

Report of the ordinary meeting of the Community Services Committee held in the Council Chambers, 29 Civic Avenue, Gore on Tuesday 2 September 2014, at 4.00pm.

Present His Worship the Mayor (Tracy Hicks, JP), Cr P Grant (Chairperson), Crs Beale, Bolger, Byars (from 4.22pm), Davis, Dixon, Gover, Highsted, Page and Sharp.

In Attendance The General Manager District Assets (Mr Paul Withers), General Manager Community and Strategy (Mr Aaron Fox), Roding Manager (Mr Murray Hasler), 3 Waters Asset Manager (Mrs Sarah Crooks), Chief Financial Officer (Mr Luke Blackbeard), Building Control Manager (Mr Russell Paterson), Senior Regulatory Officer (Mrs Frances Shepherd), Senior Planner (Mr Howard Alchin), Communications Coordinator (Sonia Gerken), Arts and Heritage Curator (Mr Jim Geddes), Library Manager (Ms Lorraine Weston-Webb), Corporate Support Officers (Mrs Kylie Weir and Mrs Tracey Millan).

Apologies The Chief Executive and Cr D Grant apologised for absence.

Cr P Grant asked for any conflicts of interest. None were received.

1. UPDATE FROM VENTURE SOUTHLAND

Two reports had been received from Venture Southland. The Chief Executive of Venture Southland Mr Paul Casson was in attendance and provided an update on recent activities undertaken.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Highsted, seconded by Cr Dixon, THAT the reports be received.

2. REPORT FROM YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

The Committee perused the report from the Youth Development Officer.

Cr Gover added the Youth Council was looking to try and have another speed dating event with Councillors before the Council meeting on 23 September. It was decided to have it at 6.00pm.

Cr Gover also advised that the Youth Awards would be held on 6 December. The Youth Council had put a proposal together to host the awards at the St James Theatre rather than the Town and Country Club.

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

3. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT ARTS AND HERITAGE CURATOR

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

The Curator informed the Council that the Gallery had a better than expected winter with activities and numbers. He added this appeared to be repeating itself annually with winter becoming one of the busier periods for cultural activity.

Cr Sharp reported that he had been shown though Clematis Cottage by David Luoni and he was impressed at what a good job had been carried out.

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

Cr Byars now attended the meeting.

4. REPORT OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER

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

Cr P Grant reported a positive outcome following the person responsible for wilful damage being caught on CCTV.

Cr Davis commented on how some of the new equipment had been sourced at the Southern Field Days and that it was good to see the Council supporting local businesses.

Cr Beale asked if the Council still sold off the plants as they got rotated between each season from the flower beds as a fundraiser.

The General Manager District Assets advised he was not sure if this still happened.

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

5. GORE AQUATIC CENTRE MAINTENANCE SHUTDOWN (SCO208)

A memo had been received from the Parks and Recreation Manager updating the Committee following the first maintenance shutdown at the Gore Aquatic Centre.

In response to Cr Davis, the General Manager District Assets believed a detailed record had been kept during the shutdown. It included any good practices and processes and what solutions may be for any future shutdowns.

The Chief Financial Officer informed Cr Sharp that the budget had always been set for \$320,000 in the Annual Plan for the shutdown and it had never been budgeted at \$60,000.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr Page, THAT the information be received.

6. REPORT OF THE LIBRARIES MANAGER

The Committee perused the report from the Library Manager.

Cr Bolger said it was pleasing to read the Chief Executive had made himself available to meet people in a public environment with a visit to Pukerau School.

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

7. REPORT OF THE AQUATIC SERVICES MANAGER

The Committee perused the report from the Aquatics Services Manager.

The General Manager District Assets noted the Event Centre had been busy with a number of functions since June and it was good to see the complex functioning again after the shutdown.

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

8. REPORT OF THE GORE VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE MANAGER

The Committee perused the report from the Information Centre Manager.

Cr Highsted stated that it was interesting to see the number of phone enquiries changing and how customers were using different ways to connect with the change in communication options.

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

The Building Control Manager and Senior Regulatory Officer attended the meeting at 4.34pm.

9. REPORT OF THE COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR/BRAND MANAGER

The Committee perused the report from the Communications Coordinator.

In response to Cr Davis, the Coordinator advised the number of people who had so far signed up to ChinWag was 1,500.

In response to Cr Beale the Targa rally was stopping in Gore for an hour in October after completing stages in Knapdale and Waikaka. The rally participants would be at the Gore A and P Showgrounds for lunch between 12.30-1.30pm.

His Worship the Mayor added it was quite a big event and would bring some focus to Gore and some influential people as part of the organisation.

His Worship said he was interested to see the statistics around Facebook and the connection it had with members of the public and the potential it had to get the message out.

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

10. ATTENDANCE BY COUNCILLOR AT 2015 TAMWORTH COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL (SCO294)

A memo had been received from His Worship suggesting it would be appropriate for a Councillor to attend the 2015 Tamworth country music festival.

His Worship said it was an opportunity to expose a Councillor to the Tamworth festival, how it operated and its connection to the Gore District Council. It would provide an understanding and assistance to modify what Tamworth did and apply it in Gore - not just to the Gold Guitars - but other events. He believed there needed to be a connection with the business people and sell them the benefits that would come from events being held locally.

Cr Davis believed a visit would be beneficial as quite often it was seen as a remote event that had an impact on Gore when it come to the Gold Guitars however, there was not a lot else that happened apart from school exchanges and speech competitions that were held every year. It would be a good way to encourage businesses to get involved in events and see the benefit for themselves.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr Bolger, THAT the Council authorise the attendance of Cr D Grant at the 2015 Tamworth country music festival, from 20 to 25 January 2015.

The meeting concluded at 4.39pm.