

MINUTES

TITLE: Tasman District Council - Annual Plan Submissions Hearing

DATE: Friday 14 May 2010

TIME: 9.30 am

VENUE: St John's Hall, Courtney Street East, Motueka

PRESENT: Mayor R G Kempthorne, Crs T B King, S J Borlase, S G Bryant, R G Currie, B F Dowler, J L Edgar, B W Ensor, G A Glover, M J Higgins, J L Inglis, T E Norriss and E J Wilkins

IN ATTENDANCE: Strategic Development Manager (S Edwards),
Administration Officer (J A Proctor)

APOLOGIES

Moved Crs Glover/Wilkins
CN10/05/02

**THAT apologies from Cr Riley for absence be received.
CARRIED**

15	Mrs S Worthington
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Mrs Worthington was in attendance to speak to her submission.

Mrs Worthington spoke about Council's proposal to reduce the annual payment discount rate to 3% and suggested that Council move towards paperless billing to save costs.

24	Mr R Reeve – Motueka Power Boat Club Inc
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Mr Reeve was in attendance to speak to the submission.

Mr Reeve spoke about the need for public toilet facilities to be installed in the vicinity of the Motueka Power Boat Club. Mr Reeve stated that the Club was prepared to consider maintaining the facilities on behalf of Council.

48	Mr R Hellyer
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Mr Hellyer was in attendance to speak to his submission.

Mr Hellyer spoke on a number of topics:

- Nelson Tasman Tourism Ltd (NTT) should be responsible for dealing with freedom campers.
- The failure of Government departments to provide printed materials resulting in the public having to use internet facilities provided by Council.

- Stop banks in the Motueka area.
- Funding for the provision of storage facilities for historical documents.
- That the request for funding by the Motueka Community Board to appeal the water reticulation decision to the Environment Court be refused by Council.
- That the Motueka Community Board be dissolved.

Mr Hellyer continued that he did not believe the Golden Bay Community Board should be dissolved due to its remoteness from Richmond. Mr Hellyer did not believe that libraries should be self funded.

68	Ms F E Baker
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Ms Baker was in attendance to speak to her submission.

Ms Baker spoke about the management of the Motueka River resulting in the erosion of her land and for the need to remove gravel from certain areas along the river bank.

72	Mr and Mrs N Dorne
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Mr and Mrs Dorne were in attendance to speak to their submission.

Mrs Dorne spoke about the state of Kaiteiteri Road and perceived lack of Council action in dealing with this issue. Mrs Dorne was advised that funds had been allocated for some improvement to the road and that Council is currently negotiating with the landowner at Turners Bluff to obtain access.

74 & 205	Mr and Mrs R Haines
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Mr Haines was in attendance to speak to the submission.

Mr Haines spoke about Annual Plan funding being secured from Government prior to Council charging Development Contribution (DCs) levies in relation to the provision of a water reticulation scheme for the Motueka area. Mr Haines was advised that if Government approval was not obtained, then DCs would be refunded to those who had paid.

Mr Haines went on to request that Council review its intention to install a reticulated water scheme in the Motueka area and that it undertake further research.

86 & 87	Mr J Butler – Keep Motueka Beautiful and Grey Power Motueka
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Mr Butler was in attendance to speak to the submissions.

Mr Butler advised that volunteers contributed well in excess of 2,000 hours last year to Keep Motueka Beautiful activities. Mr Butler had estimated that nine kilometres of walkways costs 50 cents per metre to maintain. Keep Motueka Beautiful would be requesting \$4,500 from the Grants and Community Facilities Subcommittee towards maintenance of the walkways.

Mr Butler spoke on a number of issues on behalf of Grey Power Motueka:

- Motueka Coastal Water Supply – further investigation is required: too costly for ratepayers.
- Poor maintenance of kerb crossings in the Motueka area.
- The structure of rate demands.
- Requested the upgrade of Motueka bridge and defer work on stop banks.

45	Mr A Sims
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Mr Sims was in attendance to speak to his submission.

Mr Sims spoke in opposition to the proposed Targeted Tourism Rate (TTR) and stated that NTT should be funded by commercial tourism operators. He continued that most people within the tourism industry were unaware of NTT.

113	Mr A Opie – Semper Properties Ltd, Manuka Farm Ltd and Whenua Management Ltd
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Mr Opie was in attendance to speak to the submission.

Mr Opie stated that the TTR was inequitable and that Council should not be funding NTT. Mr Opie spoke about freedom camping and declared that Government should introduce a head tax on visitors to New Zealand: the “head tax” could then be used to fund the cost of tourism promotions.

134	Ms J Taylor – Mapua and Districts Business Association
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Ms Taylor was in attendance to speak to the submission.

Ms Taylor spoke on a number of topics:

- The Association was supportive of Council’s initiative in relation to walking and cycleways.
- It was working towards a plan to make the Ruby Coast a destination.
- It acknowledged Council’s foresight regarding the Community Development Fund and thanked Council for the grant received.
- The proposed development of Mapua’s waterfront park and increase usage of the wharf area meant that the issue of car parking needed to be addressed.
- TTR was inequitable and NTT needed to review its strategy on how funding was spent and research other opportunities and areas.
- Acknowledged the need for public transport but questioned its viability.

Ms Taylor was asked if the Association could provide an alternative method for collecting the TTR and responded that it would look into this issue.

Council staff advised that they would investigate Mapua becoming part of the Treasured Pathway.

135	Mr R Oliver – Coastal Initiative Group
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Mr Oliver was in attendance to speak to the submission.

Mr Oliver stated that the Group was pleased with the working relationship it had developed with Council. The Group would like to focus on developing a series of gateway signage and sculpture precincts at the three entrances to the Ruby Coast; and an integrated roading plan for the area. The Group was keen to work in conjunction with Council on these issues and to develop a clear strategy to enable future funding to be spent appropriately.

In response to questioning, Mr Oliver advised that if Council is to implement various projects within the area and introduce a targeted rate to pay for them, then the community needed to decide if it had an appetite to pay.

The meeting adjourned at 12.39 pm.

Cr Dowler left the meeting at 12.39 pm.

The meeting resumed at 1.10 pm

160	Mr S Mitchell and Ms McNeil – Moutere Hills Community Centre
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Mr Mitchell and Ms McNeil were in attendance to speak to the submission.

Mr Mitchell requested funding be increased to \$39,000 per annum to assist with ongoing maintenance costs. Mr Mitchell stated that the Centre was perceived as the anchor of the community and was a model for other rural community halls nationally.

Ms McNeil confirmed that user charges had increased in April 2010 and that the Centre was used by 25% of the Mapua community. A discussion ensued on budgets and it was agreed that Council staff would investigate funding sources prior to Annual Plan Workshop deliberations taking place.

204	Mr B Harvey – Bellbird Lodge
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Mr Harvey was in attendance to speak to his submission.

Mr Harvey spoke on a number of issues:

- TTR was inequitable and that he was aware of a number of tourism operators who had removed their signs in an attempt to avoid the rate.
- Motueka's water shortage was as a result of Council approving the subdivision of Rural 3 land. Mr Harvey was concerned that the water table would drop and he was advised to review the scientific data which would refute this statement.
- Freedom campers should be fined.
- Clarity and consistency of rate demands, i.e. expressing items as a percentage or monetary value.
- Complaints to Council staff not being addressed appropriately.

57	Mr J Krammer
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Mr Krammer was in attendance to speak to his submission.

Mr Krammer expressed his concern about the state of kerbs and footpaths in the Motueka area; private landowners failing to keep hedges trimmed; the provision of traffic lights at Post Office corner and requested that Council remove all rubbish bins in the area.

231	Mr D Armstrong
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Mr Armstrong was in attendance to speak to his submission.

Mr Armstrong spoke about the need to introduce safe cycleways in the Motueka area and that heavy traffic flow through the main High Street needed to be re-routed. Mr Armstrong was advised that the State Highway was not a Council road; however, Council staff had made NZTA aware of the issue.

In response to questioning, Mr Armstrong stated that his preference would be for cyclists and pedestrians to share a footpath.

Mr Armstrong also spoke on the issue of water from the Motueka aquifer being used to supply other parts of the District.

235	Ms T Forde – Motueka Community Board
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Ms Forde was in attendance to speak to the submission.

Ms Forde spoke on a number of issues:

- Increasing the amount of funding allocated to the Motueka area.
- Maintenance of footpath and kerbs in the Motueka area.
- Improving Motueka library, but was support of free internet access for residents only.
- Was supportive of Council's process in relation to stop bank issues but was opposed to a targeted rate being imposed to pay for it.

Ms Forde was reminded that the Motueka Community Board had provided Council with a priority list for new footpaths in the area. In response to questioning, Ms Forde supported funding for regional projects but stated that these should be dealt with on an issue by issue basis in consultation with ratepayers.

Ms Forde was provided with an explanation on how Council funded river maintenance costs.

Ms Forde was encouraged to provide Council with a tool for prioritising spending within the District which would be reviewed.

Mr Griffiths was in attendance to speak to the submission.

Mr Griffiths requested Council provide \$15,000 funding for preliminary investigations into the water supply to Tasman Village. Mr Griffiths spoke about water standards and septic tanks and stated that a number of residents were boiling water on a daily basis.

Mr Griffiths confirmed that once investigations had been concluded and a decision made, then the \$15,000 would be charged back to the residents.

In response to questioning, Mr Griffiths confirmed that he was agreeable to conducting a survey of residents to gauge their interest in contributing towards the survey.

The meeting concluded at 3.03 pm.

Date Confirmed:

Chair: