

STATEMENT OF TONY BATEUP

I am Tony Bateup a Director of Golden Bay Kayaks (GBK).

We bought GBK on Feb 1 2011. One of the reasons for the purchase of this business was the fact that our new born son Kye would grow up at Tata beach, with both parents being be part of his daily life. Some of the other reasons were based around lifestyle and our own passion for kayaking. We employ up to 5 part time guides and also have 3 employed staff to run the day hire, and we pay our guides better than the industry norm. It should also be noted that a lot of our customers are coming to Golden Bay especially to go kayaking, this results in two bed nights and a considerable injection into the local economy. We are also an ambassador for Golden Bay, taking the time with all our customers showing them where to go in GB and the wider region.

When we took over the lease it was very apparent that the building was in some disrepair, the doors were failing and every time we tried to close them another piece of timber would fall off in our hands. We contacted Susan Mathieson from TDC who told us it was our problem. During this conversation I asked about a toilet being provided at this end of the beach, as freedom campers, not our customers, were defecating in the bushes on the reserve. We offered at this time a public to pay for the construction of toilet if TDC would let us put it on their land and pay for the consenting. This was 'not an option' we were told, even though in the Tata beach Reserve Management Plan it states that Council will provide facilities at all reserves where picnic facilities are supplied.

We weren't encouraged to spend too much on the building as the lease agreement stated we had to return to building to original condition, and given the short term of the lease improvement was not an option - we could not do anything without Council permission anyway We however painted it and put a

new roller door on the front, it is also in my opinion the shed and immediate area is a lot tidier than it was with the previous owner of GBK. It has always been our intention for GBK to purchase a strip of land from Lot 29 from TDC so at some stage we could put a fit for purpose building, this would be set back further from the beach to help with flow of beach goers and customers.

We have at three occasions suggested that we would like to purchase – our request to purchase has been ignored.

We have tried extremely hard to have a good relationship with our community, and the number of support submissions show that generally we have succeeded. We have always understood that it would be possible for us to out grow our location, for this reason we have not increased our fleet since taking over in 2011, by 2 boats. We pay for an operating licence every year and there you will see our boat names and how many we have, we also never put pressure on this end of the National park – and that is probably why DOC has supported in favour of our application. We very much value the fact that people recreating can “claim a beach to themselves, this is a very different example to the southern end of the National Park , i.e. anywhere from Marahau north. It should also be noted that we have severe weather here in Golden Bay in the form of westerly and nor-west wind, it is not untypical for us to not operate for days at a time, thus it is not good business sense to have a massive amount of boats sitting in a shed given that 1 double kayak and the associated equipment needed for that boat is just under \$9k.

To give an example our 2013/14 season we operated just 14 days in January of those 14 days 5 were half days, that is 9 full days for that month. This season from Oct 1- 20 Dec we operated 2 days per week on average, to say this is a marginal business is an under-statement.

Our business hours of operation are from 8.40-6pm during the height of the season (26 December to February 1st), we have only started at an earlier time on 3 occasions during our last season. For the rest of the year (October through to April) we work 8.40 to 5 pm. A typical busy day would have myself and a staff

member starting at 8am to take boats from shed to beach, 8.30 our guides start and 8.40 our guided tour clients arrive, 9am our freedom hire clients arrive. Never would a member of the public gaining access at this point would have to wait more than 5 seconds, and a simple excuse me instantly makes the path clear without fail

This year there was an increase in people accessing the beach from Lot 29, but they were not our clients. The Tarakohe boat ramp is \$9.00 to launch motor boats, as a result of this there has been a huge increase in boat launching at the Tata boat ramp, this has in turn left nowhere for the day users of the beach to park and that has pushed them along to Lot 29 for their beach access which we never hinder. It should be noted these boats are launched from 5am thru to 10pm every day during the summer period. It is also very common for water skiers to start as soon as the sun is up, this can be as early as 6am. The season of 2012/13 we cleared the concrete ramp at the front of the boat shed and erected a small rock retaining wall, we done this to help the flow of traffic, before we did this it was single file access from the grassed area to the beach and if anyone tried to trolley their kayaks/boats to the beach they had to carry them from the grassed area to the beach, now all owners/tenants can get their boats to the beach, it is very common for staff of GBK to also help with these people getting their boats to the beach. Another reason for the increase of traffic is the fenced off old lookout track that people use to access the beach from, and the fact is that Pohara Beach was closed because of a human waste spill.

It disappoints me that the submitters and particularly your staff seem to lay everything that occurs at Tata Beach at our door. It disappoints me also that Tata beach is portrayed as a lovely quiet location, this couldn't be further from the truth. Over the summer period every house is full by owners and their tenants, most with multiple cars per house, most with large boats that are parked on the foot path preventing pedestrians using the foot path. We know because we are the only permanent residents at Cornwall Place.

These are not our customer's cars that are having this impact. Further more a lot of these houses in the locality are rented, particularly at Tata Beach and Cornwall Place - on 2 websites that I looked at there were 24 properties on one and 38 on the other. Our immediate neighbour Daryl Goodman doesn't advertise but rents his house out for a significant part of January and February Tata beach from the middle of December to the middle of Feb is one big party zone, there are fireworks every night, fires on the beach, and drunken revellers yelling even though they are only one metre away from each other. This behaviour happens every night till the early hours of the morning of the peak season - and, guess who picks up this mess every morning, the staff at GBK.

It is also of a huge concern that upon reading Mr Cant's report he seems to prefer the negative supporters simply because *they own property* nearby – he certainly does not take into account the effect of those person's tenants on the reserve, on the beach and their neighbours. It also surprises us that not one person from TDC who is involved with this process took the time to come and visit with us to get our views to see how we operate and what actually happens. Had they done so then it may have been hard to prefer the negative submitters and give a more balanced view. Lindsay McKenzie and Laurie Davidson are two people from TDC that have seen us at our busiest, has anyone asked them if they struggled to gain access through the clutter of kayaks etc?.

We pay for a operating licence and we also pay for the lease on the shed, we see no good reason to support Mr Cant's views of a concession based fee, - we have a DOC concession and think the business is already heavily weighted in compliance costs.

We are amazed that Mr Cant is telling us where we can and cannot park. We pay just under \$28k to TDC every year and he doesn't want us to park on Lot 29 this is unfortunately becoming a personal matter.

6.45 every morning we have the chainsaws from Ligar Bay going. Anytime from 5am we can hear mussel boats and their radios, we still do not complain, because we understand that in small communities we need industries and business to survive without all these we wont have a community or the infrastructure to support one. So, to these people who so value their peace and quiet Tata beach is not the place you are going to get it, and this has nothing to do with GBK.

We believe that we run an excellent kayaking company and are very considerate of our impact in our neighbourhood and the wider community and should be valued by TDC not hindered.

The piece of land that we are seeking to lease is not recreation land. All we are asking for is a lease of the building and the land underneath it. We do not sell

tickets or anything similar from that building or that land. It is limited to the storage of kayaks and associated items such as paddles and life jackets.

I have seen the conditions contended in Mr Cant's report and I will accept them. However we take the kayaks at the end of the day from the Beach up to the land on the front of the shed (facing the beach), wash them and put them away. That is done one at a time – we would like the lease to reflect that i.e. it must show that we can use the land under the roof facing the beach. The only concern that I have is that:

- (i) "The land is not recreation land so why should other standard conditions" relating to leasing recreation land be imposed;
- (ii) As to costs surely that cannot be a carte blanche – surely they must be reasonable.

I am happy to answer any questions.