

STAFF REPORT

TO: Golden Bay Community Board
FROM: Service Centres Manager
REFERENCE: E855
DATE: 31st July 2006
SUBJECT: August 2006 Report

FROM LAST MONTH'S MEETING

Forum Issues

Pakawau Subdivision

I have forwarded the Planner's report and Decision regarding the above subdivision and if required will be able to bring further information to the Board before the meeting.

MATTERS SINCE LAST MEETING

Community Awards

No doubt the Board will wish to formally congratulate the Golden Bay Bag Ladies on winning the Heritage and Environment section of the TrustPower Nelson Tasman Community Awards. Well done ladies!

Fireworks and Public Liability

Following the further advice from Sarah Chapman regarding insurance cover for the GB Fireworks celebrations I discussed the matter with the Corporate Services Manager, David Ward, who has asked Sarah to formally apply with supporting risk management information and it would seem likely that insurance cover under the Council's umbrella should be available.

The matter has raised an interesting point regarding organized public activities on Council land and I have suggested that Management may want to consider risk liability for such activities particularly where Council has been actively involved in promoting them.

Renewal of Work Centre Lease

I have had some preliminary discussions and been on site with Leigh Gamby regarding the access/service lane improvements to the Community Centre. The matter of the Work Centre lease according to Council's Property Manager Jim Frater is a separate issue. Jim Frater has agreed to address the Community Board on this matter at the meeting.

Mr Frater may also be able to answer questions regarding carparking issues.

Rates Rebates

In accordance with the Board's resolution GBN06/07/16 an in-house training session for staff was carried out and the information shared by Council's Corporate Services rates 'gurus' Anthea Campbell and Diane Penn was extremely valuable.

I have also undertaken some consultation with WINZ staff and with Wendy Earle of Heartlands. Wendy of Heartlands and Anthea of WINZ have been extremely helpful and encouraging and I believe with their help the processing of rates rebates will be a lot easier for our customers.

I have also raised what appear to be some anomalies with Damien O'Connor's Office and these have been referred back through to the Minister of Local Government the Hon Mark Burton.

A meeting is scheduled for 1st August at 10.00am which will be held at the Motueka Electoral Office and includes representatives from WINZ, IRD and Grey Power. Council staff, including myself, have also been invited.

Whilst the intention of the scheme is good the apparent anomalies that are confusing even to our expert staff need to get cleared up so that we can help our customers as much as possible to get the right information.

Also the work related to receiving the applications will be a significant impact to Service Centre and Customer Services Staff and in particular the Corporate Services Staff that have to process the applications.

Recommendation:

“That the Service Centres Manager's report for August be received.”

Bob Askew
