

**MINUTES OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES MEETING HELD
AT 9.00AM ON WEDNESDAY 7TH MARCH 2007 AT
TAKAHANGA MARAE, KAIKOURA.**

PRESENT: Councillor M McChesney (Chair), Councillor B Woods, J Bolton-Roche (Te Whare Putea), S Frizzell (Disability Sector), R Smith (Kaikoura Police).

IN ATTENDANCE: J Woodgate (Committee Secretary), M Pfeifer (Community Development Officer), M Kennedy (Road Safety Officer), , K Roberts, C Hartley, D Wright (Order of St John), R Te Ua (Family Violence & SEEK Coordinator), G Rae (Work & Income), A Cowdley (Kaikoura Star), M Unahi (CCS), T Hanbury-Webber (KKHS Youth Council).

APOLOGIES: L Craig, Mayor Heays, A Hislop, L Stewart, M Falloon.

Moved by Councillor McChesney, seconded by M Pfeifer and resolved that apologies be accepted.

1. COMMUNITY NETWORKER'S MINUTES

Civil Defence Officer M Kennedy suggested Council's Welfare Officer, S Syme would benefit from attending Community Networker's meetings.

Community Development Officer M Pfeifer advised she had spoke with a Coordinator from ACE with a view to running a voluntary course in literacy in the district. Contact Teri Sonal for trained volunteers.

2. FAMILY VIOLENCE COORDINATOR'S REPORT

The Family Violence Coordinator advised she and the Community Development Officer had recently attended a funding workshop in Blenheim and would like to approach this matter with a project in mind. The community was being surveyed for interesting topics and she suggested possible topics could be either alcohol or drug related.

R Te Ua advised family violence awareness seemed to be getting out into the community, noting there had been more reported incidents than in previous years.

Sergeant R Smith reported there was no difference in the community in terms of youth and alcohol and the problem appeared to be ongoing each year however he noted the new Alcohol Ban Bylaw seemed to have been of benefit to the district.

3. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

Affordable Housing

The committee was advised the affordable housing project was progressing well with Paul Camstrer of The Design Team, Christchurch, being the leading architect.

Review of Gambling Policy

The Community Development Officer advised she had provided a report on gambling within the district to Council as part of the review process where Council had decided to put the existing policy out for public comment.

The Community Development Officer advised the Runanga had agreed that there needed to be some changes to the existing policy and were eager to participate in the review process.

Youth Council

Survey work was being undertaken regarding the Youth Council at the High school, Encounter Kaikoura, Whale Watch and other outlets with the hope of receiving back good information in order to progress the process of reregistering the Youth Council.

Oscar

Transport still appeared to be an issue – the Community Development Officer advised she would check with the Rolfe's Trist Vans at the High School.

CDHB Meeting

The Community Development Officer advised she had recently attended a meeting held by CDHB where approximately 25 people attended. A follow up meeting was expected to take place on 4 April at 1.30pm. It was suggested that reminders be placed in the minutes in order to remind the committee as it was an ideal meeting for Social Services representatives to attend in terms of getting feedback from the community on health issues.

4. ROAD SAFETY OFFICER'S REPORT

The Road Safety Officer advised the ACC Speed Trailer deployed throughout the district had been very successful and had now been returned to Blenheim. The Speed Trailer had been secured for use at the end of the month, including the easter period. He advised ACC were looking at placing a permanent board at Oaro highlighting what the speed was which would be run from a solar panel.

Safety message boards were expected to be erected at two sites by Transit. One by the Caves Restaurant and the other by Mill Road, displaying road conditions and other safety messages.

A&P Show

The recently held A&P Show attracted 368 entries into the Road Safety competition which was down by 60 entries on the previous year.

Request for Pedestrian Crossing

A request was received from K Segrave on behalf of IDEA Services (formerly IHC) for a pedestrian crossing to be placed in Kaikoura. The committee had a brief discussion which led to a general consensus the best place would be opposite the Beach House café. Approximately 600 crossings by pedestrian were required in order for Transit to install a designated pedestrian crossing. A survey had been undertaken near local schools in the past where pedestrian figures had only reached around 30 per day. The Road Safety Officer was asked to explore the possibility of a pedestrian crossing being placed on lower Beach Road.

Moved by Councillor McChesney, seconded by M Kennedy that the Social Services Committee is in agreement that some kind of pedestrian crossing needs to be put in.

5. COMMUNITY LAW MARLBOROUGH

Gordon Strang of Community Law Marlborough advised he had been visiting Kaikoura for 10 years providing free legal information, advice and education. Visits had increased to two visits per month and he was now looking at upgrading the service with a proposal to set up a permanent position based in Kaikoura working out of the Heartlands office one day per week. He advised the additional service would cost an extra \$30,000 plus per year.

G Strang advised the service was looking at providing all training and pay and that it would be trialed for 1 year starting in July 2007.

Community Law did not deal with commercial property type matters and dealt mainly with family related topics such as custody issues, family violence, debt and employment. It is a stepping stone throughout the legal process as well as being able to follow some issues through to the end and worked in closely with the Citizens Advice Bureau. G Strang advised Yvonne Morrison and Jenny Hughey were currently local Citizens Advice Bureau representatives for the Kaikoura community.

A letter of support was requested from the committee. Councillor McChesney advised she would draft a letter advising of the committee's support and forward it to G Strang.

It was noted any newly appointed Community Law representative would be welcome to become part of the Social Services Committee.

6. REPORT ON CLOTH NAPPIES

Included in the agenda was a report from the Environmental Development Officer. She advised nappy sample packs containing 2 cloth nappies had been given to mothers of newborns equating to 35 nappies being given to help mothers throughout the district. She advised

it had been very successful with 60% of those using the samples intending to continue using cloth nappies.

Christchurch City Council had also adopted the same programme which they had got from this Social Services Committee.

Councillor Woods asked whether Kaikoura's low birth rate would effect the programme as Kaikoura only had around 35-45 births per year.

The committee supported entering into a cash back arrangement with cloth nappy providers and suggested that the Environmental Development Officer contact 4 or 5 cloth nappy providers to provide nappies.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

Public Toilet Facilities

Kaikoura Star Reporter, A Crowdeley advised she had received comments that tourists and the general public had been complaining that the condition of the districts public toilets was not acceptable.

Councillor Woods advised this matter had been discussed at a recent Council meeting. She advised the toilets were currently being cleaned twice daily and Council was looking at erecting signage to promote cleanliness.

Closed Circuit Cameras – Town Centre

Sergeant R Smith advised the cameras in the West End toilet facilities in the town centre were not showing up the information required by police and requested the matter be resolved. He advised he had spoken with the Mayor about this matter and that he would be writing a letter to the Council to make sure this matter is followed up.

Kaikoura High School Youth Council

T Hanbury-Webber advised Sarah Smith had recently raised a further 30 trees to be planted. He advised there were approximately 25-30 youth involved in the High School Eco Council and they had recently traveled to Blenheim and Rotorua to speak.

The Committee asked T Hanbury-Webber to take back to the Student Council any queries regarding the use or concerns of party pills.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.35am.