

MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TEKAPO COMMUNITY BOARD HELD IN THE LAKE TEKAPO COMMUNITY HALL ON MONDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2008 AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT:

Peter Maxwell (Chairman)
Leon O'Sullivan
Peter Munro
Murray Cox
Catherine Young

IN ATTENDANCE

John O'Neill (Mayor)
Glen Innes (Chief Executive Officer)
Nathan Hole (Manager - Planning and Regulations)
Garth Nixon (Community Facilities Manager)
Rosemary Moran (Committee Clerk)

V VISITOR:

The Chairman welcomed the General Manager for the Mackenzie Tourism and Development Trust, Philip Brownie. Mr Brownie updated the Board members on the activities of the Trust since he had last met with them.

He explained role of information centres in ensuring visitors to the Mackenzie got the type of information delivery they needed. He noted that Tekapo had been identified as where the main *I Site* for the District should be located and he spoke about the potential benefit it would return to the community. He said it was important to secure a high profile location in the town for an *I Site*.

Mr Brownie explained that the establishment of an *I Site* in Lake Tekapo would provide a heart to the provision and delivery of information in the region. He was liaising with Michael Burtscher regarding a suitable site. He said *I Sites* had to be owned by a local authority, a Council Controlled Organisation or a Charitable Trust; they could not be privately owned. Strict criteria governed their operation, staff had to be suitably qualified and any type of business, apart from the sale of international airfares, could be undertaken.

He sought the support of the Board to help achieve the establishment of an *I Site* in Tekapo.

Mr Brownie referred to the proposed Starlight Reserve and advised that Margaret Austin, former Chancellor of Lincoln University and Member of Parliament, who has been involved with promotion of the project with UNESCO NZ, had indicated she would be available to attend the public

meeting planned for Labour weekend. He said it would be an opportune time not only to consult with the community about the proposed community centre, but also about the concept of the Starlight Reserve.

The Chairman undertook to invite Mrs Austin and her associate to the meeting. He said it would be a timely to bring the project into focus once more and also to address misconceptions and allay fears which might remain about the Starlight Reserve concept.

Mr Brownie noted that a paper on the concept was available and he undertook to provide it to the members.

The Chairman thanked Mr Brownie who left the meeting at 7.55 pm.

II MINUTES:

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting of the Tekapo Community Board held on 4 August 2008, be confirmed and adopted as the correct record of the meeting.

Murray Cox/Catherine Young

MATTERS UNDER ACTION:

4. **Walkways:**

The need for temporary signs and marker posts to be placed on the Cowans Hill walkway was noted, as was the need to reposition the seat. Cr O'Sullivan suggested that the Lions Club could resite the seat when it had been decided where it should go.

Resolved that the Department of Conservation be requested to attend to temporary signs and marker posts for the Cowans Hill walkway.

Leon O'Sullivan/Catherine Young

5. **Signs Requesting Bus Drivers not to Leave Engines Idling**

The Community Facilities Manager undertook to follow up the issue to ensure the signs were in place before the beginning of summer season.

6. **Parking for Buses at the Church of the Good Shepherd**

The Asset Manager circulated three options for marking the parking area at the Church. He recommended Option 3 as the most suitable.

It was suggested that the Church Property Trustees could be approached for a contribution to the work.

The Chairman undertook to find out what the predicted time frame for the footbridge might be, given its potential to eliminate the need for bus parking at the Church. He also undertook to find out the amount of fill that would be needed for Option 3.

The Asset Manager also distributed plans which proposed better use of the parking area beside the Tekapo Tavern.

The Community Facilities Manager suggested that the revised parking arrangements would enable the bus stops opposite the Tavern to be removed. He said the bus stops opposite Tekapo Services could remain as they did not create the same safety issues.

Catherine Young requested that a *Give Way* or *Stop* sign be erected at the entrance to the car park.

7. **Fire Risk to Dwellings in Lake Tekapo:**

It was advised that the Tekapo School had indicated its interest in clearing the fire breaks as a fundraiser and Peter Munro undertook to liaise with Catherine Young.

8. **Rabbits in the Township:**

The need for further rabbit control was noted. Cr O'Sullivan undertook to consult with the local police officer to find out if a shoot could be arranged.

III REPORTS:

1. **CORRESPONDENCE FROM KAREN SIMPSON:**

This letter from Karen Simpson proposed the creation of a playground in the area of the Lake Tekapo School and community centre.

The Community Facilities Manager suggested that the proposal be considered along with the proposed community centre concept.

Resolved:

1. That the correspondence be received.
2. *That Mrs Simpson be thanked for her letter and advised that while there is no budgetary provision in the current year for a new playground, the Board would be keen to include it in the budget for 2009/2010 and considered it could be appropriate for it to be developed in conjunction with the proposed new community centre.*

Peter Maxwell/Catherine Young

The Chairman then referred to an email from Karen Simpson in which she proposed that the braided riverbed which Council owned on the Forks River could be signalled in the Long Term Council Community Plan as an area suitable for a joint rural/urban project. He said Mrs Simpson had offered to meet with Board members after the shearing was completed, to talk about her idea.

The Community Facilities Manager said Project River Recovery had a programme involved with native fish in the Forks Stream. Council owned 60 hectares in the area and the idea was that it could be held up as an example of how a braided river might be protected.

The Chairman undertook to liaise with Environment Canterbury and Peter Munro said he would get in touch with the Department of Conservation officer involved with the Project River Recovery programme.

4. WARD MEMBER'S REPORT:

Cr O'Sullivan said that the Finance Committee would be considering Council making a grant towards the construction of public toilets in the Lake Tekapo Regional Park at its meeting the following day. He noted that \$2,500 was budgeted for the maintenance of the toilets at the Pines Beach and suggested it could be transferred for the maintenance of the new toilet block when the Pines Beach facility was removed.

5. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS WHO REPRESENT THE BOARD ON OTHER COMMITTEES:

Murray Cox advised that the society **Lake Tekapo Regional Park Inc** was up and running and involved with the task of raising funds to assist with the development of the Park. He noted that 25 people had attended the Society's first Annual General Meeting.

Peter Munro reported that he had attended the **Mackenzie Alpine Trust AGM**. The Trust was continuing to maintain and service the Macauley Hut, was involved with the refurbishment of the Camp Stream Hut and looking at upgrading the South Opuha Hut. He noted that the Trust had unfortunately lost funds invested in Bridgecorp and consequently was reliant on donations to pay for insurance and maintenance.

Mr Munro said he had also attended a recent meeting of the **White Water Canoe Trust** which was seeking to revitalise the Trust and get together an active group to maintain and improve the canoe course. He said the Trust was in the process of brokering a deal with Meridian which could realise funds to help with the work.

IV GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. PROPOSED COMMUNITY CENTRE - FUNDING :

Cr O'Sullivan referred to the desirability of having information about possible funding avenues for the project available in time for the public meeting at Labour weekend.

The Chief Executive Officer noted that the Council had undertaken to finance the relocation of the squash courts and he undertook to ascertain the sum which had been allocated for that project. The Chief Executive Officer also advised that Council's subdivision reserve was another potential source of funding and the Board could make representations to the Council in that regard.

The opportunity to apply for grants from other sources such as community trusts was also noted.

2. CIGARETTE BUTT CONTAINERS:

The Community Facilities Manager undertook to follow up the provision of cigarette butt containers for the Township.

3. HIGH COUNTRY FETE:

The Chairman advised that the Tekapo Promotions Association was planning to organise a high country fete to be held in March 2009 in the Mt John homestead garden. The Association had asked if the Board would consider granting \$1,000 for portaloos for the fete.

It was suggested that making a grant for the project would set a dangerous precedent. The request was declined.

4. TREES ON LOCHINVER:

Cr O'Sullivan noted that oaks trees in the subdivision had been planted close together and if not thinned out they would have to be cut down.

Resolved that six to eight oak trees be shifted from Lochinver to the forestry reserve on Hamilton Drive.

Leon O'Sullivan/Catherine Young

5. 'WELCOME TO LAKE TEKAPO' SIGNS:

Cr O'Sullivan advised that Tekapo Promotions wanted to upgrade the 'Welcome to Lake Tekapo' signs.

The Community Facilities Manager undertook to liaise with TNZ to get approval for the project.

The Manager – Planning Regulations undertook to find out if there were any planning issues.

6. CLEAN UP NEW ZEALAND DAY:

Cr O'Sullivan said the Lake Tekapo Enhancement Group was organising a clean up of the State Highway to Dog Kennel Corner and asked if the litter which was collected could be disposed of free of charge.

The Community Facilities Manager undertook to investigate the provision of bags and options for collecting them on the Monday after the clean up.

7. HOT WATER BOILER FOR LAKE TEKAPO COMMUNITY HALL:

The Chairman advised that an opportunity had arisen to replace the Zip in the kitchen with a constant hot water boiler for \$1,000 plus GST. It had been purchased and he had organised its installation. He said the boiler could provide water for 190 cups of tea per hour.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED
AT 9.30 PM**

CHAIRMAN: _____

DATE: _____