

MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TEKAPO COMMUNITY BOARD HELD AT THE GODLEY RESORT HOTEL, LAKE TEKAPO, ON MONDAY 28 JANUARY 2013 AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT:

Murray Cox (Chairman)
Peter Munro
Peter Maxwell
Alan Hayman
Ian Radford

IN ATTENDANCE:

Claire Barlow (Mayor)
Wayne Barnett (Chief Executive Officer)
Garth Nixon (Community Facilities Manager)
Bernie Haar (Asset Manager)
Rosemary Moran (Committee Clerk)

I APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

II DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no Declarations of Interest.

III MINUTES:

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Tekapo Community Board held on 10 December 2012 be confirmed and adopted as the correct record of the meeting.

Alan Hayman/Peter Munro

IV REPORTS:

1. LAKE TEKAPO PLANTATION:

This report from the Community Facilities Manager referred to the forestry block adjacent to Murray Place, Lake Tekapo. It was accompanied by letters from Anne Braun-Elwert and Colin MacLaren expressing concerns regarding the Mackenzie Forestry Board's plan to harvest trees in the forest.

Resolved that the report be received.

Peter Maxwell/Ian Radford

The Chairman welcomed Cr Graeme Page, Chairman of the Mackenzie Forestry Board, and Kevin O'Neill, the Forestry Manager.

Cr Page explained that the Forestry Board's brief which was to optimise the financial return from its portfolio. He thought that some of the community concerns could be misguided.

Mr O'Neill clarified that the area of trees which the Board planned to remove would be screened by existing plantings, apart from the row of older trees behind Murray Place which needed to be felled for safety reasons. He emphasised that it was not intended to clear-fell the whole plantation.

Peter Munro said a major focus of the concerns seemed to be on the future of walking tracks, and the cycle track through the plantation which had been developed by the Department of Conservation.

The Community Facilities Manager suggested a compromise solution could include the relocation of tracks. He explained the potential, expensive ramifications for the Community Board if the status of the land became a recreational reserve. He said the costs currently borne by the Forestry Board included pest and weed control and the control of wilding trees in the surrounding area.

Cr Page said there was some urgency if the harvesting project was to proceed as it success relied on the continuance of the current favourable market conditions, availability of contractors and favourable weather.

It was generally agreed:

- that a media release should be professionally developed in consultation with the Chairman of the Forestry Board, the Forest Manager, the Community Board and the Community Facilities Manager, which included a large scale plan of what was proposed for the harvesting project, and
- that the media release should address the concerns which had been raised by residents.

Resolved that the Lake Tekapo plantation harvesting project proceed as proposed following the release to the media of the details and plans for the project including compromise solutions such as the relocation of tracks affected by the harvest.

Ian Radford/ Peter Munro

Cr Page and Mr O'Neill left the meeting at 8.17 pm.

III MINUTES (continued):

MATTERS UNDER ACTION:

1. Civil Defence

The Chairman reported that the Civil Defence Officer had organised two coordinators and an Area Coordinator and that he was seeking someone to lead the welfare team. He said approval had been gained for the radio to be located in the

Fire Station.

2. **Pete Speedy Improvements to Reserve Area on Lakeside Drive:**

The Chairman advised that he had met with Mr Speedy regarding the work which was being undertaken in the area. Further soil and sowing of grass was being planned for the autumn. The Chairman and Community Facilities Manager were to meet again with Mr Speedy.

3. **Review of Freedom Camping Bylaw and its Alignment with the Freedom Camping Act:**

The Chairman circulated a map of the Lake Tekapo township on which he had marked areas in which freedom camping should be restricted. He noted that the intention of the new Freedom Camping Act was that there should not be blanket bans on freedom camping. He also reminded the meeting that the Bylaw could impose controls only on Council-owned land.

The Community Facilities Manager undertook to incorporate the proposals with appropriate legal descriptions in the draft Bylaw which would cover the whole District.

4. **Community Centre**

The Community Facilities Manager updated the Board on progress with the rebuilding project. He said it was proceeding smoothly.

5. **Campervan Dump Station and Car Park.**

Copies of the site plan for the Lakeside Drive Carpark and Effluent Dump Station were circulated for approval.

It was agreed that the plan be amended to include a gravel footpath extending from a 'Y' junction towards the supermarket and village centre area.

The Asset Manager said it was intended to provide the contractors with two options for pricing the project, viz for completion by the end of April 2013 or by November 2013. This was in response to recent high quotes received for some work because of contractors' commitments in Christchurch and to the Genesis canal repair project.

Resolved that quotations be obtained for the Lakeside Drive Carpark and Effluent Dump Station project based on the amended plan.

Peter Munro/Alan Hayman

6. **Car parking for Lake Tekapo Community Hall:**

It was noted that this issue was on-going.

7. **Landscaping and Walkway – Church of the Good Shepherd:**

The Asset Manager advised that the Manager –Roading had received a price of \$8,000 for the sealing of footpaths, and further prices were expected from Fulton Hogan. The options included exposed aggregate and chip seal finishes. The Community Facilities Manager said that the pathway to the Dog Statue was included. He considered it would be appropriate for the Community Board to contribute to that; however the other pathways were the Church's responsibility.

He undertook to programme the pruning of the matagouri bushes in the area.

8 **The Mound by the Tennis Courts – to be grassed:**

The Community Facilities Manager advised that the spraying and sowing of grass seed on the mound was included on the list of projects to be completed before the winter.

9. **Lighting Ordinances:**

The Mayor and Peter Munro were liaising in the development of a brochure about the protection of the night sky environment.

The Mayor left at the meeting at 9.03 pm

IV REPORTS (Continued):

2. **LAKE TEKAPO FOOTBRIDGE SOCIETY INCORPORATED:**

This report from the Community Facilities Manager referred to the request from the Lake Tekapo Footbridge Society Inc for approval of the Community Board's proposal to underwrite the balance of funds required to complete the footbridge project which would enable applications to be made for further funding.

Resolved that the report be received.

Peter Maxwell/Ian Radford

Resolved that it be recommended to the Council that it endorses the Tekapo Community Board's underwriting of the balance of funds required to complete the Lake Tekapo Footbridge project up to the sum of \$250,000 which would enable applications to be made for further funding, subject to the receipt of detailed financial information from the Footbridge Society.

Peter Maxwell/Peter Munro

Alan Hayman voted against the motion.

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

Peter Munro reported that the **Lake Tekapo Footbridge Society Inc** continued to work hard to raise funds for the project. It had been resolved that the main focus for 2013 would be to apply for larger grants.

The Chairman reported that recent work in the **Regional Park** had been concentrated on track development and rabbit control.

V GENERAL:

1. STAFF HOUSING AT LAKE TEKAPO:

Ian Radford referred to the dire lack of staff housing in the Township. He asked if it would be possible for the ex-post office houses, which were currently leased to the Camping Ground, to be used to house staff. He also suggested that when the YHA shifted the building could be used as temporary staff housing.

The Community Facilities Manager undertook to consult with the Manager – Finance and Administration regarding the current lease arrangements for the post office houses and potential opportunities to use such buildings to alleviate some of the pressure on staff housing at Lake Tekapo.

The Community Facilities Manager referred to the missed opportunity of school buses taking Lake Tekapo students to Fairlie in terms of transporting staff to work in the Township in the empty bus.

2. AORANGI CRESCENT KERB AND CHANNEL:

The Asset Manager explained that Fulton Hogan had dismantled its initial sub-standard work on the kerb and channel project in Aorangi Crescent which had been caused by excessive heat. He said the job had been delayed until more favourable conditions prevailed. He commended the contractor for its actions.

3. COUNCIL POLICY ON SEWERAGE CONNECTIONS:

In response to a question from Ian Radford regarding a problem with a sewerage pipe beyond the boundary of a house in Roto Place, the Asset Manager explained that the Council's policy was that home owners' obligations extended to where sewerage lines connected to the mains. He said the policy had been in place for at least 10 years. He noted that if the problem was caused by Council trees, the Council would pay for the repair works. This had been the case in the Roto Place issue.

THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.44 PM

CHAIRMAN: _____

DATE: _____