

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HOUSE, TRAFALGAR STREET,
NELSON ON TUESDAY 29 APRIL 2008 COMMENCING AT 9.02AM**

- PRESENT:** Councillor P Rainey (Chairperson), His Worship the Mayor (K Marshall), Councillors I Barker, A Boswijk (Deputy Chairperson), M Cotton, M Holmes and G Thomas
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillors G Collingwood, D Henigan, R Reese and D Shaw, V Altmants (Chief Executive), S Coleman (Divisional Manager Community Services), S Miller (Youth Councillor) and J Costello (Administration Adviser)
- APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors A McAlpine and A Miccio.
-

1.0 PUBLIC FORUM

1.1 Nelson Suburbs Football Club

Stephen Alder (President, Nelson Suburbs Football Club) and Steve Petch (Treasurer, Nelson Suburbs Football Club) addressed the Committee with regards to the Nelson Suburbs Football Club's (Suburbs) disappointment with the Saxton Field Working Party's decision not to relocate the existing perimeter fence around the football oval at Saxton Field to the new pitch at Saxton Field.

Mr Alder advised that in 2005, a letter was received from the Council in response to a submission to the Annual Plan process from Suburbs advising that they would be no worse off financially with relocating.

Mr Alder noted that 90% of everything discussed with the Council had come to fruition however, the fence had not and it should be progressed as it had been on the plan from the beginning.

Mr Alder confirmed that the fence at the previous ground had been paid for by Suburbs and they were seeking like for like. Mr Alder acknowledged that the Saxton Field Working Party held the stance that open space should be a priority at Saxton Field, which he did not disagree with and thought it was a moral principle. However, based on discussions and the good faith in these discussions, Suburbs were seeking the placement of a fence around their new ground.

Mr Alder and Mr Petch advised that the main reason for the fence was that it created a better ambience and provided for a charge ground. Mr Alder accepted that the charge ground is only used for a limited number of games but he noted that the fence also serves other purposes such as in the past, the old field was used for Opera in the Park to which the fence assisted with security.

Mr Petch stated that if the fence was not put in place then it would put Suburbs back a couple of years in terms of planning, as they had initiatives in place to apply for National tournaments, which require closed grounds.

1.2 Grampians Clearance

Dee McClearie and Ron Thompson addressed the Committee with regards to the proposed clearing of the northern side of the Grampians.

Mr Thompson stated that Mrs McClearie and himself wished to try and change the Council's view on the clearance.

Mr Thompson stated that there had been a lack of consultation over the clearance and the impact of the clearance had not been fully considered. He also stated that there appeared to be no thought about the care of any new plantings.

With regards to the lack of consultation, Mr Thompson advised that he received a letter on 10 April 2008, which was followed by an article in Live Nelson. He said it would have been beneficial to hold a public meeting for interested parties.

Mr Thompson suggested that as opposed to wholesale destruction, thinning of the trees should be considered as the Cathedral was one of the most photographed icons in Nelson, which the Grampians was the backdrop for, and there was the wildlife to consider as well.

He stated that the time for re-growth appeared to not have been given consideration as some people could remember when the land was last cleared, it was terribly slow at growing and the Grampians provided for very hard growing conditions.

Mr Thompson reiterated his request for the Council to consider removing trees selectively as opposed to the wholesale clearance and he suggested that this could be done through interplanting.

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

18 March 2008

Resolved

THAT the minutes of the meeting of Community Services Committee, held on Tuesday 18 March 2008, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

His Worship the Mayor/Boswijk

Carried

3.0 COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE STATUS REPORT – APRIL 2008

Councillor Rainey advised that he had met with Mr Marshall with regards to his proposal for a Wishing Well and had suggested that Mr Marshall consider applying for a grant from the Council as it would possibly be more advantageous.

Councillor Rainey stated that Mr Marshall appeared to be in favour of this option however, Mr Marshall would give some more thought to drafting plans for a Wishing Well, which if he wished to pursue he would then present at a later date to the Council.

Councillor Collingwood suggested that a letter be written to the Nelson Women's Centre, a member of the Emergency Housing Group, advising of this outcome.

With regards to the financial information not being available for Opera in the Park, the Divisional Manager, Susan Coleman, advised that there had been a delay in finalising the financial information which in turn delayed the Economic Impact Analysis. However, the report would be presented to the Corporate Governance Committee.

Resolved

THAT the report be received.

Holmes/Boswijk

Carried

4.0 COMMUNITY SERVICES MAJOR PROJECTS 2007/08

Document No 658798, dated 14 April 2008, agenda pages 17-18 refer.

Manager Community Projects, Andrew Petheram, presented the report.

Resolved

THAT the report be received.

His Worship the Mayor/Thomas

Carried

5.0 DRAFT NELSON PUBLIC LIBRARY STRATEGIC PLAN 2008-2018

Document No 657192, dated 9 April 2008, agenda pages 19-45 refer.

Nicky McDonald, Community Policy and Planning Co-ordinator, and Ian Littleworth, Manager Libraries, presented the report.

Ms McDonald stated that 85.4% of Nelson residents were registered members of the Nelson Public Libraries and this figure captured only those who had utilised the library within the last two years. The percentage of registered members for Nelson Public Libraries is above the National mean which is currently 49.6%.

Ms McDonald advised that in the preparation of the draft Strategic Plan the public had been extensively consulted and over 1,000 responses to surveys had been received. From the survey, the key points that emerged were popularity, marketing, connection, environment and online library.

Focusing on environment, Ms McDonald stated that libraries were no longer considered as just a service and that they were more of a destination point for the public. This was borne out by survey responses which showed the two most popular options for future library services were a café and more comfortable reading spaces.

Another area requiring attention, as highlighted in the survey, was the marketing of the services available at the libraries.

Referring to the individual libraries, Ms McDonald stated that the next phase of planning is now required for the Elma Turner Library to meet the needs of a growing population and growing library membership. She stated that the Council's acquisition of the building at 23 Halifax Street offered possibilities for a library extension.

Referring to the Stoke library, staff believed a careful focusing of the collection and interior refit could meet needs in the short term. In the longer term an extension was likely to be required given the fast expanding Stoke population. Another area that should be explored is reciprocal borrowing with TDC which could ease pressure on Stoke Library.

It was identified through the survey that 42% of Stoke respondents would use reciprocal borrowing at Richmond library if that was introduced. It was noted that if reciprocal borrowing was considered it would be necessary to undertake a careful cost/benefit analysis for the Council as it is expected that large numbers of Tasman residents would take advantage of the service because of the free borrowing and large collection in Nelson City. Also more commuters travel into Nelson for work from Tasman than vice versa.

Last, the Nightingale Library Memorial is underutilised but is an important centre for the small community it serves. Ms McDonald suggested that an investigation be undertaken regarding the future of the library including the possibility of moving the library service to an outlet within the shopping area and with a floor space better able to meet customer needs.

There was considerable discussion on the draft Strategic Plan and the following points were noted.

- (i) Can data be provided showing how many of the 85% residents who are members are regular users of the library.
- (ii) If a café was developed, it would be a commercial enterprise.
- (iii) Marketing of the library is currently done through a combination of Public Communications and Library Marketing. It appears that the issue is with the breadth of information services being delivered. On average there is an article in every second publication of Live Nelson.
- (iv) Having highlighted the population growth areas in Stoke and north Nelson, then why is the Stoke redevelopment being delayed and priority being given to expanding the Elma Turner Library.
- (v) Hours were not mentioned as an issue in the survey, as 87% indicated they were happy with the hours.
- (vi) Nelson North/Atawhai is not mentioned at all in the Strategic Plan yet these areas have been identified as to where the growth will be the most significant. It was confirmed that it is not intended to place a service out there in the next 10 years.
- (vii) Concern was expressed that the development of the Strategic Plan was a little pre-emptive and that some of the issues needed to be discussed at a higher level first.
- (viii) The statistics for borrowing don't reflect the pressures justifying expansion.
- (ix) It would be more beneficial to spend the proposed \$15,000 for the Nightingale Library Memorial on improvements, as opposed to a study on the

structure of the library, as it is likely that the people of Tahunanui would take issue with the library being relocated.

Members discussed reciprocal borrowing and acknowledged that it was a real opportunity to combine with Tasman to provide an improved service for all.

The Chief Executive said that if reciprocal borrowing/regional library was a key issue then it needed to be signalled in the Strategic Plan however, a discussion would need to be held first with the Tasman District Council. He noted that if pursued it was significant for both Councils' Long Term Council Community Plans.

Scott Miller, the Youth Council representative, suggested that if reciprocal borrowing was being explored that consideration be given to including school libraries and the NMIT library.

The Chief Executive advised that to progress the matter a discussion would need be had between the Chief Executives and the Divisional Managers of the two Councils, and that this would be followed by a discussion at the Mayor/Chief Executives meeting. A report would then be prepared for the Community Services Committee consideration.

His Worship the Mayor stated that the time was drawing near for a joint meeting, and there needs to be some indication from Tasman as to whether they are interested in having a discussion not just about the library, but on a number of matters.

Resolved

***THAT** the draft Nelson Public Libraries Strategic Plan lie on the table until a future report is presented to the Community Services Committee.*

Holmes/Barker

Carried

6.0 BROOK SANCTUARY PEST PROOF FENCE

Document No 655220, dated 1 April 2008, agenda pages 59-116 refer.

The Manager Parks and Facilities, Paul McArthur, presented the report and was supported by David Butler and Alastair Wiffen from the Brook Waimarama Sanctuary Trust (the Trust).

Members were advised that the Resource Consent application was being considered externally and it was clear that the cost of that was the responsibility of the Trust. Mr Butler and Mr Wiffen advised that the Trust needed to raise a total of \$4 million, and they stated that shortening the fence was not an option if the target was not reached.

With regards to whether any costs in the future would fall back on the Council, Mr Butler and Mr Wiffen stated that this was matter for the independent review of the Business Plan to ascertain.

With regards to the accuracy of the estimate for the fencing the meeting was advised that two companies had now been able to bid for the contract. The first estimate was received two years ago and the second estimate was received in May 2007. The Trust had considered both of the estimates and had devised a rate per metre. They stated that the prices came within one percent of each other and they believed them

to be accurate. To date, in kind support for the fence is estimated at \$1 million and the in kind support is not part of the budget.

Members were advised that the Trust has scope for the Council to have a Council appointed member on it, and whilst this offer had been declined in the past it was still open.

Resolved

THAT the application to construct a pest proof fence on Council owned land in the Brook Valley in accordance with the application by the Brook Waimarama Sanctuary Trust (The Trust) dated 10 April 2008 as submitted be deferred by the Council as landowner until a full and detailed assessment of the existing and alternative options is provided;

AND THAT the Trust is advised that in addition to any future approval by the Council as landowner, any necessary consents under the Resource Management Act 1991 and Reserves Act 1977, including any required formal public consultation, must be obtained prior to fence construction commencing;

AND THAT prior to any future approved funding being provided to the Trust from the Council for the development of a pest-proof fence, that accurate project cost estimates are provided and the Trust is able to confirm that it has secured all of the necessary funding to complete the project;

AND THAT the Council commission an independent review of the business plan to determine that the project is sustainable in the long term.

His Worship the Mayor/Boswijk

Carried

7.0 THE CUSP

Document No 657085, dated 8 April 2008, agenda pages 46-52 refer.

Manager Cultural Social and Recreation Services, Kath Inwood, presented the report.

Members discussed the purpose of The Cusp and the provision of a New Years Eve event. It was acknowledged that whilst The Cusp had been set up originally to provide an alcohol free event for all ages, consideration should now be given to an event with a different format to The Cusp or multiple events to cater for the various interest and age groups.

It was suggested that an event at the Maitai Motorcamp might be worth exploring or having one in the centre of town.

With regards to catering for the younger age group, Ms Coleman advised that some discussions had already been held with The New Hub for providing such an event.

It was queried whether more consultation was required, or whether such an event was needed at all.

The general consensus was that an event is needed, however, what this event could be needs to be further investigated. It was agreed that the budget as provided in the draft Annual Plan for The Cusp remain at the proposed level.

Resolved

THAT staff consider alternative options including a one off event for the entire community or multiple events to cater for specific age groups;

AND THAT the Annual Plan estimate not be scaled down;

AND THAT staff present the event options to the next Community Services Committee meeting on 10 June 2008.

His Worship the Mayor/Cotton

Carried

8.0 CIVIC AWARDS FOR SCHOOL PRIZEGIVING CEREMONIES

Document No 659511, dated 16 April 2008, agenda pages 53-58 refer.

Manager Cultural Social and Recreation Services, Kath Inwood, presented the report.

Ms Inwood advised that Youth Council feedback had been sought and that overall they were in support of a Civic Award in the form of a trophy and that it be supported by a letter from the Mayor.

Resolved

THAT the Council sponsor an annual Civic Award at each of the Nelson High Schools to the value of \$50 per annum per school plus a one off purchase of one trophy per school;

AND THAT Councillors Rainey, Boswijk and McAlpine be appointed to the Working Group to develop guidelines for the awards and to judge the awards on an annual basis in conjunction with the Youth Volunteers Awards process;

AND THAT the working group also include representation from the Nelson Youth Council.

Boswijk/Rainey

Carried

Attendance: Councillor Collingwood left the meeting at 12.04pm.

9.0 TRAFALGAR PARK UPGRADE

Document No 659790, dated 22 April 2008, Supplementary Order Paper No One, dated 22 April 2008, refer.

Manager Community Projects, Andrew Petheram, presented the report.

Resolved

THAT costings be prepared for all items listed in Sections 3.2.2, 3.3 and 3.4 of Document No 659790, as part of a feasibility study on the development of Trafalgar Park;

His Worship the Mayor/Boswijk

Carried

Attendance: Councillor Henigan left the meeting at 1.10pm.

10.0 REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES

10.1 Founders Heritage Park Subcommittee

30 January 2008

Resolved

***THAT** the minutes of the meeting of the Founders Heritage Park Subcommittee, held on Wednesday 30 January 2008, be received.*

Holmes/Barker

Carried

In response to a query Ms Coleman advised that a number of leases at the Park had been signed prior to Council being fully involved and now, as a matter of course, Council was trying to standardise the leases when the opportunity arises however, some did have variations.

It was suggested that a complete overview of leases be done and staff advised that this could be done but additional resources would be required. Ms Coleman suggested that an alternative to this could be to provide a report on the status of Community Services leases in the Councillors Newsletter.

The Chief Executive advised that there was not an issue with wider Council leases, however, he would confirm this with the Business Assets Adviser.

11.0 REPORTS FROM ORGANISATIONS

11.1 Nelson Youth Council

3 March 2008

Resolved

***THAT** the minutes of the meeting of the Nelson Youth Council, held on Monday 3 March 2008, be received.*

Boswijk/Barker

Carried

Members were advised that the Skatepark launch was scheduled for mid May. Members were also advised that the majority of residents surrounding Neale Park were in support of the Skatepark following the recent meeting held with them.

A decision on the hours of lighting is yet to be made.

17 March 2008

Resolved

***THAT** minutes of a meeting of the Nelson Youth Council, held on Monday 17 March 2008, be received.*

Boswijk/Barker

Carried

12.0 REQUEST FOR COUNCIL MEETING TO HEAR AND CONSIDER SUBMISSIONS TO THE COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE FUND

Resolved

***THAT** there be a Council meeting to hear and consider submissions to the Community Assistance Fund for the 2008/09 year on Tuesday 22 July 2008, which is currently set down for a Council workshop in the 2008 meeting schedule.*

Holmes/Boswijk

Carried

13.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

13.1 Public Forum Discussion

13.1.1 Nelson Suburbs Football Club

Members stated that as they had not heard formally from the Working Party as to why they were not receptive to a fence being placed it was hard to make an informed decision.

Staff advised that the Working Party strongly supported Saxton Field retaining as many open spaces as possible. Staff also advised that there was concern about a precedent being set for other codes. The Chief Executive advised that the Working Party did not have the delegated authority to make the decision, but that their opinion should not be disregarded.

Some members stated that it was wrong to decline the fence given that Suburbs had worked in good faith with the Council.

It was agreed that staff prepare a report and bring it back to the next Community Services Meeting scheduled for 10 June 2008.

Attendance: His Worship the Mayor left the meeting at 1.20pm.

13.1.2 Grampians Clearance

The Manager Parks and Facilities, Paul McArthur, advised that the main driver for the logging was for safety and stability, and while staff did not like seeing the land barren, the work needed to be done.

He advised that it could be done in sections however, there would be bigger contextual issues to be aware of, including cost. He further noted that whilst natives would not be replanted, there were other areas of the Grampians that displayed natives.

Members said that consultation with the public should have been given more consideration.

It was agreed that a letter be sent to Mr Thompson thanking him for his presentation, and that it include a detailed explanation, supported by photographs of what the area will look like in the future.

14.0 PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS

14.1 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved

***THAT** the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting in accordance with section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 on the grounds that the public conduct of this part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists.*

Thomas/Cotton

Carried

The meeting went into public excluded session at 1.50pm and resumed in the public session at 2.14pm.

14.2 Re-admittance of the Public

Resolved

***THAT** the public be re-admitted to the meeting.*

Cotton/Boswijk

Carried

The meeting closed 2.14pm.

CONFIRMED AS A CORRECT RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

_____ CHAIRPERSON _____ DATE