



**REPORT OF THE GORE DISTRICT YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING,
HELD IN THE JAMES CUMMING WING SUPPER ROOM, 29 CIVIC
AVENUE, GORE ON TUESDAY 22 JUNE 2010, AT 4.00 PM.**

PRESENT Youth Crs B Austin, H Diamond, L Keenan, F Maslin, A Miller, C Morton, N Parry, S Pay and J Stark.

IN ATTENDANCE Community Development Officer (Ms Colleen TeAu), Youth Development Officer (Jan Goulding) and Corporate Support Officer (Mrs Tracey Millan).

APOLOGIES Cr Dixey and Youth Crs H Duthie, T McKeown and T Osborne apologised for absence.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED on the motion of C Morton, seconded by N Parry, **THAT** the report of the Youth Council meeting held on 18 May 2010, be accepted as an accurate and complete record.

2. REPORT FROM THE PLANNING DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The planning committee had not met since the last Youth Council meeting. The Community Development Officer suggested that a meeting be organised after the July school holidays with the Planning Consultant, J Goulding and the committee to offer some guidance on how to progress their ideas.

3. OUR WAY SOUTHLAND YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM

13 Youth Councillors and the Community Development Officer had recently attended and helped to facilitate the Our Way Southland Forum. Attendees exceeded 170 young people with everyone contributing to the event. Marty Redhead was an excellent facilitator.

The highlight of the forum for the Youth Councillors was the address from the keynote speaker Mr Marcus Akuhata Brown.

He was very humbling and reiterated to all that one gets back what one gives.

The Officer said Mr Brown was on the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs, therefore it was possible that the Youth Council could utilise him again for other projects. The Council thought Mr Brown would be well received at the local schools.

The afternoon had involved group discussion on various topics and the Councillors noted the following:

- introducing education at a younger age nurtured a love of learning later on;
- adult perception in Southland was that there were lots of interests available for youth to keep busy; and
- there was little social activity available to young people outside of church organised events that did not involve alcohol.

The Councillors thought more inspirational speakers should be arranged for the next forum.

The Officer said there had been no Youth Council representation from the Southland District Council. It would be addressed at a debrief that was being held in the near future.

B Austin thought the morning's events had been more interesting.

S Pay thought the discussion topics selected could have been more interesting.

F Maslin said the forum was very Invercargill/Southland orientated.

Everyone agreed.

The Officer said the issue would be addressed at the debrief.

N Parry suggested mixing the agenda up next time by having a keynote speaker at both the beginning and end of the day.

The Officer advised Dr Aaron Fox, Environment Southland would show a presentation to the Shared Services Forum.

B Austin said at the end of the day when everyone was asked to vote on discussion topics, in a rush to leave, some people placed stickers randomly. A different method should be used next time.

The Officer said she had been very impressed with F Maslin's conduct at the forum. She suggested all the Youth Councillors attend the July Community Services Committee meeting to support a presentation about the forum to the Council.

4. YOUTH WEEK - 22-30 MAY 2010

The Sports Day was held on Sunday 30 May. 20 young people had attended with some parents. The starting time was probably a little early; however lots of games were played with all age groups interacting. The Youth Councillors had really enjoyed the chance to bond in a relaxed environment and suggested an overnight excursion held early in the year for future Youth Councils to enable everyone to get to know one another earlier.

In response to F Maslin, B Austin thought the more times a sports day was held, the more support it would gain.

L Keenan said it had been straightforward to organise.

The Officer suggested holding Children's Day on the same day as a sport's day next year.

F Maslin suggested finalising arrangements in December ready for the new Youth Council to roll out the following March.

J Goulding said the movie night was abandoned due to the grounds being too wet for a truck to be driven on it. The groundsman suggested postponing the event to the end of October before daylight saving commenced. She was happy to help out again. The other option could be to go ahead with a real drive in movie at another venue.

The Community Development Officer said she had received calls from the public wondering if another date had been set for the movie night.

F Maslin suggested all Youth Councillors could get involved next time. Some other activities could be provided before the movie while waiting for darkness.

5. HOODIE DAY

Hoodie Day was being held on 12 August. After some discussion regarding worthwhile possibilities that funds raised from Hoodie Day could assist with was it was decided the funds could be used to assist families in Southland with children who suffered from cancer and needed to travel to Starship Hospital in Auckland. The Community Development Officer would investigate how the funds could be dispensed.

The history behind the origin of Hoodie Day was discussed. The Community Development Officer said it would be a good idea to purchase hoodies for the Council with the Youth Council logo printed on them.

Youth Councillors wanted black hoodies with the Youth Council white or silver logo on the front and Councillors' surnames on the lower back.

The Officer would write to the schools seeking support for Hoodie Day.

6. GENERAL

F Maslin asked if Youth Councillors were interested in organising a youth orientated "Sneak Out" for the young people of the community.

A Miller wondered how it would be funded and if held, would the movie night still go ahead.

The Community Development Officer would report back at the next meeting at to how much funding was available. She thought Marty Redhead and Shannon Drew might like to be involved.

There was some concern at the lack of attendance from some Youth Councillors. The Officer would make contact with the Councillors' respective schools and report back at the next meeting.

There would not be a June workshop.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on 20 July 2010 in the Council Chambers.

The meeting concluded at 5.12pm.