

**REPORT OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE ON TUESDAY 13 MARCH 2012, AT 4.13 PM.**

**PRESENT** His Worship the Mayor (Mr Tracy Hicks, JP), Cr P Grant (Chairperson), Crs Beale, Bolger, Davis, Dixon, Gover, D Grant, Highsted, Redhead and Sharp.

**IN ATTENDANCE** The Chief Executive (Mr Stephen Parry), General Manager, Corporate Services (Mr Russell Duthie), General Manager, District Assets (Mr Paul Withers), Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper), Roading Manager (Mr Murray Hasler) (from 4.22pm), Assets Manager, Utilities (Mr Ross Haslemore), Planning Consultant (Mr Keith Hovell) (from 4.23pm), Library Manager (Mrs Jane Robinson), Arts and Heritage Curator (Mr Jim Geddes), Community Development Officer (Mrs Jacqui Green), Communications Co-ordinator (Mrs Sonia Gerken), Corporate Support Officer (Mrs Tracey Millan) and four members of the public in the gallery.

**APOLOGY** Cr Watt apologised for absence.

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1. REPORT OF THE AQUATIC SERVICES MANAGER (24.11.1)

The Committee perused the report from the Aquatics Services Manager.

His Worship said it was great to see the number of people using the facility.

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

2. REPORT OF THE LIBRARY MANAGER (25.1)

The Committee perused the report from the Library Manager.

In response to Cr Davis, the Manager said internet users had boosted patronage figures, particularly women with small children frequenting the library.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Redhead, seconded by Cr Sharp, THAT the report be received.**

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

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

In response to Cr P Grant, the Manager said there had been some leaking roofs on Council buildings after recent heavy rainfall. He was working with contractors to get the issues resolved. Two of the leaking roofs were under warranty.

In response to Cr Davis, the Manager said the design of the library building created challenges. Leaks were fixed but more appeared.

The Manager said the re-registrations of the Gore main gardens as a registered garden and Bannerman Park as a Garden of Significance meant that the Council was placed on a national data base which triggered keen gardeners, usually retired, and both national and international to tour the District.

In response to Cr Redhead, the Manager said Queen's Park in Invercargill was the only other garden on the register in Southland.

In response to Cr Sharp, the Manager said the status was reviewed three yearly, however it was business as usual to maintain the standard year round, regardless of whether it was audit year.

Cr Grant said on a recent tour with the Tamworth Mayor and Chief Executive, to Dolamore Park and Bannerman Park, they had been very impressed with both gardens.

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

4. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT ARTS AND HERITAGE CURATOR (23.5)

The Committee perused the report from the Arts and Heritage Curator.

In response to Cr Beale, the Curator said the gallery had had a very busy summer period with some important visitors attracted by the John Money collection.

In response to Cr Bolger, the Curator said the gallery was offered a lot more collections than it accepted. There was a nice balance with continual donations and contributions of works of art and it had been receiving loan requests from other galleries for works and publications. There was the option of utilising storage space at the old Smith's City building.

*The Roding Manager now attended the meeting at 4.22pm.*

In response to Cr Redhead, the Curator said the gallery currently had 360 members. Proceeds from big memberships were invested in an endowment fund and the interest from that fund helped to pay running costs and the smaller memberships went towards supporting the programmes.

*The Planning Consultant now attended the meeting at 4.23pm.*

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

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

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

In response to Cr Gover, the Arts and Heritage Curator advised a reprint of the 2011 information booklet was in progress.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Beale, seconded by Cr Sharp, THAT the report be received.**

6. REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (18.79)

The Committee perused the report from the Community Development Officer.

Cr Grant welcomed Mrs Green to the meeting.

His Worship said Children's Day had been very well supported by the community. The event was growing in size and stature and the Officer had done a good job in organising the event. She had a lot on the go and it would be interesting to see her progress in her role.

*Inspector Lane Todd of NZ Police now arrived at 4.29pm.*

In response to Cr Davis, the Chief Executive advised the Ministry of Social Development funded the new migrant's co-ordinator role.

His Worship said the Council had been used as a catalyst to put in the position in place.

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

7. PRESENTATION FROM NZ POLICE (18.76)

Inspector Lane Todd, recently appointed Southland Area Police Commander was in attendance and provided a presentation to the meeting regarding current crime and crash statistics, the three year Police strategy and other relevant information.

The Inspector said Southland was leading the way nationally in a reduction in crime statistics. Strategies had been put in place in 2009 including a realignment and focus around a "one team" policing approach with regular meetings.

A rural crime prevention strategy to decrease burglary and theft was being implemented. A survey had been carried out at the recent Waimumu Field Days and analysing the results was still being undertaken. Farming consortiums that were not community oriented was a factor. Small crimes were often not reported so Police did not get the full picture and security was often not adequate.

The Police wanted to trial initiatives and were considering the idea of teaming up with agencies such as Federated Farmers, insurance companies, Fonterra to utilise drivers' eyes and ears, and stock agents to develop a plan so that all parties were in alignment around crime prevention.

The Government was pushing a new strategy in policing - looking more at prevention which was a shift in culture.

In response to Cr Highsted, the Inspector said action to crimes was prioritised in accordance with the community's expectations. There had been a slight increase in offences over the Christmas period, however that had since settled down.

In response to Cr P Grant, the Inspector agreed the theme appearing was that the majority of rural crime offending was not committed by locals.

In response to Cr Beale suggesting a rural pamphlet drop could be arranged to remind people to lock up equipment, the Inspector said further to a basic survey distributed at the Field Days, the Police were

keen to attend Young Farmers meetings to provide information and to produce packages to distribute at rural meetings and at A & P shows. The Police also wanted to highlight the 0800 Crime Stoppers number that was available.

The Police were currently working with Federated Farmers to streamline the process around people applying for jobs on rural properties. It wanted to enforce a simple vetting process.

The meeting concluded at 4.45pm.