

LGOIMA Response to Donna Bruce – Gore Rates Reform Group

Tuesday 15 October 2024

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Dear Donna,

Thank you for requesting information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act, received by the Gore District Council on Tuesday 17 September 2024. You asked for the following:

(with reference to the Mataura dump station)

- Why did it cost so much to move and who was paid how much?
- Why was the first one un-consented?
- Why was it decided not to move the time capsule when it was financially a better decision?
- Whos decision was it to put so close to a time capsule and park bench in the first place?
- Why was it not put at Tulloch Park?

Our Roading Asset Manager Murray Hasler has provided the following responses to your questions.

Question: *Why did it cost so much to move and who was paid how much?*

Answer: The cost for shifting the dump station required additional length of trenching and pipes and removal of the previously installed pipes. It also included the requirement for a Certificate of Acceptance for the previous works. The contractor was paid \$8,600 excluding GST to relocate the dump station. This cost included the Council consent fees.

Question: *Why was the first one un-consented?*

Answer: The Council staff member assigned to project manage the construction of this project did not realise that the project required a building consent from the Council.

Question: *Why was it decided not to move the time capsule when it was financially a better decision?*

Answer: The Mataura Community Board were provided with the option of moving the time capsule but chose to take the option of shifting the dump station instead.

Question: *Whos decision was it to put it so close to a time capsule and park bench in the first place?*

Answer: The decision to locate the dump station at its original position was made by the Council staff member managing the project along with the local Councillor. The location was chosen to provide the shortest connections to existing Council 3 Waters pipes while ensuring sufficient distance for long motor homes to park alongside the facility without encroaching on the Bridge Street footpath.

Question: *Why was it not put at Tulloch Park?*

Answer: The Mataura Community Board chose to locate the dump station at Coster Park rather than Tulloch Park at its meeting on 16 August 2022. This was subject to funding which Council staff were able to obtain funding from the NZ Motor Caravan Association based on the original cost estimate for the project.

If you are unsatisfied with the response, you are entitled to lodge a complaint with the Office of the Ombudsmen. You can find more information on its website <http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz>.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact me on 209-0330.

Kind regards



Lornae Straith
General Manager Corporate Support