

## REPORT

**TO:** Motueka Community Board Members

**FROM:** David Ogilvie, Chair

**DATE:** 21 January 2009

**SUBJECT:** **Report to meeting of 10 February 2009**

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### 1. Welcome

Welcome to our first formal meeting for 2009, at halfway through this Council term.

A huge year ahead as we confront the many issues being handled by the District Council, a number of which continue from 2008. Some of these follow:-

- ◆ **Cycling & Walking Strategy** We are still to be informed of the details of this Strategy and the consultation process. (This Strategy, dating back to July 2008, reflects badly on the Council and particularly Opus as consultants. Despite regular requests we get little response).
- ◆ **Water Allocation Review** The Proposed Variation No 66 / Proposed Change No 13 were notified prior to Christmas and submissions close on Monday 23rd February, 2009. The public re-action has been quiet, and many residents in Motueka seem unaware of potential impacts on their private bore / domestic water supply.
- ◆ **Motueka River Stopbanks** Our request to have a separate consultation process hasn't been answered. (Refer Resolution MK 08/12/06). I consider the area's residents / ratepayers deserve a better consultation than what may be provided in the LTCCP 2009 – 19 process, when there will be a multitude of issues.
- ◆ **Motueka Transportation Study** We have not received a copy of the "Brief" for this important study of State Highway 60 / High Street. However, pedestrian counts, car park surveys, and traffic counters are being carried out as the initial stage of the Study, which is expected to be concluded by June 30th 2009. The Board has recommended a community consultation process and has offered to be an active participant in co-ordinating meetings, focus groups etc.
- ◆ **Central And West Motueka Planning Strategy** The planned schedule for this has been amended. Rose Biss will make a presentation at the February meeting. It is our intention to progress the Strategy during 2009 towards publishing a draft Variation in early 2010.
- ◆ **LTCCP 2009 – 2019** The Council papers on this have now been published and the impact for Motueka on proposed rates is extraordinary and hugely controversial. The lack of consultation is an issue of concern – a brief

presentation by the Council to the Community Board and / or to the public doesn't represent consultation.

The policy of a special rate for those benefiting from a service (or activity) is understandable, but such a policy must be subject to (a) consistency across the District and (b) those ratepayers / residents who are paying actually wanting the service, or whether the project is warranted.

There is considerable inconsistency in the current rating system which will require amendment; moreover, I expect the projected costs and timetable for Motueka water reticulation and upgrading the River Works will not be high priorities for the Motueka ratepayers.

## **2. Annual Plan 2009 - 10**

Our submission was sent to Council prior to our December meeting, and later I was requested to prioritise the issues we raised. I sent a "draft" priority list to Murray Staite, noting that this would be confirmed or amended at this Board meeting. (Refer end of my report).

## **3. Motueka Community Board Budget 2009 – 2010**

I met Murray Staite (20 January) to prepare our "draft" Budget. It is similar to the current year with three significant amendments:-

- Staff time allocated for 11 months, not 12 months
- Costs of the 2010 election have been removed
- The Community benefit ("Ratepayer Assn offset") has been set at \$6 per ratepayer or \$2.50 per resident.

These proposals are yet to be accepted by the Council, and are open for amendment at this Board meeting also. (I also prepared an "actual costs" budget for comparison).

The budget I presented provided for \$6.65 per ratepayer, compared with \$12.50 currently.

Whatever the outcome of later debate and discussions the rate **must not** be increased, and I firmly believe it can justifiably be reduced. (Refer end of my report).

(NB This is quite a separate issue to the targeted rate issue – Community Boards have of latter years worked to a Council-set budget).

## **4. Water Allocation**

Report to be tabled.

## **5. Recycling in Public Places**

Advice has been received that this initiative is currently under review and all negotiations with council partners are on hold.

## **6. In Committee Council Business**

An increasing amount of Tasman District Council business is being held “in committee”, making it hard for interested residents as well as community boards to keep up to date with vital issues and information. The amount of Council and Committee business being carried out behind closed doors is undesirable.

## **7. Bus Service**

The Motueka to Nelson bus service which continued as a commercial operation following the Motueka Community Board’s subsidised trial period, ended effective 1 February 2009.

This service is worthy of further consideration and should be considered as part of Tasman District Council’s regional land transport strategy.

We did well on a small budget. However, the Motueka Community Board simply does not have the resources necessary to effectively maintain an affordable and convenient link bus. We will continue to advocate for, support, and facilitate, solutions to local transport issues.

## **8. Tony Fry**

It was an immense privilege to be asked to speak at former Councillor, Tony Fry’s funeral.

Tony was elected a Waimea County Councillor in 1986 and from the 1989 amalgamation was a Tasman District Councillor until he retired in 2004. He was elected to the Kaiteriteri Recreation Board also in 1986 and continued that involvement. His community interests were widespread, with particular emphasis on the Airports and the Museums, locally and regionally. He was a member of the Motueka Community Board from 1989 to 2007 and was Chairman for a term.

He was an excellent Chairman, and a no-nonsense Councillor advocating strongly; for rural services throughout the District.

The contribution he made in so many areas was both valuable and lasting. He served Riwaka, Kaiteriteri, and Motueka, very well.

David Ogilvie  
Chair, Motueka Community Board

## Summary of Meetings – December 2008/January 2009

Date	Meeting
1 December	<p>Met local resident concerned re toxic sprays being applied near schools and residential areas. Also the persistence of DDT in Riwaka loam soils. (Reported by letter to the Environment and planning Manager, Dennis Bush-King).</p> <p>Discussion with Marahau Association representatives</p> <p>Discussion with Fulton Hogan on Motueka maintenance contract.</p>
5 December	Motueka (Our Town Motueka) Starlight Christmas Parade
13 December	Marahau Ratepayers Association AGM (adjourned from 29 November 2008). A new committee elected.
14 December	Abbeyfield Christmas function
15 December	Motueka Community Board monthly meeting
1 January	Happy new year!
8 January	Tony Fry's funeral
12 January	Our Town Motueka January 2009 meeting – propose a “festival-events” committee
16 January	<p>Met Chris Auchinvole, MP for Tasman</p> <p>Explained the role of the Board and outlined current issues. (Congestion in High Street, Water Allocation Review, Targeted Rate, Motueka River protection).</p>
19 January	<p>Keep Motueka Beautiful. Continuing progress on variety of walkways and projects.</p> <p>Local resident concerned re the functioning and maintenance of the town's firewells. (service request)</p>
20 January	Met Murray Staite re the Motueka Community Board budget for 2009 – 2010.
27 January	Met with Golden Bay Community Board at Takaka, to discuss interests of common concern.