

REPORT

TO: GB Community Board
FROM: The Chairperson
REFERENCE: E855
DATE: 3rd April 2006
SUBJECT: April 2006 Report

Meetings, activities and events attended during the past month included:

6 March: Agenda setting for the 14 March Community Board meeting

7 March: Chaired meeting of group representatives concerned about the prospecting permit application by Bonaparte Diamond Mines NL for almost the entire Territorial seabed and foreshore adjacent to the Golden Bay Ward - Kahurangi Point to Separation Point. Representatives shared actions taken since the previous meeting and additional information gained. The combined group was unanimous in its opposition and elected Alan Vaughan as the group representative for co-ordinating and disseminating information.

8 March: Along with Board Members Gamby and McLellan addressed a group of mainly US graduates on a world wide study on the effects of globalization. We advised the local government structure and spoke about issues relevant to Golden Bay. The visitors were from a range of communities from the largest cities to small rural areas and they also briefly shared their knowledge of local governance in their home areas.

An opportunity to impart and gain greater understanding; open communication is the basis of civilized society.

9-10 March: Attended Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority Annual Forum for Energy wise councils held in Nelson. This forum was titled "Planning for the End of an Era" and a summary of some of the proceedings is appended as a separate report. At long last there is acceptance that "peak oil" and "climate change" are real issues which need to be confronted.

12 March: Attended bike ride from Tarakohe to Pohara highlighting the need for improved safety for vulnerable road users and wider issues of sustainable transport. Having been convenor of the Golden Bay Public Access Group over the past ten years efforts during that time have seen little improvement to recognized danger areas, e.g. Birds Hill where delay upon delay has seen the cost of improvements rise

dramatically. The GBPAG was formed in 1995 to represent the concerns of the pedestrians, cyclists and horse-riders. Apart from some policy changes and signage, which was to be a temporary measure pending real improvements, little tangible improvement has been achieved.

14 March: Community Board Meeting Collingwood.

17 March: Attended together with Board member McLellan at Pakawau Motor Camp for TV1 News item interview etc. Film of Camp sale issue broadcast that night.

17 March: Recorded Radio interview at Fresh FM re topics discussed during 14 March Board meeting.

22 March: 8.30am attended Community Board Delegations sub-committee meeting in Motueka and tabled a paper, setting out current defined roles being undertaken by our Board (copy attached). I have subsequently requested that this issue be reconsidered before the sub-committee reports back to Council.

27 March: attended Iwi meeting at Onetahua Marae with Campbell McKenzie of Crown Minerals re Bonaparte Diamond Mines NL application. I supported Iwi in their concerns which reflect the concerns of the wider community. At present Iwi are the only community party that Crown Minerals are obliged to consult with.

ISSUES

Anzac Day Representation

The Board needs to formally nominate representatives to attend Anzac Day Services.

Nelson Provincial Museum Accounts

Further to this being raised in the media and at our last meeting there has been a request from a Golden Bay ratepayer for financial information relevant to the TDC loan funding to be made available. Although this is a Council Controlled Organization (CCO) it is 50% owned on behalf of Tasman constituents and it is important that all accounting is open and transparent.

A phone message request to Corporate Services for a copy of the accounts has not been responded to therefore it is recommended that:

“The Golden Bay Community Board requests a copy of the accounts for the Nelson Provincial Museum including details of all TDC loan and grant funding to the project”.

Collingwood Historic Cemetery

The Department of Conservation confirm that they have responsibility for the land where the Collingwood Historic Cemetery is situated and that they are prepared to provide a new weed eater to the custodian, provided it is nominally held by a suitable community group. Keep Golden Bay Beautiful was suggested and this group has

accepted. The weed eater will be placed in the care of the custodian for use at the cemetery.

Abbeyfield Accessway

A previous Community Board has supported contributory funding towards the forming of the access way from Commercial St to the Abbeyfield site and Lake Killarney. \$35,000 was approved for this but is now insufficient. Accordingly, the Board needs to consider supporting a request to increase this sum to \$49,170 which is a half share of the updated quoted costing.

Rural Rating Concerns

Attached are two papers from Tasman District rate payers concerned about the current rating system.

With falls in property values since the snapshot valuations carried out last year many residents will have rates assessed on an unrealistic over-valuation. This is unfair and anomalous. The Board needs to pass these concerns on to Council, LGNZ and Central Government.

Tarakohe Accounts

This matter has been held over until this meeting. The financial report in the Agenda for the April 5 2006 Council Enterprises Sub-committee meeting is most disquieting. We have been advised for years that Port Tarakohe is a closed account but the current operating accounts reveal a \$52,266 deficit which is recorded as a net surplus. Income from various categories of commercial users are pitiful for the year to date with lease fees of \$2,000 and Mussel line income of \$3,360. In addition there is recorded capital expenditure of \$142,260 comprising \$113,935 capital repayments, \$28,488 for wharf re-construction. We need an urgent update from the Harbour administrator as to progress being made on setting commercial rentals for leases and the steps being taken to collect monies outstanding.

It is vital that this valuable Golden Bay asset is not put at risk through a seeming inability to set and collect commercially based rents. Such a situation is inequitable and grossly unfair to other Port users.

Affordable Housing

Following the last Community Services meeting held in Motueka on 22 March our Ward councillors will update us on subsequent happenings and any remaining issues of concern.

National Energy Strategy

Further to the EECA Forum held on 9 & 10 it would be helpful if our Board wrote to LGNZ supporting the need for a National Fuel Crisis and Climate Change Forum.

Accordingly it is recommended that our Board does this.

Joe Bell