

Hawera Community Board

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Hawera Community Board held in the Council Chambers, Albion Street, Hawera on Monday 8 June 2009 commencing at 4.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Johnson (Chairperson), Mr Greaves and Mrs Hicks.

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillors Powell and Rangiwahia, Community Development Manager (Mrs Mecalick), Economic Development and Tourism Manager (Ms Greenhill), Property and Facilities Manager (Mr Sargeant), Community Development Advisor (Mr Oliver), Communications Officer (Miss Murphy), Parks Curator (Mr Bruce), Support Services Officer (Miss Malin) and eight members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Mayor Dunlop, Councillor Beccard and Group Manager Community Services and Development (Mrs Martin).

RESOLUTION

(Mrs Hicks/Mr Greaves)

15/09 HA **THAT** the apologies from Mayor Dunlop, Councillor Beccard and the Group Manager Community Services and Development (Mrs Martin) be received.

CARRIED

1 OPEN FORUM

(a) **Community Constable Alison Brooks and Intelligence Officer Carolyn Mastrovich**

(i) Quarterly update

Constable Brooks provided an update on crime statistics and police concerns for Hawera and the wider district for the month of May 2009.

Family violence was statistically the highest reported crime in the district. This included incidents of assault and domestic violence. Interventions by a number of agencies were being undertaken for high-risk families.

Public place violence statistics for Hawera were reduced comparative to previous months with four incidents being attended by police. There was a recent spate of car thefts and car break-ins and twelve burglaries were reported in Hawera.

Constable Brooks noted that there was a perception in Hawera that youth behaviour was an issue. She highlighted that there were no known youth gangs in Hawera. Large groups of youth were seen in the Central Business District (CBD) on Friday and Saturday nights after leaving events at *The Hanger*, a supervised youth venue which could account for the perception that

youth congregation was an issue. She noted that there had been no reports to police regarding those youth.

There were five serious car accidents in the Opunake/Manaia area which had resulted in six fatalities. Highway Patrol and the Traffic Action Group were taking measures to reduce risk on roads.

Other minor issues that had been brought to the attention of Constable Brooks were skateboarders in the CBD, speeding mobility scooters, motorists parking on yellow lines outside schools and cyclists with no helmets

Mrs Hicks questioned whether the *boy racer* issue was being addressed, particularly regarding congregations in the CBD and littering. Constable Brooks replied that the term *boy racer* was used by police to describe people who were co-ordinating street races. Units were deployed if they were available when patterns of co-ordinated racing occurred. There had been known incidents on Fantham and Egmont Streets in Hawera and Ketemarae Road in Normanby. Courtesy patrols were undertaken at locations around Hawera and Normanby, dependent on available units.

Mrs Hicks noted that the Community Board had been made aware that school students were often seen in King Edward Park during school hours. Constable Brooks advised that police did not often receive calls about behaviour in King Edward Park. One incident of tagging had been reported in May. Councillor Johnson added that Fulton Hogan, the contractors who maintain the Park, reported significant issues with broken glass and patrons who were *under the influence* of alcohol. He asked that a report be prepared regarding the possibility of placing a liquor ban at the park. Mr Sargeant advised that the Council had been in discussions with the Taranaki District Health Board who were currently addressing issues with alcohol. The idea of liquor bans would be included in those discussions. Mrs Mastrovich added that the police now had the authority to issue trespass notices to park patrons who were behaving in a disorderly manner.

(b) **Economic Development and Tourism Manager, Ms Fiona Greenhill**

Ms Greenhill spoke regarding the Ronald Hugh Morrieson Attic and asked the Board's opinion as to whether the Council should consider purchasing the attic to retain it in the district.

Ronald Hugh Morriesons house had been removed and replaced with a KFC restaurant. The original attic from the house was preserved and purchased by local man, Robert Surgenor. There was expressions of interest from outside the district to purchase the attic, however, Mr Surgenor had indicated he would like the attic to be retained in South Taranaki.

The attic was in relatively poor condition, however, it had been well weather-proofed and was not suffering from dampness. The attic had not been used since its removal, bar a one day art event. The front section of the attic was damaged and currently separated from the rest of the building.

Ms Greenhill explained that the attic was a part of Hawera's recent history and the sale of the attic was timely given that *Predicament*, a novel by Ronald Hugh Morrieson, was being made into a movie which was to be filmed in South Taranaki.

Work would need to be undertaken to restore the attic and there was currently no Council budget provision for this project. Ms Greenhill suggested external funding could be sought to fund the restoration and installation of the attic.

It was suggested that the attic could be located at the i-SITE and be managed by the staff. It was also suggested that the attic could be located at the Hawera LibraryPlus or King Edward Park.

Mr Greaves and Councillor Johnson stated that they did not support the attic, however, they suggested more information as to what benefits it would bring to the community be presented to the Board and Council.

Councillor Powell and Mrs Hicks supported retaining the attic in Hawera.

Mrs Hicks suggested that service groups with in Hawera could be approached to support the restoration and installation of the attic. This would open up more avenues for external funding.

(c) **Councillor Peter Johnson**

(i) Introduction of Arts, Culture and Heritage Manager

Councillor Johnson introduced Ms Libby Sharpe as the Council's new Arts, Culture and Heritage Manager.

Ms Sharpe came to the Council from a senior position at the Wanganui Museum and had a strong background in archives management and related activities. Her priorities in her new role are the completion of the South Taranaki District Museum building project and the development of exhibitions. Ms Sharpe had a keen interest in achieving a higher arts profile in the district and building on relationships with galleries. Ms Sharpe stated that she was looking forward to the challenges the Arts, Culture and Heritage role would bring.

(d) **Arts Co-ordinator, Ms Michaela Stoneman**

(i) Update on Town Square Project

Ms Stoneman provided the Board with an update regarding the *Art in the Square Project*.

In June 2008, Ms Stoneman was asked to facilitate a community art project for the Town Square. After meeting with the Board, it was agreed that large, original artworks by local artists, framed in stainless steel, would be bolted to the walls of the Town Square.

Calls for designs were put to the local art community around the theme *visions of South Taranaki*. A panel including Councillors Johnson and Rangiwhia and Mr Wayne Marriott (former Arts, Culture and Heritage Manager) selected three artworks for production by local artists Teresa Buhler, Robyn Challis and the Dixon Art Group.

Ms Stoneman was to keep in regular contact with the selected artists to work through the process of reproducing their designs on a large scale. It was expected that the artworks would be complete by 1 July 2009.

Ms Stoneman had been investigating framing to ensure they were as weather and vandal proof as possible. Installation of the artwork was dependent on the length of time it would take to fabricate the frames.

Councillor Johnson commended Ms Stoneman for the work that had been completed on the project to date and offered the support of the Community Board to ensure it was completed in a timely manner.

(e) **Mr Joe Wahanui**

(i) Hawera Assembly of God Church

Mr Wahanui spoke in support of the funding request from the Hawera Assembly of God to the Hawera Community Board for assistance towards the installation of a lift at the Hawera Assembly of God Centre.

Mr Wahanui advised that he was an event consultant for *Team Excite* who specialised in delivering programs for children and Youth. He was also a member of the Hawera Assembly of God Church (the Church) and had been part of the team who were developing the Hawera Assembly of God Centre (the Centre) to better cater for events.

Mr Wahanui stated that the Church had fundraised \$60,000 to date and were in the last stages of upgrading the Centre.

He suggested that once complete, the Centre could cater for large scale events such as kapahaka competitions, Youth Week events, conferences, family shows and plays. He stated that the Centre was the largest indoor events venue in South Taranaki and had good acoustics and an expert backstage system. Fonterra used the Centre for training and events.

Mrs Hicks stated that the Centre was a great facility, however, she questioned whether regular users, Government agencies or disability agencies had been approached for funding. Mr Wahanui replied that the Church had worked hard to source funding and currently had limited options. They would continue to fundraise towards the completion of the Centre.

(f) **Mrs Deborah Wilson and Community Development Officer, Mr Richard Oliver**

(i) CommuniCare Project at McGuire Street Reserve

Mrs Wilson and Mr Oliver detailed the proposed McGuire Street Reserve project and the benefits it would present to the local community.

The project would be based at McGuire Street where a block of Council land was currently used as a reserve. This section of land was suitable for a community garden and CommuniCare was proposing to install fruit trees and vegetables as a community bonding and educational tool.

Mrs Wilson advised that she had approached residents of McGuire Street and had received positive feedback regarding the project. She suggested the project was a tool to mitigate *bad press* about the McGuire Street neighbourhood.

The Council's Parks Curator, Mr David Bruce, had created site plans for the McGuire Street Reserve that would incorporate orchards and vegetable plots.

It was intended that local children would learn to garden and be rewarded with fresh fruit and vegetables.

Mrs Wilson noted that the project had interested sponsors and she was certain funding could be obtained externally. Mr Oliver added that Housing Corp were supportive of the project and had offered the use of garden tools if the project was to proceed.

The Board supported the proposal from CommuniCare and offered their assistance to the see the project come to fruition.

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

(a) Ordinary Meeting held on 27 April 2009

RESOLUTION

(Mr Greaves/Cr Johnson)

16/09 HA THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 27 April 2009 be received and confirmed as a correct record of proceedings.

CARRIED

3 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

(a) Hawera Community Board – 8 June 2009

RESOLUTION

(Mrs Hicks/Mr Greaves)

1709 HA THAT the agenda for the Hawera Community Board of 8 June 2009 be adopted as the business for the meeting.

CARRIED

4 FUNDING REQUESTS REPORTS

(a) Community Funding Advisor

(i) Hawera Central Business District Gardens Upgrade – Stage 2

A proposal was received from the Hawera Community Board for Discretionary Funding assistance towards the completion of Stage Two of a four stage project to upgrade the existing borders in the Hawera Central Business District.

Councillor Johnson noted that the quotes for Stage Two exceeded the funds that the Community Board had previously agreed to allocate. However, the Council's Parks Curator, Mr David Bruce, had suggested the work could be completed for a lesser cost. Mr Bruce stated that many of the existing borders could be renewed, as opposed to being completely redone and initial estimates had suggested this would cost between \$6,000 and \$7,000.

Councillor Johnson suggested trial hanging baskets could be placed in the Central Business District as an addition to the project. The Board supported this suggestion.

RESOLUTION**(Mrs Hicks/Mr Greaves)**

18/09 HA **THAT the Hawera Community Board approves the allocation of \$10,000 from their Discretionary Fund for Stage Two of the Central Business District Garden Upgrade with the inclusion of a hanging basket trial.**

CARRIED

(ii) Hawera Assembly of God Church – Lift Installation

An application was received from the Hawera Assembly of God Church for Discretionary Funding assistance towards the installation of a lift at the Hawera Assembly of God Centre.

Mr Greaves stated that he would not usually be supportive of an application of this nature, however, he recognised that the Hawera Assembly of God Church (the Church) was heavily involved with youth in the district. He supported the application for a lesser amount than was requested. The Board supported this suggestion.

Councillor Johnson stated that the Board may be in a better position to support the Church in the next financial year and questioned whether there were other funding avenues the Church could investigate in the interim. Mrs Mekalick advised that other funding avenues had been approached without success.

RESOLUTION**(Cr Johnson/Mr Greaves)**

19/09 HA **THAT the Hawera Community Board approves a grant of \$2,500 from their Discretionary Fund to the Hawera Assembly of God Church towards the installation of a lift in the Hawera Assembly of God Centre.**

CARRIED

(iii) Stratford Sheep Dog Trial Show Ring Club – Hawera Sheep Dog Trial

An application was received from the Stratford Sheep Dog Trial Show Ring Club for Discretionary Funding assistance towards hosting a two-day indoor sheep dog trial show ring event on 11 and 12 July 2009 at the Hawera Agricultural and Pastoral Showgrounds.

Mr Greaves and Mr Johnson initially did not support the application, however, they conceded that the event would be beneficial economically to Hawera.

It was noted that this was the first event the Stratford Sheep Dog Trial Show Ring Club had hosted. Since they had filed their application, they had decided to halve the prize money they were offering at the event, which had reduced their project shortfall.

Councillor Johnson suggested that the Board could support the application on the proviso that a Hawera Community Board sign be displayed at the event in recognition of their support.

RESOLUTION

(Mrs Hicks/Cr Johnson)

20/09 HA **THAT the Hawera Community Board approves a grant of \$500 from their Discretionary Fund to the Stratford Sheep Dog Trial Show Ring Club towards hosting a two-day indoor sheep dog trial at the Hawera Agricultural and Pastoral Showgrounds conditional on the Hawera Community Board sign being displayed at the event.**

CARRIED

- (iv) Hawera Town Square Improvement Project – Gazebo Style Market Shelters

A proposal was received from the Hawera Community Board for Discretionary Funding assistance towards the purchase of collapsible gazebo-style market shelters for the Hawera Town Square as part of the Board's Town Square Improvement Project.

Mr Oliver advised that there was an issue regarding commitment from market stall holders that they would maintain the gazebos. It was also noted that stall holders had agreed to pay a small individual fee to the Council for the use of town square space and no fees had yet been received.

Councillor Johnson stated that it was a concern that there had been no financial commitment demonstrated by the stall holders to date. Mrs Mekalick advised that the Board could roll over a maximum of \$6,000 to the 2009/10 Discretionary Fund to allow the stall holders time to meet the requirements asked of them before a decision was made.

RESOLUTION

(Cr Johnson/Mr Greaves)

21/09 HA **THAT the Hawera Community Board contingent on the market stallholders paying the agreed weekly stallholder fee for use of the Town Square approve the release of the \$7,136.89 from their Discretionary Fund committed to the Hawera Town Square Improvement Project for the purchase of three collapsible gazebos; and**

THAT a further \$1,925 be allocated from the balance of the 2009/10 Discretionary Fund subject to a written agreement with the market stallholders for the future care and maintenance of the gazebos.

CARRIED

- (b) **Economic Development and Tourism Manager**

- (ii) Hawera Town Centre Signage

A proposal was received from the Hawera Community Board for Discretionary Funding assistance towards upgrading the existing town centre directional signage for the Hawera Central Business District.

CHAIRPERSON