

REPORT

TO: GB Community Board
FROM: The Chairperson
REFERENCE: E855
DATE: 5th July 2010
SUBJECT: **Chairperson's Report – RGB10-07-01**

Activities, events and meetings since last Report have included:

1 June: Together with Cr Borlase, met with owners of the Tukurua Motor Camp to discuss the recent closure and the future of the Camp. This camp has provided a great facility for visitors over the years. Its current closure compounds the loss of the Pakawau Camp.

1 June: Funeral service for Bruce King at Patons Rock. Bruce and Jessica shared a great community interest particularly in music and the arts. Our sympathy is extended to Jessica, family and friends.

5 June: 80th birthday celebration for Cliff Turley at Tukurua. Cliff and Gerda share a great community interest in Patons Rock and in the history of Golden Bay. Cliff is the author of "Rocks and Hard Places" about the Takaka Hill.

8 June: Community Board meeting Collingwood. Unconfirmed minutes are available on: <http://tdc.govt.nz/pdfs/GB100608%20Minutes.pdf>

9 June: Golden Bay Community Board news briefs from 8 June meeting.

10 June: Recorded interview for TDC "Lowdown" programme on Fresh FM about issues raised during 8 June meeting.

11 June: Community Board workshop, Takaka, preparing submissions for:

- Local Government Act Amendment Bill;
- TDC gaming policy;
- Health Services Care of the frail elderly.

11 June: Meeting of residents regarding Swiftsure Street drainage and roading issues Collingwood. Tasman District Council engineer in attendance.

16 June: Community Board correspondence from 8 June meeting finalized along with submission to Local Government Act Amendment Bill.

18 June: Local Government New Zealand training workshop on 'Decision-Making' together with Board members Carolyn McLellan, Leigh Gamby and Karen

Brookes and TDC Cr Glenys Glover in the Nelson City Council meeting room. A well run workshop with opportunities to consider 'real' issues along with a 'scenarios'.

22 June: Community Whanau meeting Takaka, presentation by Mel Maplesden a solicitor with Child Youth and Family Services. This was followed by notices from Inland Revenue re government consultation during June 9 to July 23 on improving the tax system and Gayle Helm regarding "Walking our Streets - lets make it OK" anti-violence conference being held in Nelson on 29-30 July 2010.

23 June: Aorere River Care meeting Collingwood. Update from Tasman District Council Rivers engineer. Concern raised about river works needed in lower reaches and the demarcation of responsibilities between TDC Environment and Planning and Engineering departments. This needs to be addressed as an issue. A service request has also been lodged. The Tasman District Council resource consent for river work is also coming up for review.

24 June: Keep Golden Bay Beautiful committee meeting at Onekaka. Matters discussed included:

- Accounts for payment.
- Grant accountability form.
- Ox-bow fencing underway.
- Collection of donated flax plants.
- Onekaka Stream releasing of trees and planting preparation.

26 June: Golden Bay JP's meeting and training with Nelson Executive members Takaka.

27 June: Joan Whiting Rest Home Fund-raising Jamboree Collingwood. A very well attended and supported community event.

29 June: Swiftsure Street, Collingwood. Met with a property owner and viewed boundaries of legal road.

29 June: Discussion with resident regarding Motupipi motocross.

ISSUES

Harbour Master Report

The Harbour Master's report for the 1 July 2010 Environment and Planning meeting is available:

<http://tdc.govt.nz/pdfs/REP10-07-01SH%20Harbourmasters%20Summer%20Report.pdf>

This comprehensive report raises Golden Bay issues:

- Reference to support by Golden Bay Community Board for a Launch Warden at Tata Beach. We hope that a suitable Warden can be appointed for the coming season.

- 5-knot/200metre stickers. These were requested by the Board. Unfortunately the Water Safety Council stickers cover a number of issues and the 5-knot message is somewhat lost among the others. Exceeding the speed limit remains a problem with some boaties either deliberately flouting or displaying a dangerous lack of knowledge of the rules.
- Tasman District Council Navigation Safety By law is due for review by January 2015. Among the matters raised is the suggestion of a powered water craft (PWC) and water ski access lane in Western Golden Bay. The Board has previously investigated this for an earlier Review and decided to take no further action for reasons including:
 - a) Difficult to designate a suitable site due to tidal nature of beaches.
 - b) Resistance of residents to having a designated site. It is better to disperse rather than concentrate such activity.
 - c) Acknowledgement that anyone can ski/speed beyond the 200m from shore line.

This suggestion arose following an incident on 20 February 2010 when a powered water craft user was exceeding the 5-knot/200m rule in the Para Para estuary. (picture attached) There was no need to be within 200 metres of the shore because the whole 72,000ha Bay was calm.

Unfortunately many jet ski and some power boat operators seem to crave an audience for their antics and spoil the beach experience for swimmers, fishers, kayakers, picnickers, walkers and those seeking quiet repose. The wake, noise and stench from these machines is anti-social.

It is therefore recommended:

‘The Golden Bay Community Board does not support the establishment of a powered water craft and Water Ski Lane in the Western Bay because users are able to undertake these activities anywhere in the Bay provided they comply with the 200m 5-knot rule.’

Motupipi Motocross

Concern continues about the neighbourhood effects of the motocross track at Motupipi. Tasman District Council was to review the code for such activity. The residents have identified the issues in the code they have requested action on.

- Removal of motocross from exemption from the noise rules.
- Monitoring and enforcement of the 55dB TRMP rule.

There was a meeting between Cr Borlase and residents in Takaka on 28 June. A report of the meeting has been requested.

It is therefore recommended:

“That the Golden Bay Community Board considers the report of the 28 June 2010 meeting regarding Motupipi motocross and supports the resident’s requests to Tasman District Council to remove motocross from being exempt from the noise control rules and requiring the monitoring and enforcement of the Tasman District Council 55dB Rule.”

It is noted that Tasman District Council has noise issues elsewhere in the District regarding frost fans and have confirmed a 55 dB limit for those:

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/nelson-mail/features/primary-focus/3864846/When-the-frost-hits-the-fan/>

Office Extension Richmond

Concern is expressed about a proposed \$2,725,000 extension to the Richmond Office. It is understood that it is proposed to rent out part of the extension. The last \$3-4m extension was supposed to be adequate.

Should Council be getting into the business of competing with rate-paying providers of rental office space? There has been no publicity about this proposal. One would have thought such a major project would have been included in the Annual Plan press release.

It is therefore recommended:

“That the Golden Bay Community Board seeks an explanation and justification for the proposed \$2,725,000 extension to the Tasman District Council Richmond Office.”

Council and Community Boards

It was very disappointing to read the Mayor’s comments in the 25 June 2010 ‘Newsline’ with reference to the forthcoming elections which ignored the existence of Community Boards.

Community boards are elected at the same time as the mayor and councillors. It does nothing for the relationship for their existence to be ignored.

It is therefore recommended:

“That the Golden Bay Community Board requests that TDC includes Community Board members in any reference to triennial elections along with the office of mayor and councillors.”

Council submission to Local Government Act Amendment Bill

Tasman District Council has lodged a submission to the above Bill which has been prepared by staff and approved by the mayor and councillors King and Norriss.

<http://tdc.govt.nz/pdfs/RCN10-06-19%20Submission%20on%20local%20govt%20amendment%20bill.pdf>

There are aspects of the submission which are very concerning. These include Council support for the repeal of some LGA sections which provide for community consultation and accountability.

Clause 31 of the Bill seeks to extend contracts for the operation of water services from 15 to 35 years. If pursued, this would amount to inter-generational privatisation of water supplies. Thirty five (35) years is the equivalent of 12 terms of Local Government.

A council should not have the right to commit twelve future councils. Water is the basis of life. Communities should not be held to ransom for access to water. In 2001 Bechtel Corporation reportedly sued for \$25m for the cancellation of a 40-year contract to run the water system of Cochabamba, the third largest city in Bolivia, after local people took to the streets to protest massive price hikes for water.

Link: <http://www.corpwatch.org/article.php?id=6670>

The proposed LGA amendments may suit council bureaucracies but they reduce the opportunities for ratepayers and residents, who employ the council, to have input to decision making.

Of particular concern is Council support for the proposed amendment to Schedule 7 clause 39 (1) to try to legalise the insidious targeted rate on communities with Community Boards.

Mayor Kempthorne has said he does not support this rate but has supported the amendment to legalise it.

The reason provided in the council submission is *“The three wards that do not have community boards do not want to pay for the wards that do have them. The ability to use targeted rate funding for those communities with community boards satisfies this concern.”*

This statement does not stand scrutiny:

- There has been no referendum to substantiate the claim. In fact, some residents of the three wards without community boards have submitted in opposition to the targeted rate.
- Wards without community boards can have boards too if they choose. Some residents of the three wards without community boards have made inquiries about the possibility of having them.
- The reason given in Lakes Murchison for not wanting a community board there was that a current office holder in their community association *“did not have time to commit to a Community Board”*. This ‘reason’ should not be used to preclude others from having the opportunity.
- Golden Bay and Motueka ratepayers contribute to projects such as the Mapua clean up and District facilities rate projects under the Tasman District Council “Think District” policy which is being applied very selectively by the current Council.

It is therefore recommended:

“That the Golden Bay Community Board raises its concerns regarding the TDC submission to the Local Government 2002 Amendment Bill with the mayor and the Local Government and Environment Select Committee.”

Swiftsure Street Access

Further to discussions during the June Board meeting and subsequently with residents, additional concerns have been raised about stormwater flows and road access. The bunds have now been removed from the roadside drain but water is still flowing under the road around the drainpipes and from a 150mm plastic pipe which was formerly declared 'lost'. We await the outcome of investigations into the proposed Washington St route.

Regarding the access, other land owners are wondering if the upper Swiftsure Street rural-residential zoned area can be accessed by forming the paper road through to Excellent St. This option also needs to be investigated and the matter has been referred to TDC Engineering.

State Highway 60 Safety

SH60 from Motueka to Collingwood has been identified as 'high risk' in the KiwiRAP Study which was a joint initiative of Government agencies, Police, ACC and the A.A. One of the factors must be inappropriate speed limits. 100kmph is the maximum legal speed for fully engineered motorways with wide lanes and verges, median barriers etc. To have the same limit for narrow lanes, ditched verges, poor sight lines etc does not make sense. Whilst drivers are required to drive to the conditions, having a 100kmph limit posted on roads clearly unsuited to this is unhelpful.

Therefore it is recommended:

"That the Golden Bay Community Board raises the findings in the 'Kiwi RAP' report with the next TDC/New Zealand Transport Agency liaison meeting."

Sams Creek Mining Proposal

Oceanagold has reportedly advised that it intends to review the results of the Sams Creek exploratory license which it currently holds. Mining of rock from Sams Creek would raise numerous concerns for Golden Bay. Apart from controlling leachate from mine and stockpile sites, if the rock was crushed in the Bay the tailings would have to be kept banded and sealed forever in order to avoid leaching of harmful materials from the crushed rock. The prospect of securing this toxic waste forever in a high rainfall, earthquake-prone location perched over the Takaka Valley marble aquifer (which includes the world renowned Te Waikoropupu Springs and springs in Golden Bay) is of great concern. If the rock is carted out of the Bay to Reefton or Macraes Flat for crushing the huge number of truck movements would also be of concern.

It is therefore recommended;

"That the Golden Bay Community Board writes to Oceanagold requesting to be kept informed of the Sams Creek review and raising concerns about rock being crushed in the Bay or carted out of the Bay, enquiring how the company proposes to avoid, remedy or mitigate effects."

Aorere River Works

Concern was expressed during the Aorere River works meeting in Collingwood about protection works for the lower reaches of the river being regarded as in the Coastal Marine Area and outside the area for river protection. It was acknowledged

that river works are undertaken in the lower tidal reaches if other rivers such as Takaka.

There appears to be a 'silo' separation of responsibility for such works between TDC Engineering and Environmental and Planning departments.

In this instance we have a landowner adjacent to the river who pays river rates but who is being denied river protection works upstream of the Aorere Bridge because that stretch of the river is deemed to be in the Coastal Marine Area.

It is therefore recommended;

"That the Golden Bay Community Board requests that TDC Engineering and Environment and Planning departments work together in resolving responsibility for river works deemed to be in the Coastal Management Area in the Aorere River".

Secondly, Montgomery Watson Harza (MWH) is undertaking a review of the TDC resource consent for river works later in 2010.

It is therefore recommended:

"That the Golden Bay Community Board makes a submission to the review of the TDC river works consent and advises Montgomery Watson Harza that the Board would like to have the opportunity to have input to the review as an interested party".

Pohara Walkway/Cycleway

We have been advised that the Pohara walkway/cycleway has been completed. There had been enquiry from TDC Engineering about an opening for this facility. Support for an official opening has been expressed by Board members.

It is therefore recommended:

"That the Golden Bay Community Board supports the suggestion of an official opening for the Pohara walkway/cycleway on a date to be decided and that invited guests should include iwi, submitters to the resource consent, Pohara residents and interested members of the wider Golden Bay community with the suggestion that there be a ribbon cutting at the Western end of the walkway with attendees then walking/cycling to Pohara Hall for a cup of tea."

2010 Ravensdown Award

The GB Community Board would like to offer its congratulations to Brian Reilly on receiving the 2010 Ravensdown Award from the Royal Agricultural Society for exceptional voluntary service; Brian was the Secretary of the GB A & P Association for a total of 31 years.

It is therefore recommended:

"That a letter of congratulations be sent to Brian Reilly on being awarded the 2010 Ravensdown Award for exceptional voluntary service".

Joe Bell