

**REPORT OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE ON TUESDAY 11 MARCH 2014, AT 4.00PM.**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE** The Chief Executive (Mr Stephen Parry), Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper), Roding Manager (Mr Murray Hasler), 3 Waters Asset Manager (Mrs Sarah Crooks), Chief Financial Officer (Mr Luke Blackbeard), Library Manager (Ms Lorraine Weston-Webb), Arts and Heritage Curator (Mr Jim Geddes), Planning Consultant (Mr Keith Hovell), Communications Coordinator (Sonia Gerken), Aquatic Centre Manager (Ms Kim Peterson), Senior Planner (Mr Howard Alchin), Building Control Manager (Mr Russell Paterson)(from 4.25pm), Corporate Support Officers (Mrs Tracey Millan and Mrs Kylie Weir) and three members of the public in the gallery.

**APOLOGIES** Crs Byars, P Grant, Page and Sharp apologised for absence.

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Cr Gover asked for any conflicts of interest. None were received.

**1. ECCLES STREET PLAYGROUND – FENCING (SCO380)**

A report had been received from the Parks and Recreation Manager seeking the Council's guidance about a request from the Gore Parents Centre for fencing to be installed at the Eccles Street playground because of a possible risk to users posed by the adjacent roads.

Cr Beale said he would be in favour of option three as he was mindful of grandparents who might not be very agile that visited the park with young children in their care.

His Worship said he had been really impressed with the new Mataura playground and the way it was being operated. People from outside of Mataura were utilising the playground too and felt safe about road safety because of the fencing. He would be supportive of some fencing around the Eccles Street playground.

Cr D Grant agreed with His Worship. He too had been approached about fencing the park and wondered about putting the matter to a vote or consultation process.

Cr Gover asked if Cr D Grant was proposing a consultation with the wider community or a survey or workshop.

Cr Highsted said the annual plan process for would do that.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Highsted, seconded by Cr Grant, THAT the information be received,**

**AND THAT the Council embrace option three for inclusion in the draft 2014/15 annual plan.**

## 2. REPORT OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER

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

Cr Davis asked if the temporary closure of the aquatic centre for maintenance had been publicly advertised yet.

The Manager said a meeting with the consultants was scheduled for later in the week and would provide clear timeframes and the wider community would be advised after that. He had been in consultation with Sport Southland regarding the closure and was currently working through how it would be managed with staff. The Matura pool season would be extended to cover the closedown.

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

## 3. REPORT OF THE LIBRARIES MANAGER

The Committee perused the report from the Library Manager.

The Manager said the self-issue machine trial was going very well. To purchase the machine outright would cost \$6,950 or \$250 per month to continue to lease. The lifespan of such machines sometimes exceeded 10 years. The service freed up staff enabling them to assist customers in the library. She would provide a report to the Council following the completion of the six month trial period.

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

## 4. REPORT OF THE COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

The Committee perused the report from the Communications Coordinator.

Cr Bolger said having the Hokonui Moonshine tasting in the Council tent at the Field Days was a great idea and had been a big hit. He thought it was worth exploring the idea of continuing that in future years.

*The Building Control Manager now attended the meeting.*

His Worship said February had been a busy month with the launching of the new Council brand that had been met with a mixed response from the local community that should be taken on board. The response from outside the community and the targeted demographic of ages 20-45 years had been very positive. He had been telling people with a contrary view that it was the start, not the finish and the brand would evolve as time went on.

There had been some caustic views to date, however the Council needed to persist. The motivation with the brand had not changed and would be more important as time went on. The Council needed to find the right mechanism and mixture to attract people to the district. He congratulated those involved in the process and with the launch, in particular the Communications Coordinator and Community Development Officer who were to be congratulated for the time and effort put in.

Cr Bolger endorsed His Worship's comments. Gore was a great place that had a story to tell and the branding was the way to do that. It would take time and there would be critics however he supported the concept. It had been money well spent.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr D Grant, seconded by Cr Dixon, THAT the report be received.**

#### 5. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT ARTS AND HERITAGE CURATOR

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

The Curator said attendance numbers at events had been their best for a number of years and the weather had helped. The Croydon Aviation Heritage Museum had recorded very good figures in terms of merchandising sales.

His Worship said he had recently attended the National Anthem Contemporary Art from China presentation at the gallery. It was well worth the visit and had been very revealing.

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

#### 6. REPORT OF THE GORE VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE MANAGER

The Committee perused the report from the Visitor Centre Manager.

In response to Cr Davis inquiring how many campers were utilising camping facilities at Dolamore Park, the Parks and Reserves Manager advised the bridge counter was not working. He would arrange for a breakdown of revenue from the Park to get rough numbers.

Cr Beale asked if the Council had a policy about house buses. A bus had been parked on the corner of Hyde and River Streets for a few days.

The Manager said there was not a bylaw in place that covered freedom campers. It had not been a problem to date, however he too had noticed that vehicle.

Cr Gover said the racecourse and other sites around Gore were being used frequently by campers.

His Worship said Local Government New Zealand had developed a bylaw around freedom campers.

Cr Bolger said there were not a lot of downsides in having people in camper vans visit the town.

The Manager said the Motorhome Association had funded the installation of the local dump station that was well used by campers.

The Chief Executive said the Local Government Act required that a problem be identified before a bylaw could be introduced. When the Council last reviewed its bylaws, there had not been a problem to warrant the introduction of one for campervans.

Cr Beale said campervans probably entered the town via the dumping station on Richmond Street. A sign could be erected there steering campers to the available sites within the town.

Cr Davis said it would also be an ideal place for the new brand to be promoted.

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

## 7. REPORT OF THE AQUATIC SERVICES MANAGER

The Committee perused the report from the Aquatics Services Manager.

In response to His Worship, the Manager said Children's Day had been a real success with over 500 people attending throughout the day. It had been a great way to promote the complex.

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

**8. REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**

The Committee perused the report from the Community Development Officer.

Cr Gover advised the 2014 Youth Council had held its planning day recently and elected its new chair, Georgia Johnston and deputy chair Devin Kubala. Eight Youth Councillors had put their hand up for the lead roles. It was looking in good shape for the year ahead and the Officer had played a vital role in making that happen.

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

The meeting concluded at 4.43pm.