

REPORT

TO: GB Community Board
FROM: The Chairperson
REFERENCE: E855
DATE: 30th January 2007
SUBJECT: Monthly Report for February 2007

Meetings, activities and events attended during past two months included:

4 December Community Board agenda setting for 12 December meeting.

4 December Met with Liza Eastman and Dave Myall to inspect Christmas decorations for repair and erection.

5 December Anatoki Track Road Bridge on-site meeting with local residents, Board members and TDC Transport Manager Roger Ashworth. It was resolved that there be a stay of proceedings to remove the bridge whilst a new bridge is considered along with respective contributions to cost.

9 December showing of documentary film 'The End of Suburbia'. Like 'An Inconvenient Truth' seen earlier in the year, this film provided a background to our dependence on oil and our vulnerability when supplies are threatened by reduction and/or cost. We need to take steps NOW to future-proof ourselves against these inevitabilities.

12 December Community Board meeting Takaka

13 December. Motupipi Hall 10am – 12noon Motupipi River briefing by Trevor James TDC Scientist and Barbara Stuart (Landcare). This meeting was for local residents and others in our community concerned about the river and provided information previously discussed with landowners in the catchment.

13 December. Motupipi Hall 1-3pm. Public meeting to discuss Motupipi River issues and ways forward. Both this and the morning meeting were helpful and positive in explaining the issues and ways of dealing with them including mitigation measures taken to date by landowners.

15 December. Recorded Radio interview for TDC 'Lowdown' on Fresh FM about matters discussed during the 12 December Board meeting..

19 December. Official farewell for retiring TDC CEO Bob Dickinson at the Richmond Office.

20 December. Start of Local Government Commission Hearing of Appeals/Objections to the TDC final decision in its 2006 Representation Review, TDC Chambers Richmond. Present for the TDC case put by Messrs Dickinson, Hurley and Higgins. Recorded notes towards compilation of Board submission to the hearing and completed preparation of this overnight.

20 December. Local Government Commission Hearing Pohara Hall. Presentation of the Board submission together with other Board members. Responded to questioning from Commissioners.

The Board was both pleased and humbled by the large turn-out of submitters and observers from our community for the hearing at such a busy time of the year. The decision is in the hands of the Commission with the release of this required by April 2007.

January 4 - Facilitated positive Community meeting between landowners and residents at East Takaka regarding proposed hillside developments.

January 6 - Collingwood Market Day and Raft Race – great array of stalls, rafts and community participation.

January 7 - Tata Beach Cardboard Boat Race – again a wonderful community event of artistic endeavour which is very popular with locals and visitors.

January 12 - Fresh FM Recorded discussion regarding Waitangi Day for forthcoming programme about the relevance of the Treaty of Waitangi for Community in Golden Bay.

January 14 - Collingwood Hall Committee meeting. Questions forwarded to Tasman District Council regarding costs (nothing planned), time-line for revamp of the public toilets (March – April) and responsibility for the hall heating coin box upgrade for new currency use (hall committee responsibility).

January 16 - Community Board workshop. Agenda items included:

- Letter of congratulations to Marie Reilly recipient of a QSM award.
- Letter of support for Golden Bay Home Builders.
- NZ Community Boards' Best Practice Awards entry.
- Procedure for Resource Consent complaints via Board members.

- Golden Bay Community Board Garden competition categories.
- Kinsale Energy Descent Action Plan – meeting proposed by Golden Bay residents at 7pm on 27th February in Community Centre.
- Golden Bay Development Impact Levies (DILs) –draft budget for 2007-08 Annual Plan discussed.
- Ann Castle Memorial Fund - Trustee signatories to be updated.
- Public Forum process – new issues raised in Public Forum are not usually discussed during that Board meeting, however there are exceptions where a timely response is needed.
- Golden Bay Discretionary Fund process explained.
- Tata Beach Management Plan Review – Board members to forward their input for collation into a Board submission.
- Shared Fisheries Consultation papers tabled and distributed to members (closing date 28 February 2007) – this could be considered as part of the proposed Marine Management Plan discussions for Golden Bay.

January 16 - Team Golden Bay workshop on Eastern Golden Bay planning

January 16 - Fresh FM - completed recording for Waitangi Day

January 17 - Takaka Museum opening of the exhibit of the wonderful model of Abel Tasman's ship "Heemskerck" on display in a Golden Bay crafted cabinet.

January 20 - A and P Show Takaka – attended TDC stand during the 10am – 12noon slot. Responded to questions on a variety of topics. Another wonderful, well attended Show Day in ideal weather conditions.

January 27 - Golden Bay Totally Local Market, Pohara - Another wonderful successful community event with local produce and arts and crafts on offer followed by a fund raising auction for a shade canopy for the Village Green Stage.

January 30 - Agenda setting for the 13 February Board meeting

ISSUES

Port Tarakohe

The Port Tarakohe Administration Manager's Report for the Enterprises Sub-committee meeting on 13 December 2006 and a subsequent discussion indicated that Port leases are still not sorted out. Even if it means having tenancy on a month-to-month basis until formal leases are sorted it is imperative that existing occupation of Port land and facilities is being appropriately charged for and the charges collected.

We support the harbour managers in achieving this.

It is of concern that another \$9,166.68 has been charged to the Tarakohe account to partially answer questions about inadequate accounts. (It is noted the figure for total projected annual lease income is only \$11,000).

If proper accounts had been kept then they would not have had to be questioned. Therefore it is contended this expenditure should be reimbursed by the TDC department which should have kept proper accounts.

Comparisons

When comparisons are being made they must be fair and relevant, for example during the Representation Review Mayor Hurley stated that Christchurch City Council had its councillor numbers halved to good effect. What he forgot to add was that Christchurch City Council has community boards in each ward with wide delegations for day-to-day governance responsibilities.

Another example occurred during the retiring CEO's address to the Board in which he stated Christchurch City has nine times the population of Tasman with 12 times the staff. What he forgot to mention was that Christchurch City Council still has its own Engineering and Reserves department workers whereas Tasman District Council has 'sold' these functions to private contractors.

Didymo

It is a real tragedy that Didymo has now been found in the Takaka River. The Board had sought and supported the erection of an advisory sign on the Takaka Hill back in November 2005. A subsequent referral back to Biosecurity NZ in April 2006 was met with the response that it is not their policy to erect roadside signage. It is understood that a sign is now to be erected.

Whilst signage may not have prevented the infestation it would have raised awareness and was worth a try. It is very disappointing that the initiative wasn't acted on in a timely manner.

Road Safety

There needs to be responsive action for temporary speed limits during Golden Bay events, such as occurs during periods of road works. For example there needs to be reduced speed limits during events at the Onekaka Hall and Mussel Inn and elsewhere in the Bay such as the A and P Show Day, Tata Beach Cardboard Boat Race, Aorere Raft Race, Paynes Ford rock climbing and river swimming access off SH60.

A 100kmph speed limit where there are numerous parked cars and pedestrians is down-right dangerous. Whilst most motorists are sensible and reduce speed

some do not. Attempts have been made to take the matter up with Opus, Takaka Police, Tasman District Council, Fulton Hogan and Montgomery Watson Harza but it seems 'the system' for setting speed limits is generally unresponsive to the risk.

'The system' is not some directive imposed on us from outer space. 'The system' is 'us' and if it is not responsive then it needs to be changed so that it is.

I'm sure that in the event of an accident there will be all sorts of recriminations. An ounce of prevention is worth a ton of recrimination.

After taking the issue up, a local arrangement has now been made whereby 'Event' and 70kmph signage can be erected in the vicinity of the Mussel Inn on popular music performance evenings. This is not ideal but it is the best that can be achieved under present rules.

Tasman District Council Complaints Policy

Enquiries have revealed that although there is a process for the receipt of complaints there is no policy for dealing with them. This leads to reported inconsistencies. It is suggested that **"The Golden Bay Community Board writes to TDC requesting the development and implementation of a Complaints Policy"**.

Shared Fisheries Consultation Papers submission

The Board needs to prepare our response to the paper by 28 February 2007.

NZ Community Boards Best Practice Awards

The Board needs to compile the information necessary for our entry.

Golden Bay DILs

We need to ratify proposed payments in open meeting namely \$2,600 towards the hanging basket project.

Happy New Year

Although we are now one month on already, best wishes are extended to all for a happy, healthy and community-minded 2007.

Joe Bell