

REPORT OF THE GORE DISTRICT YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE ON MONDAY 24 JUNE 2013, AT 4.00 PM.

PRESENT Youth Crs Kateleen McWirtter (Chair), Clark Morgan (Deputy Chair), Holly Julian, , Georgia Johnston, , Megan McCall, Devin Kubala, Carlie Paterson, Danialah Bourke, Renee Moyles, Olivia Nicholson, Laura Miller; Georgia Nicol, Richard Gardyne, Sian Davis, Tayla Marlow, Alice Robertson.

IN ATTENDANCE Cr Marty Redhead, Community Development Officer (Melissa Smith), Cr Anne Gover, Youth Activities Coordinator (Kylie Aitken).

APOLOGIES: Crs Erin Perry-Tutty, Amy McCabe, Andrew Macleod, Hannah Armstrong (Youth Worker).

MINUTE TAKER: SIAN DAVIS

1. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Resolved on the motion of R Gardyne and seconded by D Kubala that the report of the Youth Council meeting held on Tuesday 26 March 2013 be accepted as an accurate and true record.

2. YOUTH WEEK DEBRIEF

Things we could improve

- Help more events to happen so that schools can integrate more
- more transport so that more Blue Mountain students can come
- allow more time to advertise before the event

Things that worked well

- balloons
- atmosphere
- prizes
- staggered times for different age groups

We would like more events like this to go ahead in Gore

D Kubala left the meeting at 4.35pm

3. UPDATE FROM ROADING MANAGER

The Council wishes to address the safety of pedestrians, especially students, crossing Pomona Street at the Robertson Street intersection. Currently pedestrians have to cross a wide area of road unprotected from vehicles.

Designs for several options to improve the situation have been undertaken. The Council has decided to carry out a trial of the options before it permanently constructs its preferred option. Roading Manager Murray Hasler joined us to talk about the different options.

They Plan to T-up the intersection so that cars have to slowdown or stop when they enter this road as opposed to what they are doing now which is not slowing down at all, this will improve the safety of people who are crossing the road.

The option without the island in the middle would mean people crossing would need to be more safety conscious as they would not have a safe place to stop if a car appeared suddenly.

A trial has been completed at Irk Street and they will be making a raised island as a result. Trials help sort out what needs improved and what works well with the different layouts.

A survey would need to be carried out using school students so that we know how they feel about each layout during the 6 week trial. Murray will develop the survey and there will be Youth Council representatives to lead this in each school- Olivia and Alice for St Peters College and Carlie and Kateleen for Gore High.

Feedback will also be sought from other stakeholders including school buses and residents to see how it affects them.

4. YOUTH COUNCIL ANNUAL PLAN SUBMISSION

The Youth Council submission to the Draft Annual Plan has been approved with two grants of \$750 each to be allocated for annual scholarships.

A report will be generated to the Council to formulate criteria and purpose. We think it's important the Youth Council is involved in this process.

It was noted Carlie and Richard include thanking the Council for their investment in the youth of Gore in the Youth Council report at the Council meeting.

5. COUNCIL AGENDA

Discussed the process for how we can build a connection with the main Council. We talked about not having to read the whole Council agenda, but

picking things out that may interest the Youth Council and having the opportunity to provide feedback on these agenda items.

The items we discussed were:

- Air quality
- Local Alcohol Policy
- Gambling

Richard and Carlie will present our ideas on these issues to the main council in the Youth Council report at their meeting.

Air Quality

Marty explained the Smog from fires, measured by Pm10 we have already surpassed the recommended rating at least 5 times this year.

We have to improve air quality so that we can cut down on pollution and save the future generations

The main council want to ban any domestic open fires so that no more can be installed in Gore, they want to do this because this is the main cause of the smog that settles in Gore at night time. Open fires that are already installed will not be affected.

The smog may be a contributing factor towards some health problems.

We think that making other resources cost less could help so that people can afford an alternate source of heating.

The Youth council have noticed that smog is a problem and that it is an issue for during sports practices at night between 4-8pm.

Local Alcohol Policy

This policy helps us to address issues in our society to do with alcohol and gives us the freedom to decide what our community needs e.g. where pubs/restaurants can be placed, trading hours and one-way doors etc.

Invercargill and their surrounding districts are going to have a policy and they think that if Gore is not involved then there could be loopholes, Invercargill has offered to pay for consultant fees.

The Chief Executive has recommended we should join with Invercargill and Southland District Councils to have a Southland Wide Local Alcohol Policy.

The Youth Council noted that although we are not 18 yet, it will affect us in a few years and our peers. We think that there is always room for

improvement and that it would be a good idea to have a Local Alcohol Policy. We support the recommendation made by Steve Parry.

TAB Gambling Policy

Marty explained The Sinking Lid Policy, this policy is that after you remove a poky machine from its place then you cannot replace it with another one this means that poky machines will go down to a minimum.

The Youth Council acknowledges what the Council is doing to minimise gambling machines in the community.

It was suggested we could put polls up on our Facebook page to see what the rest of our age group thinks about these issues.

6. CULTURAL DIVERSITY FORUM

Five applications to attend this forum were received and Kateleen McWhirter and Laura Miller have been selected to attend.

7. YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Congratulations to Georgia who got into the Youth Parliament Press Gallery

Select Committee topics that will be discussed at Youth Parliament include:

- Online shopping - whether its good or bad
- Foreign defence of trade
- Health – substance abuse
- Jail and crimes being committed in NZ
- Local government and environment
- Primary Production
- Social services
- Transport – barriers about jobs and how to get there

Kateleen, Alice, Danialah and Georgia J have volunteered to work on a select committee topic submission on behalf of the Youth Council.

8. YOUTH PARTNERSHIP FUND

Application submitted to the Ministry of Youth Development's Youth Partnership Fund for a Gore Youth Events Programme.

Once she has been informed, Melissa will let us know if we have been successful or not.

9. FACEBOOK STRATEGY

There was discussion around how we can increase our profile on Facebook, and investigate any other social media we could use.

We are the Facebook generation and we need to get the Youth Council Facebook page shared and liked so that people will know about what is coming up to do with the Youth Council.

To do this we looked at giving a prize out if people liked and shared the page. Youth Councillors can also share the page so that their friends can see it.

It was suggested to bring back the Youth Councillor of the week idea, and tagging Youth Councillors in photos so that it will become more public.

Our goal is to have 200 Facebook likes by the next Youth Council meeting.

10. SENDING A NZ FLAG TO AN AUSTRALIAN YOUTH COUNCIL

Councillor Gover spoke about her Grandson's Youth Council in Victoria and if we wanted to make a bigger connection with the Wellington Shire Youth Council in Gippsland Australia by sending over a NZ National Flag.

Councillor Gover has kindly offered to donate a flag to help us do this.

11. OTHER THINGS

- We want to organize another event maybe a walk in movie, spring ball, interschool competitions or a social
- The next meeting is to be on Monday 5 August
- We next to start thinking about suggestion boxes in schools, business cards with Youth council contact details on it e.g. Facebook page link, contact number and contact email. This would be to help us to get our peers opinions on things that we could do in the community
- Hoodies or Jackets for the Youth Council, Melissa will investigate and it will likely include a cost to Youth Councillors of approximately \$50. This will be optional
- Congratulations to Tayla for winning the Tamworth Sister City Speech Competition and to Carlie and Sian who also competed.

The meeting concluded at 5.30 pm.

Next meeting is Monday 5 August at 4pm, in the Council Chambers.