

# STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Community Services Committee  
**FROM:** Community Services Manager  
**DATE:** 23 October 2009  
**SUBJECT:** Community Services Manager's Report

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Hopefully I will be at the meeting looking all fit and healthy after walking the Milford Track from 29 October to 1 November.

The following are mainly updates of a number of issues we are currently dealing with or have dealt with in the past:

## **COLLINGWOOD TENNIS CLUB**

Councillors will recall that we have been in discussions with the Tennis Club regarding the relocation of their two courts that are currently on their own land in the middle of the Collingwood Camping Ground.

General agreement has been reached to relocate the courts along the William Street road frontage of the camping ground. However, this depended on the reclamation proceeding for the access and parking for the boat ramp. Consent for this work has now been received.

In meeting with the Club, it has been pointed out that Council only has sufficient funds for one new court and associated fencing and the Club has indicated that they may fundraise for the difference to ensure the two courts are constructed at the same time. Estimates have been obtained showing the difference in costs between one and two courts and this has been provided to the Tennis Club recently.

For information.

## **SPLIT APPLE ROCK – TOWER BAY ACCESS**

Reports have been provided to Councillors regarding the closure of access to Tower Bay where the track had passed through private land.

This closure also affected Mr and Mrs Nelson who had used this track for access to their bach. The Nelsons had written to Council and attended Council meetings

requesting Council do something about public access so that they would be able to walk to their bach. This had proven to be very difficult and the decision had been made not to do anything other than monitor any new developments in the area that may provide the opportunity for public access to Tower Bay.

We have now been advised that the Nelsons have reached agreement with their neighbour for access to their property.

Whilst this does not address the issue of public access, staff will continue to watch for opportunities to gain public access to Tower Bay.

For information.

### **RICHMOND COMMUNITY FACILITY**

The LTCCP provides an allowance of \$1.58 million towards provision of a multi-purpose community facility in Richmond, with a preference for extending or enhancing some existing or planned facility owned by a third party.

In adopting the LTCCP, Council resolved that as a first step in the process, we will undertake a needs analysis.

As this is a specialised field, we are in the process of engaging Strategic Leisure NZ to assist with this and work should be commencing shortly.

For information.

### **3M AWARD FOR INNOVATION IN LIBRARIES**

I am sure the District Librarian will cover this in detail in her report. However, I just wanted to add my congratulations to the team behind “The Prow” and especially Cathy Vaughan from the Richmond Library, for coming second in the finals of the 3M Awards for Innovation in Libraries. This was a tremendous result and was only beaten by the Aotearoa People’s Network which is very much a successful national project, whereas The Prow is a top of the south initiative.

#### **Recommendation**

**THAT a letter of congratulations be sent to the team behind The Prow for obtaining second place in the 3M Awards for Innovation in Libraries.**

### **MAPUA WATERFRONT PARK**

Recently there has been pressure from some Mapua residents and groups for material to be removed from the Mapua Waterfront Park as they believe the height of the mounds creates a visual obstruction.

Staff and the park designer, Robin Simpson, have recently met to discuss how we progress this matter and have agreed to:

- (a) Remove the high fencing and windbreak cloth from around the park and replace it with a low netting fence with a number of pedestrian access points.
- (b) Complete the carpark during 2009/10. This is an Engineering budgeted item that will be undertaken by our engineers in consultation with Robin Simpson.
- (c) Complete the design of the work to be undertaken along the eastern boundary (Mapua Channel) and then proceed with this work during 2009/10.
- (d) Complete the design of the work to be undertaken on the reserve where it fronts onto Aranui Road during 2009/10 so that this work is ready to proceed in conjunction with sewerage works in 2010/11.
- (e) Commence plantings, particularly along the southern boundary, in 2009/10.
- (f) Robin Simpson to provide revised plans for access from the carpark to the reserve with a view to providing an easy access that leads people to the reserve.

A decision on whether or not to remove surplus commercial grade soil from the site will not be made until the outcome on the Eves Valley Landfill consent is known and also more accurate costs of transportation of the material are available. However, some material will have to be removed when the sewerage works commence and buildings and some other works start on the park. This is not expected to be until 2010/11. In the meantime, Robin Simpson has been asked to re-look at the plans bearing in mind the costs associated with the removal of any soil.

For information.

## **MURCHISON RECREATION RESERVE**

Over the last few months, the Murchison Sports Recreation and Cultural Centre Committee have had difficulties over the location of various new facilities on the reserve and in particular the pony club arena and BMX area.

To assist with this, we offered to engage Strategic Leisure NZ to prepare a development plan for the whole reserve. This offer was subject to all parties agreeing to accept the recommendations in the plan.

Attached to this report is a copy of the Development Plan for the Murchison Recreation Reserve which provides a number of recommendations covering:

- (a) Future land requisition.
- (b) Possible relocation of library/service centre.
- (c) Possible relocation of the Murchison Community Resource Centre.
- (d) Extension of the tennis courts to enable dual use for netball.
- (e) Possible future additions on the eastern end of new Centre (eg multi-purpose room, squash courts and fitness room).
- (f) Appropriateness of the use of the grounds for animals and in particular for the A&P Show.
- (g) Siting of BMX track and new pony club arena.
- (h) Grounds maintenance and equipment sheds.
- (i) Possible future playground for preschool and junior primary school age users.
- (j) Future parking and internal road requirements.
- (k) Information Centre and Toy Library.
- (l) Trees on the reserve.
- (m) Access for emergency vehicles and helicopter landings for search and rescue purposes.
- (n) Implementation plan.

This Development Plan will now be provided to the Murchison Sports, Recreation and Cultural Centre Committee for their adoption.

The implementation plan provides a suggested timetable for the various projects, however the actual timing of these projects in some cases will depend on funding being available.

### **Recommendation**

**THAT the Development Plan for the Murchison Recreation Reserve be received and that it be forwarded to the Murchison Sports, Recreation and Cultural Centre Committee for adoption.**

### **RURAL FIRE**

#### **Waimea Rural Fire Authority Annual Report 1/10/08-30/9/09**

Attached is a copy of the above report for the Committee's information.

#### **New Fire Engine for Ngatimoti Volunteer Rural Fire Force**

The Ngatimoti Fire Force applied for and received a grant of \$12,500 towards a replacement fire engine. On top of this, we received a \$15,000 grant from the National Rural Fire Authority.

The vehicle being purchased is an ex Timberlands Isuzu 4x4 (photo attached) at a total cost of \$30,000 plus GST. The net cost to Council of this purchase is \$2,500.

For information only.

L L Kennedy  
Community Services Manager

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