads and maintain unsealed shoulders on sealed roads. The trial was reasonably effective especially on gravel roads and the machine may be used again in the future.

Monthly Maintenance Activity – September

- Routine cyclic rural and urban maintenance.
- 289km of gravel roads were inspected since the previous report. Refer attached map.
- 153km of gravel roads inspected complied and did not require grading when inspected.
- 136km of the roads inspected were graded to restore compliance.
- Hand patching of isolated potholes on 15km of road was also carried out.
- Maintenance metalling (2317m³) was carried out in Waikaka and Kaiwera wards.
- Concrete footpath and kerbing repair works continued.
- Frost inspections continued but no ice gritting required.
- Replacement of drainage duct lids in Irk Street
- Wilding trees removed from verge on Glenkenich, Waimumu and Reaby Roads.
- Town sweep completed.
- Remote kerb cleaning underway.
- Bridge maintenance in progress.
- Pre-reseal edgebreak patching underway.
- GDC Essential Services Department service repairs on roads were reinstated.
- Pre-reseal repair inspections completed.
- Improved signage for Crawford Road installed.
- Stuart Street, Mataura, drainage improvements.
- Nicholson Road (Croydon) drainage improvements.
- Safety improvements on Henderson Road

- Culvert replacement on Reaby Road

Programmed Maintenance Works - October

- Routine cyclic rural, urban and reserves inspections and maintenance.
- Various urban and rural pavement repairs.
- Urban and rural pre-reseal repairs
- Wilding tree removal at isolated spots.
- Concrete repairs including footpaths and vehicle crossings
- Gravel road metalling
- Maintenance of remote urban channels continues.
- Urban and rural weed spraying to begin.
- Hokonui Drive drainage improvements.
- Installation of signage for “No Engine Brakes” on Wyndham Road, Maitua.
- Ontario Street seal widening.
- GDC Essential Services Department service repairs on roads continues.

Gravel Road Inspection/Grading Details - September

Refer attached map and schedules.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received.

2. REPORT OF THE ASSET MANAGER, UTILITIES

During the month the Essential Services team have started to install the new water main in Onslow Street. With two staff members on leave during the month and also sickness, progress has been restricted.

A pumping test of the new well at Jacobstown was carried out on 1 September. A pump was installed in the well and run for 28 hours. The pump in number three well was turned off while the test pumping was being completed because of the close proximity between the new well and number three well, (18 metres). This meant that number one well supplied water to the Hilbre Avenue reservoir. While the pumping test was being completed the other wells were monitored and it was noted the water level in number three was lowered dramatically and also number one well decreased. The turbidity level started to increase on the number one well and reached a level that forced the pumping test after 28 hours to be stopped.

During the following two weeks the reservoir was dropping during the higher draw off periods and with both pumps operating this was not sufficient to recharge the reservoir. This was due mainly to number three well not allowing the water to enter and recharge the well sufficiently during pumping.

The pump from the number three well was removed and installed into the new well with some additional pipe work connecting into existing pipe work.

The pump was started in the new well in conjunction with the pump at number one well. After 24 hours the reservoir was at full capacity and number one pumps was turned off and this allowed only the new well to supply water to the Hilbre reservoir. With this pump operating from Jacobstown site, enough water is being supplied to the Hilbre reservoir to meet the demand at this point in time.

The water sample test results showed the level of iron, turbidity, and manganese all reduced in values when compared to the test taken in April 2009. With the additional pumping of the well the turbidity has reduced further from 0.7Ntu to 0.1Ntu.

Oxidation Ponds

The Actiflo plant was installed at the Gore oxidation ponds last year to control the quality of the effluent being discharged from the oxidation ponds. This requirement, along with other conditions, was introduced when Environment Southland approved the discharge consent from the Gore oxidation ponds.

As part of this consent the Gore District Council had to supply a management plan for the oxidation pond by December 2009, along with a method to dispose of the sludge from the Actiflo plant. A draft operation and maintenance manual for oxidation pond including the Actiflo plant has been produced and currently being reviewed.

Over the first year of operation there has been an improvement in the quality of effluent being discharged from the oxidation while the Actiflo plant is in operation.

A sludge survey has been completed for the Gore oxidation ponds. This has now given the Gore District Council a better estimation of the quantity of sludge in the primary and secondary pond. It has been estimated that the primary pond contains 30,000m³ of sludge and the secondary pond contains approximately 14,000m³ of sludge. It has been estimated on current supply levels of effluent that there is approximately 12½ years of hydraulic capacity. The Actiflo discharge of alum back to the pond has yet to be considered.

In the primary pond the sludge ranges in depth from 300 to 1000 mm. In the secondary pond from the depth varies from 80 –200 mm. The majority of the sludge in the primary pond is at the west side of the pond. The sludge has been driven into this area by the aerators.

A report is being prepared on the possible options to remove the sludge from the pond and the treatment for disposal. Once this report is completed, which will include estimations of cost for disposal, it will be presented to the Council.

Stormwater

In April a stormwater discharge application was lodged with Environment Southland who required consents for all stormwater discharges to waterways. This includes Gore, Mataura, Waikaka and Pukerau where stormwater is discharged to a waterway. Water samples have been collected from discharges in all area to access the stormwater in heavy flows and dry weather flows. A detailed study of each discharge point is being completed and where the stormwater has originated from. Once completed this will be supporting information for the stormwater discharge. The original application will be replaced with a new application with the intent of obtaining a longer consented period.

Transfer Station

Weights (tonnes) from January 2009

	Refuse 09	Green Waste	Metal	Clean fill	Glass	Refuse 08
January	543	91	3	15	15	557
February	513	70	8	22	17	569
March	581	81	3	20	13	531
April	588	58	5	12	10	565
May	597	44	3	12	11	528
June	597	37	8	7	11	524
July	561	33	3	10	10	532
August	664	95	6	17	11	513
September	576	73	5	32	22	579
Totals	5,221	582	45	146	120	4,898

General Repairs

A total of 21 toby taps were repaired in Gore and Mataura. Seven service lines were replaced in Gore and Mataura. A minor leak was repaired in a water main along with four repairs to lateral connections. A new water connection was completed to supply water to a new house in River Street, Mataura. One fire hydrant was serviced and one was replaced in Pukaki Street.

The Otama water scheme had five minor leaks repaired. Two new water tanks were installed to supply properties with water.

Two sewer pumps in Mataura were lifted at the pumping stations and cleared of blockages.

Three trade waste samples were sent away for testing.

Four samples were collected from the Gore and Mataura water reticulation system every nine days for testing. Weekly samples were taken from all the water plants. The water samples taken during the month from the Gore and Mataura water supplies showed no ecoli transgression which confirms the quality of the water that we strive to deliver.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received.

3. CIVIL DEFENCE REPORT

(Memo from General Manger, District Assets – 28.09.09)

Activities during the past month have been as follows:

Regional preparations are being made for disaster awareness week. This year Civil Defence is running an awareness campaign in order to explain the home preparedness message.

- *Disasters can strike at any time*
- *Emergency services and civil defence could be stretched to the limit*
- *You and your family may have to cope on your own for up to three days*
- *You need to be self sufficient in food, water and basic supplies*

The campaign will be at the supermarket and involves handing out shopping lists and when customers exit with a minimum of three purchased items from the list they are rewarded with a reusable civil defence shopping bag as well as going into the draw to win a home readiness kit (one for each store). I would like to acknowledge the assistance from the Citizens Advice Bureau, Youth Councillors and the Gore District Council for their assistance

As previously reported, the Co-ordinating Executive Group (CEG) meeting has been postponed until October.

I have attended workshops in order to participate in developing the needs of the Shared Services Civil Defence proposal where a draft heads of agreement document is almost complete.

Radio checks continue to be performed by Bernard Chapman. Virginia Carter is now able to perform the radio checks as per the procedure.

The Civil Defence Officer is back home now and continuing his rehabilitation. He reached the conclusion that it is time for him to retire and has now done so.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received.

4. REPORT OF THE ANIMAL CONTROL CONTRACTOR

Customer Service Requests

September proved to be another busy month with 48 reported incidents. We have visited approximately 80 properties in Maitua and Gore to carry out non registration checks and give the dog owners the chance to pay their registrations before they receive an infringement notice of \$300. Some did pay, but sadly most did not.

The barking dog complaints are mainly from repeat offenders. We have two Rottweilers in East Gore that we have received repeated wandering complaints about. Some people do not learn but when they receive an infringement notice, perhaps they will listen to what I say.

We have not been able to get any information on the dog attacks on sheep in the North Gore area. There has been a further attack by a dog on a lamb in Maitua, but once again, nobody sighted the incident.

	Maitua	Gore	Total
Dog Attacks (stock & person)	1	1	2
Barking Dogs	2	8	10
Dogs Claimed by Owner	1	10	11
Dogs Rushing Out			
Escaped			
Euthanased	2	1	3
Fouling			
Impoundment	3	8	11
Infringement			
Missing Dogs		4	4
Other & Animal Welfare		1	1
Registration Checks	10	3	13
Rehoused			
Stock Calls	4	6	10
Unsubstantiated			
Wandering Dogs	4	18	22
Warning	1		1

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received.

5. URBAN WATER SUPPLY WORKING PARTY

(Memo from General Manager, District Assets – 02.10.09)

At the September Committee meeting it was resolved that:

An urban water supply working party be established to further investigate the options profiled in the report, with the objective of putting in a funding application.

Guidance for the proposed working party is given in the 2009 - 2019 LTCCP in which states

The Council will also continue its investigations on the feasibility of rationalising its water treatment facilities. One of the options to be explored is the physical connection of the Gore and Mataura water supplies. This in turn would necessitate investigating the reduction of treatment plants and raw water procurement facilities.

(pg 86 LTCCP)

Terms of Reference

1. To critically examine the existing raw water supplies and the sustainability of the existing supplies
2. To critically examine the options of new raw water supplies
3. To critically examine the feasibility of rationalising water treatment facilities
4. To critically examine the options for water treatment in order to meet drinking water standard requirements
5. To identify water conservation opportunities and develop incentives to encourage the inclusion of such measures in future designs of dwellings
6. To identify leakage reduction procedures for the water system in order to reduce wastage of water
7. To recommend to the Council a course of action that addresses sustainability of water supply and optimises water treatment.
8. To recommend a funding application to the Council if the appropriate opportunity and criteria are met.

The staff that shall be involved in the working party are The General Manager, District Assets and the Asset Manager, Utilities.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the terms of reference be approved,

AND THAT five Councillors be appointed to the Urban Water Supply Working Party.

6. OTAMA GROUND WATER TAKE RESOURCE CONSENT APPLICATIONS

(Memo from General Manager, District Assets – 30.09.09)

Environment Southland has advised Council that it has received a resource consent application for a water permit. JR and CR Martin is the consent applicant.

The applicant seeks to take 1728 cubic metres of water per day from the Knapdale ground water zone for pasture irrigation. The annual extraction rate will not exceed 259200 cubic metres a year. A recommendation in Environment Southland's Ground Water Scientist Karen Wilson report is that when the Mataura River drops below 19 cubic metres per second at Gore, water extraction will be halted in order to honour the conservation order on the Mataura River.

Environment Southland has given us the opportunity to support, oppose or comment on this submission.

The 1728 cubic metres per day requested by the applicant for irrigation represents approximately one third of the average daily use by the Gore township.

The application is classified as a non complying activity due to ground water allocation limit of 15% of the land surface recharge for lowland aquifers as per Southland's proposed Regional Water Plan. This proposed flow cut-off for this take is 19 cubic metres per second measured at the Gore bridge.

The cumulative effects of this application along with others previously granted do impact on the Gore District Council by having to ask ratepayers to conserve water when the river reaches 17 cubic metres a second at Gore. The effect of reduced flow also means the cost to the Council of treating effluent increases. This occurs when the river drops below 25 cubic metres a second and the discharge from the Actiflo plant has to contain less than 0.5 milligrams per litre of Dissolved Reactive Phosphorus.

With water becoming recognised as a finite resource it is essential that its use is prioritised. The welfare of people and also animals would appear to be a greater priority for water allocation. Water allocation needs to accommodate the communities' needs now and in the future.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received,

AND THAT the Council oppose the Otama ground water take resource consent application.

7. PRESENTATION ON SOUTHERN RURAL FIRE AUTHORITY

(Memo from Chief Executive – 05.10.09)

A presentation on the Southern Rural Fire Authority will be provided by Mr David Adamson of the Southland District Council, and Mr Mike Grant, Principal Rural Fire Officer.