

**REPORT OF THE ORDINARY MONTHLY MEETING OF THE
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE ON TUESDAY 23 MARCH
2010, AT 6.55 PM**

PRESENT His Worship the Mayor (Mr Tracy Hicks JP), Cr Harvey (Chairperson), Crs Bolger, Davis, Dixey, 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), Building Control Manager (Mr Russell Paterson) and Corporate Support Officer (Mrs Tracey Millan)

APOLOGIES Crs Grant and Dixon apologised for absence.

1. GORE GOLD GUITAR YOUNG AMBASSADOR (18.52)

A memo had been received from the Administration Manager about the 2009 Gore Gold Guitar Young Ambassador, Mrs Holly Allen, together with a copy of an email received from the Secretary of the Tamworth Sister City Committee, Mr Bill Forest advising Holly's presence in Tamworth had been very well received.

2. REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (18.79)

The Committee perused the report from the Community Development Officer.

Cr Dixey said the Youth Councillors were a great group of young people, who treated him with respect and he was looking forward to working with them.

His Worship said he was working with the Community Development Officer to organise some Youth Councillors to attend Committee and Council meetings this year.

He had recently attended the successful Children's Day held at the Gore Multi Sports Complex with approximately 1500 people attending. The event had been well supported by local voluntary organisations and highlighted the potential for parking challenges at the complex that might lie ahead in the winter months.

In response to Cr Gardyne, the Parks and Reserves Manager said the current consent did not allow access to carparks from the eastern end at present.

The Chief Executive said the issue would need to be revisited.

Cr Sharp wondered if the Council should be budgeting for a bigger carpark.

His Worship, Mrs Hicks and Cr Harvey had attended a recent Multi cultural event. Cr Harvey thought it was great to see the pastoral care and support being given to newcomers to the district.

His Worship encouraged Councillors to visit the new Multicultural Network website. The Gore District was the first in Southland to host a newcomer's network.

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

3. REPORT OF THE AQUATIC SERVICES MANAGER (24.11.1)

The Committee perused the report from the Aquatics Services Manager.

Cr Harvey thought the pool patronage figures were very pleasing.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cr Harvey had spoken with some Australian tourists recently. They loved Gore and thought it was a beautiful town.

Cr Highsted noted the costs per night to camp at Dolamore Park were very low and wondered if it was an area where the Council could generate more revenue.

The Manager agreed the current rate of \$6.00 per adult per night, with no charge for children was a cheap rate. He agreed the costs could be increased in the future, however if costs were lifted, campers would expect the standard of the amenities at the site to be raised.

His Worship said the facilities at Dolamore Park were very basic and would have to be upgraded if camp fees were increased.

Cr Sharp thought the idea of leasing Dolamore Park so that it was an income instead of an expense could be explored. Although it would be a long shot getting the Park into credit, leasing it could reduce the costs.

In response to Cr Davis, the Manager said Dolamore Park had been gifted to the Council from a Trust. He could explore further and report back to the Council.

His Worship said Dolamore Park was a wonderful asset, but did not think enough people visited to warrant changes. He was cautious about leasing the park and would like to see public ownership and management retained. There could be options the Council could look at to maximise the use of the Park. A lot of work was completed at the park behind the scenes that would not happen under a lease.

There had been suggestion a few years earlier from a certain section of the community to fence Dolamore Park and put sheep on it to graze. Fortunately that had not happened.

Cr Gardyne said everyone knew what happened to assets that were vested in the Council, ie the James Cumming family.

He thought Cr Sharp was possibly right. He did not think the Council should lose sight thinking that Dolamore Park would actually get better exposure if it was given Regional Park exposure. Environment Southland would be included and the Gore District Council would then receive money from it to maintain the park. It would be a win-win situation.

In response to Cr Heller, the Manager said the swimming pool at Dolamore Park was no longer utilised because of water quality and pool standards. Water was reticulated from the creek untreated and then discharged back into the creek. Consents were required from both ends.

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

6. SPORT SOUTHLAND REPORT (50.34.1)

A memo had been received from the Parks and Recreation Manager together with a copy of the Eastern Southland biannual report compiled by the local Sport Southland Co-ordinator, Mr Richard Pasco.

Cr Harvey said Mr Pasco ought to be congratulated for his efforts at the new MLT Events Centre, especially for his involvement with the refurbishment of sports equipment at the Centre.

His Worship reiterated Cr Harvey's comments. Mr Pasco was an asset to the community.

Cr Gardyne wanted to see some focus on children who were not participating in sports. There was no mention in the report of the more traditional sports, such as rugby, tennis and netball. Those sports were also struggling to keep going and he thought Sport Southland and Mr Pasco needed to be involved to make sure assistance was available for them also to encourage all children to participate.

His Worship assured Cr Gardyne that Mr Pasco supported the traditional sports as well.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Gardyne, seconded by Cr McLennan , THAT the information be received.

7. VETERANS' AFFAIRS NEW ZEALAND (20.2.2)

A memo had been received from the Parks and Recreation Manager, together with a copy of the report following the inspection by Veterans Affairs of the Gore and Charlton Park Services Cemeteries. The report noted the high standard of care and maintenance that was evident.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Dixey, seconded by Cr Bolger, THAT the information be received.

8. 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 Davis, seconded by Cr Heller, THAT the report be received.

The meeting concluded at 7.17pm