Report of a meeting of the Mataura Community Board, held in the Mataura Community Centre, McQueen Avenue, Mataura, on Monday 15 June 2020, at 5.35pm.

Present

Alan Taylor (Chairman), Cr Neville Phillips, Sue Taylor, Linda Sinclair and Greg Chaffey.

In attendance

The Administration Manager (Susan Jones), Mataura Community Development Officer (Mrs Eleanor Ranstead) and one member of the public.

1. CONFIRMATION OF REPORT

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Sue Taylor, seconded by Cr Phillips, THAT the report of the meeting held on Monday 16 March 2020, as circulated, be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true and complete record.

2. BRIDGE STREET-STATE HIGHWAY INTERSECTION – UPDATE (SC2401)

A memo had been received from the Roading Asset Manager advising he had spoken with Graeme Hall of the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) about the Bridge Street intersection. Mr Hall had advised the work was not likely to be financed in the next year’s budget and would be submitted for approval for the 2021-2024 Long Term Plan.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Linda Sinclair, seconded by Greg Chaffey, THAT the information be received.

3. 2020 GORE DISTRICT RESIDENTS’ SURVEY (SC2862)

A memo had been received from the Administration Manager together with an excerpt from the Council’s 2020 residents’ survey in relation to footpaths in Mataura.

Cr Phillips said residents who were concerned with footpaths needed to notify the Council or Board members so it could be investigated. He said there had been quite a lot of money spent in Mataura improving footpaths. The Chairman added that the Council’s CRM system was the preferred method for notifying complaints or issues.

The availability of Board members would be highlighted in a future edition of the Messenger together with how to download the Antenno app.
RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Philips, seconded by Greg Chaffey, THAT the information be received.

4. SALE OF FORMER MATAURA HOCKEY TURF – UPDATE (SC1946/21.8)

A memo had been received from the Administration Manager advising that at its December 2019 meeting, the Council accepted a price for the purchase of the former Mataura hockey turf land on Glendhu Road. The net amount received after costs totalled $19,739, excluding GST. The Council had also resolved that the proceeds from the sale of the land would be directed to the Board for allocating at its discretion to either stage 2 of the Tulloch Park redevelopment or the railway station project.

Cr Phillips thanked the Council for the opportunity to use the proceeds towards a Mataura project.

The Chairman advised the railway station project was moving slowly but was being held up due to delays in contacting one of the landowners.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Linda Sinclair, seconded by Sue Taylor, THAT the information be received.

5. DIVERTING HEAVY VEHICLES FROM BRIDGE STREET (SC2893)

A memo had been received from the Roading Asset Manager following the Board’s request to consider relocating heavy vehicles that park in the car park on Bridge Street to a vacant section on the corner of River and Lodge Streets. The owner of the property at 2 Lodge Street was willing to accommodate the proposal.

Bridge Street was effectively State Highway and heavy vehicles were permitted to park there. The Council had actively discouraged heavy vehicles off urban streets, however, the land in River Street was zoned industrial and it was appropriate for that activity to take place.

Cr Phillips questioned whether trucks could legally park on River Street when the Council had purchased the site on Bridge Street specifically for a car park. If the alternative site on River Street was used, who looked after the surface of it with the damage that would be incurred by heavy vehicles? The Chairman thought it would be something for the Board to discuss with the landowner. It would be a matter of notifying those companies that used parked on Bridge Street that there was an alternative location.

Linda Sinclair added that if recycling bins were to be located at the car park there would be more activity. Children were also dropped off there to collect school buses.

Cr Phillips asked what the car park might be developed into and suggested it should be restricted to light vehicles and bus shelters for children catching school buses. He
thought the proposal would need to be developed further and discussed with the Roading Asset Manager before being approved by the Council.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Alan Taylor, seconded by Linda Sinclair, THAT the Board encourage heavy vehicles that park in the car park on Bridge Street to relocate to a property at 2 Lodge Street,**

**AND THAT a plan be developed for the future of the existing car park on Bridge Street.**

6. **MATAURA COMMUNITY GARDEN (SC2617)**

Mr Ray Gilson was in attendance at the meeting to discuss the Mataura community garden and the challenges being faced by the volunteers with a lack of support from the local community. There was a core group of 8-9 volunteers who were at the garden each Saturday. He asked if the garden should be opened to the whole District to encourage more patronage. The garden had been reduced in size but it was still not being supported by the locals. There had been a lot of fresh produced donated to the Salvation Army. The garden had been close to being closed this year.

Eleanor Ranstead advised of information she had received from the Parks and Recreation Manager, Ian Soper about a Government funded initiative to assist with providing support for community organisations who were providing food to people and families who could not afford to purchase food. An application would be lodged.

In response to the Chairman, Mr Gilson did not know how much was spent on seeds and plants each year, but thought if there was around $1,500 available for seeds and maintenance it may encourage more people to support the garden.

Linda Sinclair did not accept the prices of the vegetables were prohibitive.

The consensus of the Board was that the garden produce should be available to the wider district. The Chairman asked for a copy of the financial statements in the event the Board was able to offer some assistance.

Linda Sinclair extended thanks to Mr Gilson and his volunteer group on behalf of the Board for their efforts with the garden.

7. **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Eleanor Ranstead advised she was back post Covid-19 and was working with Ready for Living and Emergency Management Southland. There were some residents who were reluctant to get back out into the community.

Cr Phillips thanked Eleanor for her efforts during the pandemic and for assisting the community.

The meeting concluded at 6.25 pm