

Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of the Gore District Council, held in the Council Chambers, 29 Civic Avenue, Gore, on Tuesday 17 November 2015, at 5.04pm

Present His Worship the Mayor (Mr Tracy Hicks, JP), Crs Beale, Bolger, Davis, Dixon, D Grant, P Grant, Highsted, Page and Sharp.

In Attendance The Chief Executive (Mr Stephen Parry), Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper), Aquatic Services Manager (Ms Kim Peterson), HR/Administration Manager (Susan Jones), Communications Manager (Sonia Gerken) and two members of the public in the gallery.

Apologies Crs Byars and Gover apologised for absence.

1. GORE MULTISPORTS COMPLEX MASTER PLAN (SC1251)

A memo had been received from the Parks and Recreation Manager advising that a total of 36 written submissions had been received in response to the draft Master Plan relating to the Gore Multisports Complex master plan.

A copy of submissions received had been circulated.

Ms Vanessa Hughey, General Manager Sport Southland and Mr Martin Mackereth, Eastern Southland Sports Advisor were in attendance and spoke to its submission. Sport Southland was supportive of a “hub” being created and for the plan to include operational aspects of sports which could provide some innovation for the wider region. Shared club rooms had been identified during discussions undertaken by Sport Southland. Stage 4 had been identified as the top option by Sport Southland, followed by shared clubrooms, extensions to the existing car parking, a BMX track and an extension to the pool.

Comments around the funding of the plan was referred to and whether there was an intention for clubs to assist with fundraising or whether the onus would fall to the Council

Ms Hughey commended the Council on developing a plan and for inviting submissions on it.

Cr Bolger asked what the reaction would be to including a water slide at the pool and having a separate entry fee for it.

Ms Hughey believed water slides were expensive and fun to begin with but did not tend to lead on to participation in other water sports.

Cr Highsted asked what the view of Sport Southland was about funding for a hub.

Ms Hughey replied the user groups should have some responsibility along with the Council to at least have a conversation about how it may work. Her opinion was if it was built what would it mean in 10 years time and who would be responsible for maintaining it. There needed to be some long term thinking about sustainability and collaboration.

Cr Highsted asked if there were any examples of revenue generating aspects of facilities such as a café.

Ms Hughey said there were good examples in Australia about gyms particularly which were leased to a provider and a budget agreed to. If the budget was not met then the shortfall was met equally by a Council and a provider. She offered to obtain some case studies.

Cr Page asked who was expected to coordinate the clubs.

Ms Hughey thought from a Sport Southland perspective it would support being involved. The better both parties could share and be involved in facility sharing, the better the outcome would be for the wider community. Some options could be achieved without having to invest a lot of money.

The Parks and Recreation Manager advised staff would next assess all of the consultation held to date and provide it to the Council for consideration at a future meeting. He explained the informal process utilised at the aquatic centre to gauge interest from members of the public about what options were preferred. These would be summarised.

Cr Highsted asked if there could be some benchmarking against other Councils provided in terms of investment in sport and recreation.

The Manager said there had been quite a lot of information on that subject that had been obtained by Sport New Zealand.

The meeting concluded at 5.30pm