

MINUTES

TITLE: Nelson Tasman Housing Forum
DATE: Monday 13 August 2012
TIME: 9.00 am
VENUE: Heaphy Room, Tasman District Council,
189 Queen Street, Richmond.

PRESENT: Cr Gail Collingwood, Nelson City Council, Chair
Patrick Steer, Nelson Tasman Housing Trust
Francie Wafer, Tasman District Council (Community Services
Administrator)
Les Milligan, Nelson Marlborough District Health Board
Edward Andrews, Night Shelter
Ann Cumpstone, Tahunanui Beach Holiday Park
Garry Woodgate, Tasman District Council (Administration
Officer)

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received and accepted from:-

Cr Judene Edgar, Tasman District Council
Cr Ian Barker, Nelson City Council
Glenn Morris, Nelson Property Investors Association
Jill Knight, Salvation Army
Nicola Mercer, Nelson City Council
Lynn Williams, Ministry of Social Development
Kindra Douglas, Nelson Tasman Housing trust
Di Cressey, Habitat for Humanity

1 **Welcome and Apologies**

With the apology from Cr Edgar, Cr Collingwood assumed the Chair.
Cr Collingwood welcomed the group and noted the apologies.

2 **Confirmation of Minutes – Nelson Tasman Housing Forum 14 May 2012**

The following amendments were made to the minutes of 14 May 2012:-

Page 1, Present – ‘Jill McKnight’ was replaced with ‘Jill Knight’
Page 3, Item 6 – ‘Jill McKnight’ was replaced with ‘Jill Knight’

Moved Cr Collingwood/Steer

THAT the Minutes of the Nelson Tasman Housing Forum, held on Monday 14 May 2012, with amendment, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

3 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Nil.

4 Homelessness of Youth – Statistics, Alex Britton

Forum members were advised that Mr Alex Britton was no longer working for INCEDO.

The statistics tabled showed that there is a demand for emergency housing for young people between the ages of 16 – 21.

Edward Andrews advised that none of the young people captured in the statistics came to the Night Shelter. He added that the Night Shelter averaged two homeless clients per week at present with the rest going to Franklin Village.

Forum members then discussed homeless youth who did not know where to go or what to do.

5 Agency Updates

Nelson Tasman Housing Trust

Mr Patrick Steer advised that:-

- Emergency numbers were down in July
- The second cabin was almost complete
- The Bond Bank was now open
- Brook Development is progressing well
- The Victory Project now has four titles
- There is growing concern for older, single women with housing needs.

Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

Mr Les Milligan advised that the Nelson Marlborough District Health Board were now talking with landlords regarding the Good Homes Project.

Tahunanui Beach Holiday Park

Ms Ann Cumpstone advised that she had a personal interest in the provision of low cost housing for the elderly along the lines of Australia's Grey Nomads example.

Night Shelter

Mr Edward Andrews advised that it was still only \$10 a night to stay at the Night Shelter.

After general discussion, concern was expressed by Forum members regarding some individuals who pulled out of accommodation early (having received a WINZ bond) and that the bond was paid to them and not back to WINZ.

6 Monitoring Reports

Monitoring Reports were contained within the agenda and taken as read.

It was noted that:-

- The Affordability Statistics were not available

- Median weekly rent prices are growing steadily
- There are diminishing properties on the market for sale.

Moved Cr Collingwood/Milligan

**THAT the Monitoring Reports be received.
CARRIED**

7

General Business

7.1 Future of the Nelson Tasman Housing Forum

A copy of the Minutes of the Housing Forum held on 28 February 2011 had been circulated.

The Tasman District Council Community Services Administrator tabled a Draft Housing Forum Survey that Cr Judene Edgar had prepared for discussion.

Discussion on the four reasons why the Nelson Tasman Housing Forum had been initially established ensued. The reasons included:-

1. For networking
2. For information sharing
3. For learning
4. For potential action.

Patrick Steer advised that the Nelson Tasman Housing Forum had no legal framework and that was why the Terms of Reference of the Forum did not include it being action driven.

Nelson Tasman Housing Forum members agreed that the Housing Forum was good at providing information but overall was not attracting attendees, required a refocus, needed to be action driven and the tangible benefits of continuing needed to be identified.

It was agreed that the Nelson Tasman Housing Forum Survey would be sent out with a covering note, include the Terms of Reference, inviting comments as well as inviting all those interested in attending the next meeting and for this matter to be the first item on the next Housing Forum Agenda.

7.2 Single, Older Women requiring Accommodation in the Region

Discussion continued from earlier in the meeting regarding single older women who were making approaches to the Nelson Tasman Housing Trust regarding accommodation – seventeen of the forty requests.

Concern was also expressed regarding low income elderly women in the age range of 55-65 seeking accommodation, who had no, or little, earning power. They were often fiercely independent, stoic people who did not like asking for help.

10.20 am: Les Milligan departed.

7.3 General Matters

Ann Cumpstone noted that a larger number of individuals in the rural area were also affected by poverty and that some were even living in substandard sheds. Another concern included rural property owners who had very high mortgages.

Ann also outlined a growing housing problem for those with mental health issues.

Next meeting to be 03 December 2012.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 10.25 am.

CONFIRMED MINUTES