

**REPORT OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES MEETING HELD  
WEDNESDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2005 AT 9.00AM IN THE  
MEMORIAL HALL SUPPER ROOM, ESPLANADE,  
KAIKOURA.**

**PRESENT:** Councillor M McChesney, Mayor Heays, Councillors S Thomas, B Woods, M Burdon (Community Development Officer & Strengthening Families Co-ordinator), C Mackenzie (District Nurse).

**IN ATTENDANCE:** L Copping (Executive Officer) M Hislop, L Moffatt (RTL), R Smith (NZ Police), D Wright (St Johns), C Hartley, T Ayson (Kaikoura Star).

**APOLOGIES:** N Doney (Family & Community Services), G Kleiss, M Unahi, C Barton, M Falloon (Kaikoura Hospital).

*Moved by Councillor Thomas seconded by Woods and resolved that apologies be accepted.*

**1. MINUTES ACTION LIST**

**Letter to Politician**

Councillor McChesney advised she would wait till after the elections until writing to the local politician requesting a mandatory driving knowledge test be included on arrival declarations at airports.

**Fluoridation Presentation**

M Burdon advised she had contacted fluoride spokespersons from District Health Board who were eager to come and present to the committee. It was hoped a presentation could be arranged for the November meeting.

Mayor Heays noted all correspondence he had received was from those opposing fluoridation. Councillor McChesney suggested the District Health Board be advised it would be a public forum and if members of the public came to the meeting there would most likely be some debate.

**2. CORRESPONDENCE**

**Office of Hon. Chris Carter**

A letter was received from Hon Chris Carter regarding the Government's Rates Rebate Scheme. Councillor McChesney advised looking at the information provided in the letter it was unclear as to the rebate amount and advised she would follow it up for clarification.

**New Zealand Police**

A letter was received from the Commercial Vehicle Investigation Unit of Rangiora advising they wished to initiate the placement of road safety signs at various locations throughout the Canterbury/Tasman

Police Districts aimed at drivers of heavy motor vehicle and were seeking whether Kaikoura's Road Safety Council organization would facilitate the placement of such signs on State Highway One aimed at truck drivers. Councillor McChesney asked if the committee felt this should go to the full Council. Mayor Heays advised at this stage New Zealand Police were just seeking a response and Council's Road Safety Officer was presently liaising with New Zealand Police.

#### **Te Runanga o Kaikoura Inc**

Included in the agenda was a letter from the Secretary of Te Runanga O Kaikoura Inc in response to a request from the Social Services Committee for a Runanga representative to attend future meetings.

They advised they were unable to provide a Runanga representative to attend morning meetings and requested the committee consider looking at changing their meeting times to after 3.30pm on a Wednesday.

The committee felt morning meetings were best as it would be difficult for those traveling from outside the district to attend meetings at 3.30pm.

### ***3. INFORMATION FOR COMMITTEE***

#### **Gambling Newsletter**

It was noted national Gambling-Free day was held on 1 September. The Community Development Officer advised she would like to ask Internal Affairs for a breakdown of funding for the Kaikoura district. Councillor McChesney endorsed this and requested a report be provided back to the committee regarding this.

#### **Transit NZ Visit**

Included in the agenda was a Corridor Study Summary Record following a recent visit by Transit and Network Safety Coordinators to inspect crash sites.

Mayor Heays advised he had taken part in the site visit which was held over two days and a number of issues were identified such as the lack of signage, inappropriate signage, and poor night signage. It was also noted that a huge proportion of trucks involved in accidents were driven by relief drivers (90%). Driving to the conditions rather than speed was also recognized as a problem.

Kaikoura District Council, along with Environment Canterbury and Education Officers were presently looking at placing billboards on State Highway One. Mayor Heays advised he believed if Council was prepared to put in the posts and obtain resource consents then Transit would take responsibility for supplying and installing the billboards. He advised there appeared to be one prominent trucking firm involved in accidents around the Kaikoura coastline who appeared to have no continuity with their drivers. He advised it would be a very long process which may require the district to take its own initiative on,

further noting Council's Road Safety Officer was working very hard in coordinating the problems.

Councillor Woods advised a lot of thought was required as to how signage would address the problem. She believed if signage did not address the actual issues then it would be a waste of money. M Hislop advised she felt signage around bends was inappropriate as drivers were generally very wide awake when going around the coast compared to long straight roads where they were inclined to get sleepy.

Mayor Heays advised it was important billboard signage stated driving conditions changed dramatically in this area due to the coastline, with follow up messages further down the road.

Councillor Thomas advised he believed final responsibility should lie with the driver and not the trucking company, further noting it was important drivers drove to the conditions of the road and their ability.

#### ***4. MAYOR'S UPDATE***

##### **Children/Youth/Elderly/Education**

Mayor Heays advised the second meeting of the Child/Youth/Elderly and Education working group had been held on 26 August. While attendance had been lower than expected good input had been received from the High School. He advised various references were made to Council's Long Term Council Community Plan and the meeting focused on education and housing. Mayor Heays advised he was eager to establish a list of elderly groups within the district in order to include elderly in future meetings. M Hislop advised there were many elderly groups in the district such as:

- Probus
- Out and About
- Veteran Golf Club
- Church Groups
- Bowling Club
- Croquet Club

##### **Employer's Forum**

A second meeting was held on 24 August. Mayor Heays advised those that attended had issues they wished to air and were very positive. One issue identified was the need for a training system between school and employer, working with Gateway, as employers had advised they would be keener to take on apprentices if they had some kind of training behind them.

#### ***5. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S UPDATE***

**Housing Sub-committee:** Project team meet with HNZC staff on 8<sup>th</sup> Sept to progress social housing application; indications that will be going ahead and task now to work on design brief for both family and

elderly units. I have requested feedback from people on what we think needs to be included, to inform brief –would like back into Council by Sept 26.

**Family Violence Network:** Memorandum of Agreement for Te Rito project signed by local Police, Council, Blenheim Victim Support, Refuge and CYF. Waiting on response from CYF contract funding specialist. This project application included additional hours for a family violence co-ordinator, which would make it a more viable role. Crime Prevention Unit have refunded the Kaikoura family violence network plus a project with Te Tai O Marokura, and are keen to support Kaikoura initiatives. If anyone is keen to help develop a promotional/education resource for local use please contact me.

**Early Childhood/Parenting Project:** Draft application nearly ready to be sent away by Carol Cumpstone

**LTCCP:** Refer Mayor's report. August 26th smaller meeting than July one but some changes recommended to Community Outcomes in LTCCP, especially around education strategy. Kevin and self to work on flowchart to clarify the process and put timeframes around it.

**Youth Council – KHS:** attended my first Youth Council meeting at High School, organized by Carleton Barton and Mr Auswegen. I asked if students would like a forum to discuss their ideas and aspirations for young people so will organize for early next term.

**EVADES:** No meeting since Robin Stanford left, however have asked to meet with Acting Principal about the school's ongoing involvement. Will also support initiatives to bring providers of programmes to Kaikoura so are available here to meet local needs, and/or training for potential local facilitators to provide programmes here, i.e. like RAGE (can support through family violence funding)

**Professional development:** I am attending a Community development conference for local authority workers in New Plymouth Sept 21-23<sup>rd</sup>, And have also started supervision bi-monthly to help keep both the role and myself effective and strategic in terms of community priorities. Am participating in the Te Ara Reo Maori course at Takahanga marae and highly recommend the course and the tutors, interesting and fun for adult learners.

**Information Sharing/Notices**

- 1) Strengthening Families: hours increased by 6 a week from 10 to 16, which should enable a more consistent approach to promotion and service delivery to families. The October facilitator training will be advertised soon and if interested please contact me. Also have a new chair of the local management group, Bruce Pagan. Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> have organised a session for local facilitators plus some input from Nicola Jago (Blenheim C&YF)
- 2) She is an experienced statutory Social Worker, who will regularly visit Kaikoura, spend time in the community and can offer

training; she is also looking for people interested in fostering and will attend either these or community networker meetings.

3) Policy and Criteria for funding: have followed up with some other local authorities to give us some ideas around utilizing Social Services budget and the Mayoral Relief fund, will distribute and suggest we form a small working party to draft our criteria.

4) Community Initiatives Fund –have suggested to Mayor we could look at this to address a long term new project here i.e. around employment/training/mentoring being priority issues for retaining young people locally in employment - it is for “communities to achieve sustainable social development results...which will make a real tangible and measurable difference to their communities”.

5) Psychiatric Services trust have a rural advocate, Elizabeth Henderson who will include Kaikoura in her outreach.

## **6. GENERAL BUSINESS**

Councillor Thomas advised he had been approached by a representers of the band “The Drifters” and was presently negotiating with them regarding holding a concert in the future. Mayor Heays suggested a group or organization could be involved with running this in order to make some money for their organization. Councillor Woods advised the Kaikoura Arts Council were very short of funds and would be the recipient of any profits from the show.

### **Order of St John**

D Wright advised Kaikoura St John was currently experiencing an acute staffing crisis. Weekends were an extra difficult time as St John were down to 13 active volunteers covering 23 volunteer shifts per week. He advised a media release was due to be printed in the Kaikoura Star advising there may be disruptions to Kaikoura St John services and as a result they may not be able to respond as quickly as normal. He advised they had been trying to recruit volunteers for eight months and had gained three.

*There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.22am.*