STAFF REPORT

TO: Community Services Committee

FROM: Community Services Chair

DATE: 1 May 2008

SUBJECT: Chair's Report

Thank you to all those Councillors who made themselves available for the tour of Rabbit Island. Later today we will have a workshop to discuss the issues further.

The new Takaka Library, from all reports I have had, is wonderfully accepted by the community and has, in its first month of operation, seen a near doubling of number of users through the door. The concept of design and build has, I believe, resulted in considerable savings to this Council and needs to be used for future projects. I believe the highest priority now, for libraries, is to consider and make decision on the future of the Richmond District Library. At the Annual Plan meetings I have attended there has been no comment on the Community Services budget, so we may be able to assume that we have expenditure in this area about right.

Finally it is always interesting to watch the change in colours as we go through autumn into winter of indigenous trees and appreciate what a truly wonderful area we live in and how lucky we are to have eyesight.

Stuart Bryant Chair of Community Services