

STAFF REPORT

TO: Councillors
FROM: Mayor Hurley
REFERENCE: C785
DATE: 18 May 2005
SUBJECT: Mayor's Report

COMBINED MEETING

The mayors and chief executives of Kaikoura, Blenheim, Nelson, Tasman, Buller, Grey, Hokitika and West Coast Regional attended a group meeting at St Arnaud organised by Nelson City. Presentations from Police, Transit, and the Ministry of Social Services together with a full discussion on local government issues affecting our region was considered to be beneficial at least once a year.

THE LEFTIES

One hundred and seventy left handers, together with partners and supporters, attended a National Golf Tournament at Greenacres. I attended an official welcome on the evening of the second day. I cannot recall receiving so many favourable comments about our District from a group of visitors. A credit to Greenacres' management.

AIRPORT TOUR

While I am sure that the tours we have participated in have been valuable to those attending they have not been well attended. We have, as a result, deferred until later further tours until more time is available.

REGIONAL AFFAIRS

This meeting was addressed by W Donnally, CEO Transfund, who stated that a restructure of the organisation was still in progress. This has been initiated by political interference. The funding of \$1.5 billion is meanwhile not delivering a great deal of development. They, in my view, seem to be bogged down with a PC influenced planning process which is a serious impediment in the way of projects. Regrettably, Tasman District and Ruby Bay Bypass is one of many delays.

MAPUA BOWLING CLUB

Kathryn and I attended the official opening. The Patron, Tom Wiley and I cut the ribbon. Tom spoke at some length of the Club's progress from its formative years - he is 100 years of age very shortly.

The new green and clubrooms are a great asset to the Mapua community.

ZONE 5 AND 6

I intend to provide a separate report on this meeting.

ANNUAL PLAN

Our meeting round is now completed with increased members attending the meetings. Top of the list of concerns seems to be the proposed recycling rubbish collection issue. Some concern has been expressed re increasing costs, but generally the support for Council's work programmes came through the discussions favourably.

Thanks to members of Council and staff who have turned out and assisted the presentation.

AVAILABILITY OF PSEUDO DRUGS

Attached letter from Mayor Tony Kokshoorn, Grey District Council.

John Hurley
Mayor