

**Report of the ordinary meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee held in the Council Chambers, 29 Civic Avenue, Gore on Tuesday 2 September 2014, at 5.56pm.**

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

**In Attendance** The General Manager District Assets (Mr Paul Withers), Roding Manager (Mr Murray Hasler), 3 Waters Asset Manager (Mrs Sarah Crooks), Chief Financial Officer (Mr Luke Blackbeard), Communications Coordinator (Sonia Gerken), Senior Planner (Mr Howard Alchin), Corporate Support Officers (Mrs Kylie Weir and Mrs Tracey Millan).

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

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**1. GORE A&P JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (ANNUAL ACCOUNTS) (SC0322)**

A memo had been received from the Parks and Recreation Manager together with a copy of the annual report of the Joint Management Committee for the year ending 30 June 2014.

Cr Davis referred the Councillors to the balance sheet and informed them that it had a bit of reserve there and that it is ear marked for some maintenance around the rings to cover some concreting and driveways that needed to be done.

In response to Cr P Grant, the Chief Financial Officer stated that the grant received from the Council was adjusted by CPI each year. .

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

**2. CORRECTION TO COMMITTEE STRUCTURE AND DELEGATION REGISTER (SC0112)**

A memo had been received from the Chief Financial Officer regarding the omission of the Parks and Recreation Manager as an authorised bank signatory and amending the Committee Structure and Delegation Register as a result.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Sharp, seconded by Cr P Grant, THAT the Parks and Recreation Manager be added to the Committee Structure and Delegation Register as an authorised bank signatory.**

**3. GORE AQUATIC CENTRE - FUNDING OF FREE SWIMMING LESSONS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN (SC0222)**

A memo had been received from the Parks and Recreation Manager updating the Council following the first two years delivery of free swimming lessons to primary aged school children in the Gore District.

Cr Davis stated that the Mataura Licensing Trust initially offered \$30,000 per year and expected that the Council would fund \$20,000. It was now costing the Council three times that, which was a burden to ratepayers. It was a great programme and fantastic for the district which she fully supported, however there needed to be discussions around funding.

Cr Dixon stated that at the end of the day what price did the Council put on a child learning to swim and potentially saving a life or the life of another. He believed that the Gore District was the envy of other Councils for having two swimming pools.

The Chief Financial Officer stated the \$62,000 was the total cost of the programme and it had been funded by \$30,000 from the Mataura Licensing Trust and \$20,000 from the Council. The extra \$12,000 was essentially being covered by the Council for now.

In response to Cr Byars, Cr Bolger advised all the schools in the district had the opportunity to take up the offer and some schools outside the district had had the opportunity to participate.

The Chief Financial Officer could not confirm which schools had taken up the offer but it was available to them all.

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

**THAT the Council approve in principle an extension of three years to the free swimming lesson programme providing that the current funding partnership with the Mataura Licensing Trust continues,**

**AND THAT the Council instruct staff to enter into dialogue with the Mataura Licensing Trust to seek its approval to extend the free swimming lesson programme to primary aged schoolchildren for a further period of three years, with a further report to the Council for ratification.**

The meeting concluded at 6.06pm.