

**MEETING TO HEAR THE SUBMISSIONS TO THE DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN  
HELD IN THE SUPPER ROOM, MEMORIAL HALL  
COMMENCING AT 9AM ON MONDAY 25 JUNE 2007**

**Present:** Mayor Kevin Heays, Councilors Bryan Seddon, Marion McChesney,  
Mark Pablecheque, Barbara Woods, John Diver and John Macphail  
**In Attendance:** Stuart Grant (Chief Executive), Sheryl Poulsen (Office Manager)

**1 Apologies**

No apologies were received.

**2 Submitters wishing to be heard**

Neroli Gold & Kaikoura Information and Tourism Incorporated (KITI)

Ms Gold advised that she is presenting two submissions from KITI and one from herself, requesting an increase in KITI base funding. Council should be proud of the I-site, which is internationally recognised. The I-site freely gives information on council services, which costs the centre in time, resources and training of staff.

Funding is needed to meet increases in staff costs, holiday act requirements, and the costs of staff retention, and training. There is a need to continually develop the business, but the weakness is the building structure. Additional funding would be beneficial to enable the site to be redeveloped. In last few years KITI has had 3 losses, 1 gain. Information centre's primary source of funding nationally is from local government.

Ms Gold continued that her other two submissions are in relation to the economic development officer role. Tourism is a major profile of the district; however she urged to consider an assistant for the tourism officer or a split of the role as it is currently. She also reiterated that there is a need to put in place a regional economic development strategy. The current role of the tourism officer is massive. Economic planning is a vital part of the goals in the Annual Plan.

Barry & Ivina Smout

Their submission is in opposition to the proposed Sulo bins, they were told they were doing very well with the current pickup, and don't see any point in spending money on something that isn't even going to be in their area.

The Sulo bins won't work because there will be a lot of rubbish dumped at the sites; everybody will dump their rubbish there, around the outside of the bins as well as in them.

Mrs Smout continued the current pick up system works very well, there is one drop off point, and the recycling has already been sorted. She believes Puketa people are recycling very well, and are all very conscious of it. The community all put their recycling at one pickup point at Puketa, and doesn't need fuel to get there.

Ailsa Howard

Mrs Howard stated her concern is safety issues on Scarborough Street, and requests that Council put in a clear footpath, and the other request is for a very vivid “Concealed Exit – Slow Down” at the point to turn right out of Lookout Road.

Mrs Howard continued that there has been fantastic work done at Dempsey’s Track and other walkways, but people are still using Scarborough St more. The issue is that there is a lot of ambiguity on where to walk, tourists view it as a safe coastal town, and without the footpath they view the road as the place to walk. They walk with their back to the traffic, it is not a surprise to find them in the middle of the road, and they often wear dark clothing. There can be mothers with pushchairs walking there. Often Kiwi Experience buses stop and people are crossing the road, and with erratic driving on Scarborough St, perhaps due to the view, often cars stop without warning. Also of concern is that an elderly person is seen walking down the middle of the road every morning.

Coming down from Lookout Rd into Scarborough Street is very difficult. Several people in the neighborhood agree. Locals know the concealed exit is there, but weekend visitors don’t know its there and come around the bend too fast. It is great the road is now sealed; vehicles are not losing traction on the shingle anymore.

To complicate matters, in the morning when the sun is rising, drivers have no visibility taking kids to school, also there is fog sometimes. It is fine when people are going at the speed limit, but people are not driving at the speed limit. Mrs Howard stated she would like to see the sign in red, it makes people alert, we rely on the people coming around the corner to be driving safely.

Replying to a question on the Dempsey’s Track sign, Mrs Howard said she did not believe the track indicated it was a way to the Town Centre.

Joyce & Gordon Croucher

We also oppose Sulo bins, and the previous presentation covered much of this. Puketa people were complimented on how well the current system was running, so why spend \$70,000 when the current system is working well.

Inland Rd is not covered; surely the present system should cover them. How could the cost possibly come under \$70,000 when it needs a new truck to lift the box, landscaping, new staff at IWK to do the sorting, and keys for all ratepayers. Suggest Council fine tune the present system and save ratepayers the money.

Mrs Croucher continued that at the meeting at Ocean View people were not positive to the proposal; and that all had said if it isn’t broken why fix it.

Mr & Mrs Croucher continued regarding their submission about the proposed combined facility on Scarborough Street.

They stated that a facility of this size is ambitious with only a few thousand ratepayers, and that it is irresponsible to lock ratepayers into a debt that will last longer than 50 years. The cost is very likely to exceed \$18 million. Further, the swimming pool should be close to schools, not on a dangerous intersection. Transit has said there will be a truck bypass diverting heavy traffic away from Churchill Street, but is a long way off.

A lot of people within the town don't feel there has been consultation. The cost is too much for such a small amount of ratepayers to meet, we don't want our grandchildren to be still trying to pay for it.

She was asked what have Transit said about a bypass, the answer was they don't really know but had heard something about it. Currently drivers come up the blind hill from 100km speed limit to 50km at the intersection. Elderly want to go to library, school kids want to go to the pool and the library. The ambulance will be working overtime. A lot of public opinion hasn't been sourced yet.

She was then asked do you have ideas for alternatives, and the reply was we personally feel the gym should be adjacent to schools. Schools are put in safe areas. Also the swimming pool is better to be nearer schools.

Mrs Croucher summarized that \$18 million for a little town like Kaikoura is outrageous; it is an ambitious project, even in a city.

#### Paul McGahan

Mr McGahan acknowledged that his is an extensive submission, and that he will go over the priorities. He tabled an addendum. He stated that in some things Council is doing well and these are noted in his submission, but also made comments where he had concerns.

In relation to Leadership & Governance, in the Annual Plan the stated goal is to provide transparent leadership etc, and we know the Local Government Act makes comment to that, particularly in regard to consultation. He quoted the relevant sections of that Act. He continued that he believes that in some instances council is not consulting, nor is it receiving submissions with an open mind. This is at the core of Councils interaction with the community, and Council falls well short of the mark, it gives scant regard for the community views. Council demonstrates a pattern of not responding to emails, letters or phone calls. There are a number of people saying their concerns are falling on deaf ears.

He continued that how you measure how council works with its community is via a customer satisfaction survey, this may not be appropriate. It is too easy for organisations to think they are working effectively.

He expressed that he has some concerns the way the Plan is written – regarding environmental protection for example, council didn't have consent for one of its own activities. Council needs to make sure it is doing its job.

Regarding freedom camping – tourism & development committee minutes of meetings show that committee have abandoned a policy in favour of bylaws, yet the Annual Plan still refers to a policy. The committee has spent considerable time and resources on this. Council has bylaws not being upheld, it is bringing council into disrepute. Rubbish is being left in these areas, there seems to be a non-willingness to take any action. The offenders are not necessarily freedom campers, Council needs to employ somebody to make sure those areas are kept tidy.

Regarding the proposed community facility – Mr McGahan clarified he is not opposed to the facility, it would be great, but is concerned about the way in which the planning has been conducted. The Mayor's blog site suggests there is buy in from everyone. The LTCCP is hard for people to get their head around, the concerns raised were bypassed, this is publicly on record. Council needs an open mind; he expressed concern that there is defensiveness on Council's part. He stated he has made an official information request, and has been referred to the ombudsmen. He suggested that if Council needs to, it should consult with the community at the same time as the stake holder groups.

Looking at analysis last year of LTCCP submissions Mr McGahan said he wonders how Council is to achieve this within the timeframe given. He expressed concern how substantive the analysis really is. Some people raised issues last year that were particularly substantive, these weren't even covered in the analysis. Please give our submissions due analysis.

Asked to clarify the resource consent comment, Mr McGahan responded he knew of the sewer system at a subdivision, Council did not have discharge consent from ECan, this was achieved later. He stated it raises concerns about how Council is functioning when you are a consent authority in your own right.

#### Patrick Hampton

Mr Hampton tabled an addendum. He expressed his support for Council to provide a series of facilities, but expressed concerns about the proposed location. Also he questions the facility's contribution to the unique character of the town.

He continued that the council became a pilot community for green globe, and has principles of waste minimisation etc, all the time with an increasing demand for residential properties. There are benefits in centralised development, but the proposed facility will be in a decentralised location away from established pedestrian ways. He stated he values our small town feel and unique coastal atmosphere. The current council site promotes interaction with the community.

He recommended that Council stop giving permanent priority to the motor car, start providing for pedestrians. The proposed site will always be known as the dump. The existing Council site will always be associated with community sport, market place, etc.

He requested that Council retain the community facility within the Annual Plan, but remove the proposed site until public consultation process has been completed.

Mr Hampton continued he would like to see the pool complex on Takahanga Domain. He felt the Runanga would be quite happy to build on the sacred urupa burial grounds.

It was suggested Mr Hampton talk to the Runanga, and Mr Hampton asked has the Council already received written opposition from Runanga. It was suggested it is highly insensitive to speak on behalf of Runanga; Council is wanting to move because of sea levels.

Mr Hampton summarised that, sure the town is in favour of the new facility, but not the proposed location.

#### Lynette Buurman

Mrs Buurman advised that her submission comes from a business point of view and a personal point of view. It was a hasty submission, with three key points.

Commercial rate increases – the Draft Annual Plan shows the impact of rates on numerous sectors, it is difficult to understand, and don't quite get how percentages are struck in relation to each property type. The Plan shows a West End property with a large increase, and requests Council please reevaluate how the rates will affect the commercial sector. Having worked out there must be an average rate increase across all sectors at around 4%, she expressed concern about the affect on commercial property though, at over 10%. She continued this is a fixed cost to businesses, and given the new development Council should be spreading the cost over those new properties.

Community facility – Mrs Buurman summarised that she wants to encourage Council to engage in a communicative consultation process, and is concerned that some of Council seem to believe that there has been full consultation. The A&P Show didn't reach a wide enough sector of the community. She suggested Council can get on side with the community by having well planned communication; Council has to exhibit leadership, but also has to listen to what the people have to say.

Mrs Buurman continued that, talking to people out there, the biggest concern is the rating impact, we are getting rates increases now without the community facility being on the radar yet. There is a lot of fear about that. There is also concern about the location, and access, if Council could only thrash this out with the community we could come to a good resolution. She conceded Council won't win everybody over, but please have some community debate. She remains confident we can find the solution.

Freedom camping, litter, toilets – she requested Council employ somebody to manage this. The community is Green Globe certified; council should put legs to their policy. There is a benefit to the wider community; we could fly our flag environmentally.

The Chief Executive advised that page 95 should have also said “on benchmarked properties”, and that those pages show the impact of rates on specific properties that we have been tracking for the last ten years or so. He continued that an analysis had been

done on other sample properties in the West End, with another property having a 5.38% decrease, another up 0.6% etc, the main affects being based on movements in the district valuation on specific properties.

Mrs Buurman suggested consulting sector by sector, people within those sectors have different perspectives, different questions to ask. Sectors such as tourism, accommodation, residential; it doesn't have to be a big argument, just an opportunity to find out what the issues are. With KITI doing a public relations visit recently to many businesses, surprisingly the key issues raised was the community facility, and freedom camping, things people were concerned about were nothing to do with KITI. She emphasised that Council should have a good old discussion with the community, take leadership, it is a huge project. Make it a positive exercise to progress it to the next stage.

#### Dennis Buurman

Mr Buurman suggested his submission is very similar to Lynette's, and will comment on the community facility. He stated that the consultation process is the key to the whole issue. He has changed his view – he was opposed to the Scarborough St site, but having listened to the various views, there are some positives in the proposed location. Doing our own researching, there is potential up there. Council may have failed in the consultation process in communicating this to the community. Just say to people if you're opposed to this location what are the alternatives?

Parks & reserves management – Kaikoura is one of the focal points of visitors to NZ, we take pride in the community, but things happen here, rubbish etc, make it hard to take pride in the community. The visual impact on the visitor is very negative. He requested that Council employ a dedicated person to manage public areas, keep the West End tidy, deal with freedom camping, rubbish, public toilets. Council could fund this even if it were on a part-time, seasonal basis. He suggested Council see it as an opportunity to invest in the future, don't turn a blind eye and say it's too hard.

He emphasized that if you involve the community, get them onside, you can achieve wonderful things

Plantings – Mr Buurman acknowledged that Council has done extremely well, and he would like to see a continuation of these projects. Replanting could be extended to see the removal of exotic plantings such as at the southern entrance and also Killarney Street. These trees are a hazard; it would be good to see native plantings.

He continued we have an iconic peninsula, and need community support in revegetation of foreshore and eastern section of peninsula from the seal colony to South Bay. This revegetation would be on the face area of the peninsula, and may need joint initiatives with landowners. He continued the Peninsula walkway is a great asset; that we have sheep grazing all the way to the foreshore is a tragedy. He requested that Council take the next step for beautification; make it pest proof, and no sheep. He suggested that businesses in Kaikoura may like to contribute.

Lynda Kitchingham

Ms Kitchingham advised her submission relates to the consultation process for the proposed community complex. She is more concerned about the process, but stated except for the pool; she really wants the pool. She continued that at the fair last year, she had said in the survey to just get on with the pool or it will take another ten years.

She emphasized that she would like to see the SGL report.

There is confusion over just what Council regards as consultation; the Mayor has said we vote for Council to make decisions for us. In his blog he says we “all agreed to the complex”. She advised it took very little time to gather signatures of people who were concerned last year.

She asked what is council’s definition of public consultation? And agreed with Lynette Buurman, that Council break it into small groups. Democracy has to be seen to be done, there needs to be more consultation, Council needs community buy in, it is going to have to do those yards.

Regarding the Sulo bins, Mrs Kitchingham advised she is not convinced of the need for those bins, currently people are successfully sorting their recycling, why go backwards. Innovative Waste is going to have to employ people to sort! Recycling shouldn’t be out of sight out of mind, should be *in* mind, people need to be thinking of recycling, reducing and reusing all the time. Go the next step.

She also commented that Clarence isn’t on the list, the Draft Annual Plan shows costing on six sites, but after several conversations with Ian Challenger he says it is a mistake and there are seven sites.

ZORG – Mrs Kitchingham stated that more thought needs to go into this. She continued I presume you mean quite big bins in like in Christchurch; a friend in Christchurch uses a bokashi bucket and worm farm, and this works well for a family of four. A wheelie bin would be too big for average family. Instead give each household two bokashi buckets, cost \$25 each, plus the sawdust products, total cost to a family of four is about \$100 per year. It creates beautiful liquid fertilizer and a bucket of compost after two weeks. Encourage people to do this, and IWK could stock the bokashi products.

Why pay expensive fuel to take green waste up to IWK to turn into compost and then take back down to people’s homes when people could use bokashi themselves and do it at home.

Mrs Kitchingham briefly touched on provision of public toilets, and is pleased to see promotion of sustainable buildings; she also suggested Council encourage solar power particularly to heat hot water. She applauds Council promoting the use of cloth bags.

She stated she believes her area is doing very well at recycling, and that she often hears the clunking of glass going into the bins, etc. Her only complaint is the lids blow off the bins, but overall doing very well.

Jack “Snow” McChesney

Mr McChesney expressed his support for the community facility, and acknowledged Council has a lot of thinking and planning to do before it can do the facility. On the question should Council go to Beach Rd or Scarborough St – I think Scarborough – the sea is rising, emergency services should be on higher ground including police, fire and St Johns, and Council for Civil Defence.

He expressed concern that some in the community are saying there are no people near Scarborough St; he disagrees, there is more development in that area, more houses there than Beach Rd.

Mr McChesney continued why should Council pay rent, you could be kicked out at any time, Council needs to own the land and buildings wherever it goes. He concluded that up the hill is the best option for Council and the community facility.

He continued he has seen seas come over Hawthorne Road; has seen logs washed up into sections in South Bay, 300 metres from the beach. The facility needs to be up on the hill or at least higher than where it is and higher than Beach Road.

Tony Blunt

Mr Blunt confirmed he represents Kaikoura Federated Farmers.

Regarding the Local Government rates inquiry, Kaikoura Federated Farmers has taken a strong position, and supports use of GST to support local authorities. He continued that much of Council expenditure is funded from targeted rates, however there is a huge increase in overall rate burden. Farmers outside of Kaikoura pay 70% of what townfolk pay, here in Kaikoura we pay almost double that at 120%. This bears no relation to what people earn or use. Farmers work all day Monday for the entire year to pay rates, in other districts farmers would only work for a few hours on Monday mornings.

Mr Blunt expressed concern for the use of Uniform Annual Charges and how they are applied in Kaikoura, the reason for these is all about people in apartments on one title of land to make them contribute per apartment, but the impact on farmers is we are being rated on individual separate titles even though they are being run as same business. He continued that one business runs from one block of land.

He stated that in summary his submission is that Council

- 1 – change the differential, it is dramatically weighted against farmers
- 2 – address the use of UACs separately used and inhabited parts

Mr Blunt continued that for every dollar he spends, it generates another \$2.50 in the community, but when Council spends one dollar, (using the United Nations as example),

80c gets spent on admin, and only 20c spent on its purpose. He clarified that Council does a lot better than that, but that's just how your business works.

Regarding ZORG, he stated that the cost is in excess of \$200,000 all funded by UAC. Federated farmers are concerned that rural properties won't have access to the service but will still have to pay for it, and suggest a targeted rate to separately fund ZORG and the Sulo bins by those who receive it.

He continued regarding the community facility, it is up to the community to make the decision whether to support it or not, there is real concern about the impact on rates.

He recommended Council implement a targeted rate for tourism promotion, it is fairer and more transparent. Farmers already pay levies on meat and dairy products, shouldn't have to subsidise other commercial ventures, especially when the differential is already high.

#### Daren Kerei Keepa on behalf Mayfair Theatre

Mr Kerei Keepa advised this submission is a request to obtain funds from Council's discretionary fund. The Mayfair Theatre was built in 1935, so it would be considered an elder in human terms within our community. After 70 years it still holds a pride of place, and is still a place children can go out to the pictures and be safe.

The letter of support from the High School was read. Mr Kerei Keepa continued that, unfortunately with the onslaught of DVDs, computer games, etc, the theatre has been struggling with patronage. There are only a handful of theatres in NZ like what we have. The committee is actively looking at alternatives not only for fundraising but also other services, e.g. DVD lounge, café, etc.

He continued that the funding criteria from pub charities etc have changed; they no longer have access to funds they had before. It is essential that Council looks favourably on our application.

There are total costs of \$28,000. Mr Kerei Keepa acknowledged and thanked the volunteers of the theatre in running this vital community asset. The Trust is operating hand to mouth, and the theatre was hiring out to community groups, holding cake stalls, etc, to raise funds.

The gaming trust had been receptive, but the criteria has changed. Mr Kerei Keepa continued that theatre has missed some of the funding rounds, and now employs a person to target fundraising specifically, COGS, lotteries, etc through Fundview.

If funding was not forthcoming, as volunteers we will just have to work a lot harder, the commitment to the community and to the theatre is undying. If the theatre runs out of money, it was likely to close.

Mr Kerei Keepa was asked has any approach been made to major businesses in town, he replied yes, for example selling of lithograms, one off fund raisers, etc, but it is really just a band aid measure.

He continued that the application this year is to help us out at this point, in future it is hoped to secure funding from the usual agencies.

Ian Challenger, Innovative Waste Kaikoura (IWK)

Mr Challenger stated that IWK is proposing an increase of landfill charges, and felt no doubt that an increase in the cost of peoples rubbish will mean more effort will be made to recycle. He continued that there is inflationary pressure on IWK operations, and also the proposed charges would bring Kaikoura in line with other authorities, to avoid the opportunity for bach owners to bring rubbish here to dispose of at cheaper cost.

The rationale for the increase is also in preparation for Kate Valley, and so it is proposed to gradually implement several of the charges. Currently there are 14 different charges, it is confusing to public and staff, the proposal is to rationalise this to 8 charges.

Mr Challenger was asked to explain the reason for a “phased in” increase. He replied that the current refuse charge combines several charges of all different prices, and given that at some point will need to join Kate Valley, we can’t currently justify the \$200 plus GST per tonne, but phased in over 12 months by then we will know what is happening at Kate Valley and will be ready to take material to that landfill.

Mayor K Heays asked how successful do you see the education programs you’ve been running, for example in the paper? Mr Challenger replied the rate of recycling is increasing every year; but the problem is the rate of landfilling is also increasing every year. We are staying at around 56% diversion all the time. He concluded that education is paying off.

Mr Challenger advised it is a possibility to sell bokashi material. He further confirmed that IWK have been asked to sell it.

When asked what markets do we have for plastics (re use of material bags) and what affect will it have on recycling? Mr Challenger replied that Range Industries make plastic pellets, and now have more orders than can be supplied; they are looking for all types of plastic bags. He continued the price is not brilliant but it is better than going to landfill. In terms of plastic bag free, anything that stops material coming to IWK in the first place has got to be good.

Mr Challenger continued that the other company IWK currently supplies with plastics numbered 1 and 2 now take any plastic number 1 – 9, and it doesn’t need to be sorted.

Ivan Winstanley

Mr Winstanley emphasised that the most important issue is the proposed new civic centre, a consultant was employed to undertake feasibility, but the report has not yet been

made public. Why not? Has the original estimate been made to look a bit sick? We cast our votes thinking we would be kept informed; however this time the biggest decision in front of council is being kept secret.

### **3 Submitters not wishing to be heard**

Given that many submissions received were either identical or had similar content, the submissions were considered in order of content and issues raised.

#### ZORG

The submissions received were regarding opposition to ZORG and also to Sulo bins. The options are that Council could reject it completely, could delay its implementation, or could accept it as is now; ZORG is included in the Annual Plan on the basis that it be implemented in September.

The Chief Executive spoke to clarify the difference between ZORG and Sulo; the Sulo bins improve the level of service in the recycling pickup, but it is not anticipated to necessarily increase the quantity of recycling. ZORG however, was to provide the opportunity to increase the quantity of recycling like Timaru where overnight the diversion rate went up to 90%. ZORG is to capture what is currently being recycled plus green waste and putricables, which makes it easier for the public to recycle and increase level of diversion from landfill.

It was discussed to delay implementation until more investigations went into it. Council has been talking about it for 3 – 4 years, but public haven't been privy to that, and don't even know what it is.

It was confirmed that the waste committee is waiting for council to decide about the location of the transfer station, and haven't got capacity in place for ZORG yet. The committee needs to know where money is going to be spent in the future before spending too much money on that site.

It was generally agreed that ZORG is a brilliant concept, but should be done properly, and we do it when we are confident we have it all covered.

The Chief Executive confirmed that ZORG is in the LTCCP, and Council has shown its commitment to principles of ZORG. Suggestion that implementation of ZORG could be delayed to 1 July 2008, to come up in next year's annual plan. It still remains in LTCCP, but cut out that particular aspect in the budget in this years plan, and over the next year spend more time and thought into the future for the landfill site, Kate Valley, and ZORG itself.

***Moved by Councilor Pablecheque, seconded by Councilor Seddon, and hereby resolved that Council put ZORG on delay, however Council is committed to the principles of ZORG and will include it in the Draft Annual Plan 2008/2009.***

### Sulo Bins

There was some discussion that they aren't desired, Council shouldn't force it on the ratepayers if they don't want it. A debate followed that the bins are an enhancement of the areas they are going into. The recycling bins at places like Clarence will be replaced, which will alleviate wind blown problems mentioned by a submitter.

Sulo bins are to provide a better service to the community; 7 days a week, where before if you missed the pickup you had to wait. It was suggested it is for the holiday makers, they will have somewhere to put recyclables on a Sunday night when they leave, not dump it because there is no pickup.

There was the suggestion that the only community that wants it is Clarence, and Council could just put a lid on the existing recycling bins to eliminate the windblown problems.

Mayor K Heays clarified the keys that were mentioned as part of the presentations done earlier. He stated that, at the public meetings on the proposal, when he was asked how Council would administer access to the Sulo bins, the options given were keys, pin access or just a lid. Keys were only put as an option.

There was concern expressed that Oaro residents are going to lose the gate pickup, and it was discussed that if they walk or drive a little bit further they can put their recyclables in anytime.

It was further discussed that the Sulo bins are only recycling bins. So many of the submissions seem to be concerned that they are for rubbish as well; they understand how the current system works, and it works well, so they are opposed to the bins being used for rubbish.

It was generally agreed that, if 20-30 people are concerned enough to put in submissions, leave it out.

***Moved by Councilor Seddon, seconded by Councilor McChesney, and hereby resolved that Sulo bins be dispensed with for this Annual Plan 2007/2008.***

The Chief Executive suggested that Council could introduce the bins to certain parts of the district as a pilot, see how it goes, and those communities who didn't want it don't get it. Cedar is putting in three Sulo bins already, so this may form the basis of a trial.

### Reduce Book Borrowing Charges

The submission from KD Scattergood and Rachel Vaughan seeks more funds for the library so as to enable free or reduced book rentals.

It was discussed that it is an open public library, non-fiction books are free to rent, but if you want to read the latest copy of fiction you have to pay \$2.

The Chief Executive clarified that the current budget for revenue from book rentals is \$9,000. If Council went to these being free, then it would lose \$9,000 in revenue, and would need to either cut costs by a similar amount or would need to find the funds from somewhere else. He suggested if Council were to reduce the charge to 50c (and noted it would probably cost more than that to administer it), potentially the increased use by it being cheaper might mean the same level of revenue.

He further clarified that Council doesn't necessarily need to set the charges, but should set the policy; the aim of the submission is to make it free, which is a change in policy. It is traditional in many libraries that fiction is charged for, because it is for leisure (private benefit) rather than for education, which is a public good.

***Moved by Councilor Diver, seconded by Councilor Pablecheque, and hereby resolved to maintain the status quo.***

There was general support for the submission but Council would like to see more information, particularly from the library. It was also considered that one or two submitters were not really representative of the high number of library users.

#### Kaikoura Historical Society

This submission is an acknowledgement of thanks and a request for Council to continue with current levels of funding.

***Moved by Councilor Diver, seconded by Councilor Woods, and hereby resolved that the grant paid to the Historical Society remain in the budget at current levels.***

#### NZ Historic Places Trust

***Moved by Councilor Woods, seconded by Councilor McChesney, and hereby resolved that the NZ Historic Places Trust be considered as a key stakeholder in the proposed community facility.***

It was discussed that the NZHPT are always asked for comment for resource consents and their input will be very valuable. It is similar to seeking input from Te Runanga, DoC, and other stakeholders; no real difference and could be very useful.

There followed some discussion on setting up an annual heritage fund, and the need to clarify what sort of money are NZHPT wanting us to set aside, and what criteria, etc.

The Chief Executive suggested that there are several mechanisms available to Council to assist landowners, not necessarily direct funds but rates remissions, or could access funds from other sources for them. He also suggested the Kaikoura Enhancement Trust could be involved in that.

***Moved by Councilor Diver, seconded by Councilor Pablecheque, and hereby resolved that Council investigate the need for providing heritage funding for 2008/2009.***

### NZ Housing Corporation

There was some discussion on the need to change our wording for social and affordable housing, however it was clarified that it is their definition, not Council's. The Chief Executive advised that NZHC is suggesting that Council put its pensioner housing rentals up, because they are too affordable.

***Moved by Councilor Pablecheque, seconded by Councilor Woods, and hereby resolved that the submission be received.***

### Sign Permit Fees

It was discussed that this issue did not need to be dealt with as a submission, and should have been corrected internally.

### Roading NZ

The submission is a request that contractors be operate safe accredited. It was discussed that this is a contractual thing, is this something we want to impose upon our contractors. It was confirmed that the Council Engineer considers contractors are appropriately certified

***Moved by Councilor Pablecheque, seconded by Councilor McChesney, and hereby resolved that the submission be received.***

### Opposition to Scarborough Site for Proposed Community Facility

It was discussed that there appears to be a perception in the community that Council can just put a roof over the existing swimming pool, could we not make the facts known.

There followed discussion that the Library has a door count indicating visitors, perhaps those people could be asked if they drove to the library or walked. Council would like to know how many people use a vehicle to go to the West End. The Chief Executive advised that Council should take care in using that question; a person could be in the town doing other shopping and go to library while they are there.

It was generally agreed that much of the concerns raised in the submissions could be addressed during the consultation process.

***Moved by Councilor Seddon, seconded by Councilor McChesney, and hereby resolved that the five submissions opposing the location be received.***

### Request for Council to Consult the Community on the Combined Community Facility

It was discussed and generally agreed that Council has never said we are not going to consult, we simply don't have all the information and aren't at that stage yet, there is a lot more work to do before we can go out and consult with the community at large.

It was discussed that the reply to these submitters should allay their fears and reassure that there is going to be full consultation. The community wants to know more about it. There was never any doubt that Council would consult, of course we will.

***Moved by Councilor Seddon, seconded by Councilor Macphail, and hereby resolved that Council receive all these submissions and reassure submitters that they will be consulted when Council has all the information to put forward.***

It was further discussed that, regarding the SGL Report, the report has not formally been received by the Council yet. A number of issues were raised in that report that means it is appropriate that we go back to the people who put ideas forward for that report in the first instance, such as the group of people who joined Council in workshops regarding the museum and aquatic centre. The report is from one perspective looking at the feasibility of council facilities; a number of issues contained within the report are confidential and commercially sensitive. Some people who provided input to the report requested confidentiality. When the report is made available many parts of it will have to be omitted. It will never be a case of putting out the report for all and sundry to see.

There was some discussion that there have been public presentations, many of the people submitting have turned up to these, and responded to the A&P show survey. A suggestion was made that open days or presentations could show what progress has been made so far. The steering committee could get a press release together; this could include Mrs Buurman's suggestion of sector group workshops, or viewing evenings.

It was discussed that, beyond the issue of the community facility, Council's consultation process does need to be looked at, including how we use the satisfaction survey. The Chief Executive advised that Council uses the survey to ascertain specific priorities for improving facilities and services, e.g. footpaths, streetlights, toilets have been upgraded as a result of feedback in the survey. He continued that working parties are another useful form of consultation used often and used well.

#### Water Storage

It was discussed that the construction of reservoirs have been identified in the LTCCP, there is currently no provision in this financial year because there is no funding for this project yet, we would need to raise loan if we want to bring it forward. The new ground water source is proving to be of excellent quality and secure supply, we won't have the problems over summer that we used to.

***Moved by Mayor Heays, seconded by Councilor Pablecheque, and hereby resolved that Council receive this submission, and confirm the project is identified in the LTCCP.***

#### Opposition to Harbour Rate

***Moved by Mayor Heays, seconded by Councilor Pablecheque, and hereby resolved that Council receive this submission.***

Increase funding for KITI to \$20,000

***Moved by Councilor Diver, seconded by Councilor Woods, that the status quo remain. The motion was lost.***

Discussion followed that KITI do a marvelous job for council, and has excellent staff, and it was acknowledged that the I-site needs refurbishing, redesigning, and more staff. It was suggested that KITI have opportunity to apply for a share of the tourism funding of \$100,000 per annum, however it was clarified this is for marketing not funding to operate the i-site. The Chief Executive advised those funds are for the implementation of the tourism plan, some of which KITI does, and KITI can apply for funds for projects. However he continued this application is different; KITI needs assistance to redevelop their site. He suggested KITI should identify to council what they want case by case, what it will cost and what the shortfall is, that would be more transparent than just saying give us another \$10,000.

He continued that Council can deal with applications for most things but would need to consider how to fund them, only if it is significant or contrary to LTCCP would we need to go out and consult again. It was discussed that Council has to provide an information centre; they haven't had an increase in funds for many years. They provide a service; if they weren't there Council would have to provide that service, and \$10,000 wouldn't be enough. It was also discussed that KITI was originally set up with the aim of it becoming self-supporting. There followed some discussion on the Tony Blunt submission, which suggested that Hurunui applies a targeted tourism rate to fund its information centres etc.

It was discussed that the Information Centre is looking for recognition, held out there as an excellent example. They are in a good financial position, but if not for Seafest they would be in trouble.

***Moved by Councilor Pablecheque, seconded by Councilor McChesney, and hereby resolved that the grant paid to KITI increase from \$10,000 to \$15,000 per annum, and that if they need funds for specific projects they are to come to Council.***

#### Mayfair Theatre

It was discussed that generally Council is in support of assistance, but it should be noted that the Mayfair haven't done enough to secure funding this year, and missed out on the funding round, and this is a desperate effort now to come back to Council. The theatre needs the money this year or they will be under. It was acknowledged that a series of unfortunate events resulted in missing out on funds; changing of leadership positions, ill health, etc.

The Chief Executive expressed concern that the Mayfair has no business plan. The volunteers are working extremely hard, but where is the organisation going and how is it going to get there. If they got some expertise in to start looking at other options this could be the way forward, and should be where they focus their attention. It was discussed that the theatre is four months away from operating out of deficits. If they were

granted some money, that would carry them over for 6-10 months, then have period of time to fundraise, put a plan in place. Do they know who their customer base is? Can they differentiate between tourists & locals in the people that go there?

A suggestion was put forward that Council could underwrite \$10,000 rather than direct grant funding.

***Moved by Councilor Diver that Council grant the Mayfair Theatre \$5,000, to give them breathing space to apply for funding from the usual sources. Motion lapsed.***

It was discussed that, as a worst case scenario, when the Mayfair runs out of funds they will have to shut the doors; the theatre has to pay for the movies in advance, and don't make any profit out of the movie.

***Moved by Councilor Diver, seconded by Councilor Pablecheque, and hereby resolved that Council grant \$10,000 to the Mayfair Theatre.***

It was also agreed to advise the Mayfair that Council is keen to see a business plan in place, with budgets to operate from. The Chief Executive advised that he would be happy to assist. The Mayfair deserves a commendation for voluntary work, and stressed that it can come back to Council at any time if it is in financial difficulty. Council does not want the Mayfair doors to close.

#### Economic Development Officer

***Moved by Mayor Heays, seconded by Councilor Diver, and hereby resolved that the submission be received.***

It was discussed that employing staff is a management issue, but that a recommendation could come from the Tourism & Development committee.

#### Timing of Draft Annual Plan consultation process

It was generally agreed that management be advised that the process should be done a month earlier in future; there is not enough time for Council to fully consider the required changes.

#### Tony Blunt – Rating System

It was discussed that where a property is one business, one farming operation, there should not be other charges, particularly on bare land. The Chief Executive advised that in the past Council staff have advised some landowners to write to us with their specific issue. In certain circumstances we have made adjustments to other landowner's rates assessments where farms are run as one business. The Local Government Rating Act says adjoining rateable properties must be in the same owner's names to be considered one property.

He continued that the other recommendations are LTCCP issues, and may be affected by the rating inquiry, we welcome the results of that inquiry which are due end of July, the recommendation from that inquiry team will potentially impact on councils rating system.

#### Roading/ Scarborough St footpaths

It was generally agreed that foot access on Scarborough Street is a concern, particularly where the road thins at the bend at the bottom of Lookout Road. A lot of people are walking along Scarborough St to the cemetery and back for exercise. A suggestion was made to gravel the road reserve, or Council could pursue options with Ngai Tahu to go over their land.

***Moved by Mayor Heays, seconded by Councilor McChesney, and hereby resolved that Council begin vigorous investigations into some form of footpath on Scarborough Street, and that signage on existing tracks clearly state access to town centre.***

It was further agreed that a sign stating “Caution – Concealed Exit” be placed on Scarborough Street to prevent cars coming around the corner too fast at the exit from Lookout Road.

#### Freedom Camping Officer, and Parks & Reserves Caretaker

There was vigorous debate as to extent of the freedom camping problem, and that bylaws are in place, the local police can enforce it. It was discussed that, to the Police, freedom camping is not a priority, not what is currently perceived as an issue. It was suggested that at least there are no hoons where people are camping.

It was discussed that the Parks & Reserves person would also be a public relations type person, who could talk to people about the issues. The Chief Executive advised that currently there is not much for that person to do; Council will employ another caretaker in spring. It was generally acknowledged that there will be ongoing pressure, this issue won't go away.

***Moved by Councilor Macphail, seconded by Councilor McChesney, that Council enforce the Traffic Bylaw (which enables Council to move people on).***

Debate followed that this can have just as many negatives as positives, specifically in public relations, welcoming tourists to the district, etc.

It was suggested that Council would only need to do it for one season and wouldn't have to do it again for five years. Council has the bylaw in place, but is not doing anything with it. People can't freedom camp in Nelson, Queenstown, Wanaka, why let them park up here. Also Kaiteriteri National Park, Motueka, people can't freedom camp, yet we let them here.

The Chief Executive advised that the policies in place now are being held up as a best practice model in Wellington.

***Motion withdrawn.***

It was generally agreed that the issue needs more debate.

The Chief Executive advised that Mr McGahan talks about a serious environmental problem in his submission. This submitter has gone through the Tourism & Development committee on numerous occasions. Council is looking at putting in toilets. Employing a warden will not solve any problems. It would be a waste of money to employ somebody to patrol the coastline and move people on.

It was discussed that enforcement is not what we need, education is what we need, and that this could be part of a caretaker's role. The economics of employing somebody to go from Kekerengu to Oaro to enforce a bylaw is impractical. Council would still have no control over Transit reserves, and Transit encourages drivers to stop and sleep if they are tired, for safety reasons. There is an education process to advise campers where they can (or can't) camp.

The Chief Executive asked of Council what was it trying to achieve, is the issue serious degradation to the coast, is it litter or pollution, is it campers not using the local camping grounds, it is still unclear what the primary issue is, apart from it being "freedom campers".

***Moved by Councilor McChesney, seconded by Councilor Macphail, and hereby resolved that a progress report be made to full Council looking at the issue of freedom camping in Kaikoura.***

North Wharf Development

Council acknowledged the concerns regarding the North Wharf cost, and discussed that it is currently going out to tender, then we will find out what the cost will be. Noted.

Council Resource Consent

This was regarding Council not having resource consent to discharge from a sewer system at Seaview. It was recommended that an explanation be put in the letter to the submitter.

Performance Measures and Minor Wording Changes

Several wording changes to performance measures were considered, and rejected. It was agreed to reverse the order of the wording "tourists and residents".

Walkway from Old Wharf to Seal Colony

The submitter is to be advised that the walkway plans will be made public once available.

Increase in Landfill Charges

***Moved by Councilor McChesney, seconded by Councilor Macphail, and hereby resolved that the increased charges be approved.***

Planting of Cliff Faces at Peninsula Walkway

It was discussed that this is DoC land, but that Council could advocate for plantings and fencing to keep sheep out.

Bokashi

It was generally agreed that IWK could investigate as a business venture and promote its use.

Trees on Killarney Street

It was discussed that these trees are already a hazard, can Council do something to have them removed, and the Chief Executive advised Council staff have approached owners over the last few years to no avail. It was suggested Council should go again and this time suggest native plantings.

*There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.55pm.*