

## **REPORT TO MOTUEKA COMMUNITY BOARD : APRIL 8, 2008**

### 1. A Different Agenda

We are trialling a different format to this month's Agenda, by reducing our Correspondence information on the agenda but including it in an Information Pack (which will have a limited circulation). The objective is to reduce stationery, printing, postage costs and simplify our decision process without reducing the information available to Board members and interested people. There is a degree of personal opinion in this arrangement, but Board members are, of course, able to raise any of the Information Pack issues during the meeting. Your response is of interest.

### 2. Delegated Authority

Duncan and I (with Joe Bell and Carolyn McLellan) met with the Mayor,. Deputy Mayor, Chief Executive, Murray Staite and Lloyd Kennedy to discuss delegated powers to the Boards from the Council. The Council response to our respective reports was neutral – to – negative even when our suggestions met their combined criteria of improved efficiency and effectiveness. Generally, we were arguing for de-centralising various activities and powers in order to take back some control locally. The specific Motueka items raised included the Aerodrome, Footpath-Cycleways, Pensioner Cottages, and the Halls.

While there were no decisions reached, we have agreed to further meetings, when we have been asked to prepare detailed arguments for any activity.

The Local Government Commission (in its April 2007 decision) pointed out that the effectiveness of the Community Board depended on the relationship with the parent territorial authority. Certainly our Mayor and Deputy Mayor, and our Motueka Community Board, want a positive and constructive working relationship – this is a “two-way street” recognising the worth and roles of each properly constituted entity.

### 3. Community Groups

These are always rewarding: Marahau Assn, Our Town Motueka, Tasman Bay Promotions, Festival of Lights, Keep Motueka Beautiful reflect the huge voluntary efforts at different levels locally. The input of Community Board is welcomed and appreciated.

#### 4. Council / Motueka Issues

I have included items from the Council and Council committee meetings for your information. Please refer also to the lengthening list of Projects / Activities at the back of our Agenda.

The contracts for Wastewater (No 717) – a new sewer main along Tudor Street connecting with Goodman Drive and for Footpaths / Kerbs and Channel / Minor Safety and Drainage Works (Contract 727) close soon. Contract 736 provides for slip remediation on various roads (including in the ward) resulting from pre-Christmas heavy rains.

#### 5. Anzac Day And Arbor Day Schedules

The programming for both ANZAC Day and Arbor Day needs to be finalised at this meeting.

#### 6. Council / Motueka Issues

(a) It is timely to mention some of the roles of the Community Board as laid down by statute (particularly the Local Government Act 2002):-

- (1) To represent the interests of the community.
- (2) To act as an advocate for the community.
- (3) To oversee services provided by the Council.

Note that these are only three of eight roles mentioned in the Act – in practice these are our eight objectives for our Community Board.

The advocacy role is especially significant as it gives the Board the obligation to speak strongly, in fact to plead, for our Motueka community.

(b) The basis of our three roles, mentioned above, is the right to receive Council information.

On behalf of the Board, I have requested:

- Motueka Harbour Board Endowment Fund Financial details
- Motueka domestic water and firewells financial details.

On behalf of residents, I've requested work at Thorp's Bush, and Memorial Park.

Recently, after our March 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, I requested various policies / management plans:-

- Motueka Aerodrome
- Port Motueka, the Marina / Power Boat Club areas and also the Riwaka and Marahau wharves and jetties.
- Stormwater Asset Management Plan
- Wastewater Asset Management Plan
- Camping Grounds Policy and the lease of the Fearon's Bush Camp.

(c) Moreover, some Council decisions have been concerning (E.G.)

- (i) Reducing expenditure on the Council building in Motueka from \$300,000 to \$30,000 (and may be deferred altogether).
- (ii) Failure to seal the Aerodrome car park – was scheduled at \$10,000 in this year's budget, but has been deferred.
- (iii) Constructing the footpath along Pah Street to the Marae as a gravel footpath – as is the shared cycleway / footpath along Queen Victoria Street to Lower Moutere.

(d) For our new Board most of this information and these requests are satisfying our role as Board members, in providing the essential democratic link between the Motueka Community and the District Council.

This is information and a service which we are pleased to provide.

DAVID OGILVIE  
31 March 2008