

Report of a meeting of the Mataura Community Board, held in the Mataura Community Centre, McQueen Avenue, Mataura, on Monday 19 March 2018, at 5.30pm.

Present Alan Taylor (Chairman), Cr Neville Phillips, Sue Taylor, Linda Sinclair and Geoff Colvin.

In attendance Parks and Recreation Manager (Ian Soper), Administration Manager (Susan Jones), 3 Waters Asset Manager (Matt Bayliss) and Community Development Officer (Eleanor Ranstead).

1. CONFIRMATION OF REPORT

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Linda Sinclair, seconded by Sue Taylor, THAT the report of the meeting held on Monday 22 January 2018 as circulated, be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true and complete record.

2. MATAURA WATER CONSUMPTION AND WATER RESTRICTIONS (SC0659)

A report had been received from the 3 Waters Manager following a sustained long dry summer that had put significant pressure on both Gore and Mataura's drinking water supplies. In addition, a significant draw-off from the Mataura water supply in mid-January put the supply into a vulnerable position. The report provided a summary of the events that had occurred.

The Manager advised that since he had written the report, emergency pumping from the river had commenced the previous week. The dam could not cope with the demand and there was little water flowing into it. There had been some rain the previous week but it was not enough to prevent the emergency pumping. Until there was a sustained period of rain, the dam would not be able to keep up with demand. The flow into the dam did pick up quickly when there had been a decent amount of rainfall.

In response to the Chairman, the Manager advised there was not a significant amount of silt in the dam.

The Chairman asked if there had been any investigation into an alternative water supply.

The Manager replied there was no alternative source for Mataura. The summer had raised the vulnerabilities in supply and he would like to see some investigation undertaken into an alternative or additional supply. It would not be a quick fix. He added that the water supply had not been under such stress for at least 25 years.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Linda Sinclair, seconded by Cr Phillips, THAT the report be received.

Greg Chaffey now attended the meeting from 5.40pm

3. REPORT FROM MATAURA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

The Board perused a report from the Mataura Community Development Coordinator.

The Coordinator referred to the proposal from Southern REAP to hold three adult education classes in Mataura over the next few weeks, including a flax weaving class over a weekend. Due to the Marae undergoing renovation work, it was not available as a venue and the hire costs for the Community Centre were prohibitive at approximately \$600. Attendees would be charged \$40 for the class but there was likely to be a shortfall. It was hoped 30-40 people would attend from the wider Eastern Southland area.

Southern REAP had also secured Nathan Wallis to present three sessions in Mataura from 19-21 June. The community needed to make the venues available and commit to contributing \$2,000 towards Nathan's speaking costs.

Cr Phillips suggested any discussion about funding options should be held in committee. He added that Southern REAP could apply to the Council for a partial or full waiver of the Community Centre hire costs.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Linda Sinclair, seconded by Cr Phillips, THAT the report be received.

4. MATAURA RAILWAY STATION (SC0082)

A memo had been received from the Transport Manager advising that the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) was considering employing a consultant to explore the possibility of shifting the road alignment in relation to the Mataura railway station. The Manager had attended a Regional Land Transport Plan hearing on 19 February. He had expressed concern that the project appeared to have been overlooked and had asked for a clear direction on when it would be attended to.

The Administration Manager advised the Regional Land Transport Committee was awaiting a response from the new Government and its latest policy statement before the outcome of the hearing was finalised.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Greg Chaffey, seconded by Geoff Colvin, THAT the information be received.

5. GLENDHU ROAD RESERVE (SC1547)

A memo had been received from the Parks and Recreation Manager seeking confirmation from the Board that it was in agreement to remove a previous request to the Council in relation to the sale of the Glendhu Road reserve following revocation of its recreational reserve status.

The Council had earlier agreed to a request from the Board to place a hold on disposing of the reserve as the Board had wished to consider the site as a possible location for a dog park. Copies of the Council reports and recommendations dated 16 February 2015 and 16 June 2017 had been circulated with the agenda.

The Council had recently received an offer to purchase the reserve site. The land had originally been obtained for the purposes of developing a sand based hockey turf in 1992 and in 1991, the Council had undertaken a land swap with Alliance Group on a “willing buyer, willing seller” basis. Copies of the correspondence between the Council and Alliance Group had also been circulated with the agenda.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Geoff Colvin, seconded by Linda Sinclair, THAT the Mataura Community Board confirm that it has no further desire to retain the Glendhu Road recreation reserve for any recreational purpose,

THAT the Board request that the Council progress with removing the recreational reserve status under the Reserves Act 1977 and the issue of a fee simple title, then proceed to dispose of the property,

AND THAT the proceeds from the sale of the reserve be applied to the Tulloch Park redevelopment project.

6. UPDATE ON MATAURA LIBRARY AND SERVICE CENTRE OPENING HOURS AND STAFFING (SC1929)

A memo had been received from the Library Manager advising that following the resignation of a Mataura Library and Service Centre staff member in November 2017, the facility had been partly staffed on a temporary basis which had necessitated a regular lunchtime closure. When reassessing operational factors, Council management had determined that more streamlined opening hours should be the primary goal with no lunchtime closure.

From mid-April, when permanent staffing appointments were expected to be confirmed, standard opening hours would be from 10.00am until 5.00pm, Monday to Friday.

The Community Development Coordinator advised there had been a number of people who had been disgruntled at having to leave the library when it had closed for the lunch break, so the new hours would be a positive move for customers.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Phillips, seconded by Greg Chaffey, THAT the information be received.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

- Cr Phillips reminded the Board of the working bee at the Culling Terrace walkway on Saturday 24 March.
- The Chairman asked if the Council could sow grass on the balance of the children's bike park at Queen's Park and plant some trees on the site. He suggested the trees could be planted in conjunction with the school children.
- The Chairman advised the Board would be meeting at the conclusion with a group of people who were keen to continue with the community garden following the retirement of Mathew Lucassen and Barbara Cunningham. Linda Sinclair suggested a morning tea be held to acknowledge their efforts and input over the past nine years.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 14 May 2018, at 5.30pm

The meeting concluded at 6.12pm