

**MINUTES OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD AT 9.00AM ON WEDNESDAY 2ND MAY
2007 AT TAKAHANGA MARAE, KAIKOURA.**

PRESENT: Councillor M McChesney (Chair), S Frizzell (Disability Representative), L Craig (Public Health Nurse), J Bolton-Roche (Te Whare Putea).

IN ATTENDANCE: L Copping (Committee Secretary), M Pfeifer (Community Development Officer), M Kennedy (Road Safety Officer), R Te Ua (Family Violence & SEEK Coordinator), K Mackenzie (District Nurse), K Roberts, C Hartley (Members of the public), A Cowdley (Kaikoura Star), T Hanbury-Webber, Z Battersby (Kaikoura High School Youth Council), C Cowen (Te Tai Marokura), N Doney (Community & Family Services), M Unahi (CCS).

APOLOGIES: Councillors B Woods & S Thomas, Mayor K Heays, M Falloon, T McCowen, D Wright, G Rae.

Moved by Councillor McChesney, seconded by J Bolton-Roche and resolved that apologies be accepted.

1. MATTERS ARISING FROM REPORT OF 04/04/2007

CDHB

Canterbury District Health Board's current service planning was to provide strategic direction in the development of health services to Kaikoura over the next 10 years and it was expected the report would be completed within the next 6 months.

2. MINUTES ACTION LIST UPDATE

Speed Limits

M Kennedy advised there were a lot of roads in the district with speed limits of 100km per hour, a good example being the road around the back of the camping ground at Goose Bay, and all the roads on the flat area of the district, including Old Beach Road, West End, Deal Street and Moa Road. He advised a meeting with Council's Asset Managers and Connell Wagner was planned to look at some firm suggestions for the setting of speed limits within the district. M Kennedy advised it was under the roading engineers mandate to re-set the speed limits of the district and that there were a lot of roads overall that needed to be identified and looked at.

Councillor McChesney suggested the committee concentrate on Moa Road, Deal Street, West End being re-set at 30km per hour.

Moved by Councillor McChesney, seconded by S Frizzell and resolved that the Social Services Committee put to Council that the speed limits of the following roads be re-set to 30 kilometres per hour:

- *Deal Street*
- *Moa Road circuit*
- *West End (From Library to West End/State Highway intersection).*

The motion was put and carried.

3. COMMUNITY NETWORKERS MINUTES

Housing New Zealand

M Pfeifer advised F Maxwell of Housing New Zealand had given a great presentation following his recent attendance at the Welcome Home Loan seminar in Blenheim. It was noted however that it would still be rather difficult for people on low incomes to purchase properties even with the assistance of the Welcome Home Loan scheme.

Mental Health Worker

It was noted a mental health liaison worker was to be appointed to work with people with mild to moderate mental health needs for approximately 22 hours per week to service the Kaikoura and Cheviot areas.

M Unahi entered the meeting at 9.28am.

Lottery Grants Board

M Pfeifer advised the Lotteries Grants Board had decided to reintroduce the Lottery Community Facilities Fund with a new focus. The fund would make grants to not-for-profit organizations for building projects to construct or improve community facilities. The criteria for funding was the project must have a total cost of over \$30,000 with applications open from April 2007 to 2 July 2007.

4. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

M Pfeifer presented the report.

Gambling Policy

M Pfeifer advised submissions had closed on 27th April with 9 submission received. 6 Submitters wished to be heard in support of their submission and would be heard at the Council meeting of 16 May.

Youth Surveys

219 surveys were returned which was extremely pleasing and a meeting to meet with the school council to discuss the results and next steps to reforming the Kaikoura Youth Council had been arranged.

Crime Prevention Funding

The Community Development Officer advised a lot of time had been spent working on Crime Prevention Unit funding applications.

Physical Activity Strategy

The Community Development Officer asked the committee to write a letter of support for a Kaikoura specific strategy. A Regional Physical strategy had been prepared in 2003 with the aim to get the community active and Council was now applying for funding for a Kaikoura specific strategy. Once the strategy was in place Council would receive funding from SPARC for a person to drive the strategy.

5. FAMILY VIOLENCE COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Funding Applications

The Family Violence Coordinator advised she had been very busy with funding applications and noted a funding application to Family & Community services had returned a positive outcome. The funding would be used to hold three workshops aimed at most age groups in the community, being mothers & babies, youth, elderly and workers. An additional 5 hours for the coordinators role was also secured.

Under Age Drinking

The Family Violence Coordinator advised she was working with people in the community concerning under-age drinking with a view to educating the community and to provide parents and the community tools to deal with this issue. M Kennedy advised of an organization called Students Against Drink Driving (SADD) and noted students from Kaikoura High School had attended a seminar in Christchurch during the term break.

Youth in Parliament

A competition aimed at enticing youth into parliament recently held in the Kaikoura/Marlborough district was won by Kaikoura High School pupil Olivia Hall. O Hall would be the candidate for Colin King. Councillor McChesney offered to write a letter of support to O Hall.

6. TRANSIT RESPONSE TO PEDESTRIAN CROSSING REQUEST

A response from Transit NZ regarding a request from IDEA Services for a pedestrian crossing in Beach Road was included in the agenda. M Kennedy advised Transit were meeting with OPUS today to discuss the crossing. M Kennedy advised if a pedestrian crossing was not put in then a pedestrian refuge in the centre of the road would be good, especially since there were a lot of backpackers in the area.

L Craig suggested if Transit were to undertake a survey they would be best doing it in the summer months rather than wintertime in order to get a true reading.

7. ROAD SAFETY REPORT

M Kennedy tabled national accident statistics and noted the social cost of accidents was still around \$3billion per year.

Speed Trailer

M Kennedy advised he would be returning the speed trailer to Blenheim later in the day. He noted it had been deployed every day since Easter and had had a good effect in slowing down traffic.

Transit were looking at purchasing two electronic speed monitors and possibly placing one at Oaro/Goosebay over the busy Christmas period when there were lots of people there. M Kennedy advised he had received a letter from ACC inviting Council to join them in a partnership in purchasing one and that they would contribute 50% of the cost.

Rural School Buses

A letter was received from Mr K Shaw of Whanganui High School expressing concern of overcrowded rural school buses and the danger of students having to stand. M Kennedy advised it appeared school buses were licensed to carry standing passengers. Mr Shaw was eager to get feedback from other rural districts and encouraged committees such as the Social Services committee to write to Land Transport New Zealand to get the ruling reviewed. It was suggested that M Kennedy check with rural bus drivers as to whether pupils were having to stand. It was suggested a letter of support be written to Whanganui High School from the committee.

Pandemic Roadshow

M Kennedy advised a pandemic roadshow would be coming to Kaikoura on 5/6/7th June and would be displayed in the foyer of the Memorial Hall.

A welfare recruitment evening was held by M Kennedy and Council's welfare officer S Syme on 24th April which attracted a good turnout and the recruitment of volunteers. M Kennedy advised it was essential to have a strong welfare organization to provide welfare services to the community should a civil defence emergency occur.

8. SENIOR NET

Councillor McChesney advised Senior Net was about to fold last September due to a lack of numbers however it had been saved and was now under the auspices of the Social Services Committee. A meeting was held recently and an advertisement in the Kaikoura Star had been placed calling for people. M Unahi suggested perhaps the committee could write a letter to Work & Income asking them to send information out to the community. Councillor McChesney advised she would wait and see the response from the newspaper advertisement. District Nurse, K Mackenzie, advised she would endeavour to advise patients of Senior Net.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

Local Services Mapping

N Doney advised the Local Services Mapping report and Council's Long Term Council Community Plan had identified low incomes for families due to seasonal employment; significant high rentals and house prices; education issues and the lack of a skilled workforce. N Doney advised he was now writing up an action plan that would encompass all of the above and as a result of that, at some stage Council needed to report back on the areas identified.

N Doney advised in preparing an action plan he was associating the issues with the lead agencies responsible for providing the services however at the end of the day there were a lot of things happening in the district but there was no actual reference to it. N Doney suggested the Social Services Committee should receive reports from various organizations such as the High School and Heartlands in order to have more of a handle of what was going on.

N Doney suggested the Social Services Committee become a steering committee for the action plan of the Local Mapping Services Report and

Council's Long term Council Community Plan because it was a Council committee. By becoming a steering committee it could feedback to the Council as a whole with ongoing progress reports. C Cowen advised it would also make the lead agencies more accountable for the services they provided to the district.

The role of the steering committee would be to receive quarterly reports from lead agencies on projects happening in the town, and monitor and review progress.

Education was used as an example by N Doney. He advised a commissioner had been appointed, who was still there; a submission had been put to the Ministry of Education on the development of a new board of Trustees; a new principal had been appointed; a community liaison officer was appointed; the youth council was being redeveloped and the lead in all of this was the commissioner. The idea of having a steering committee would also provide the opportunity to have a document that captured all the projects and things going on in the town, and it would also bring about collaboration between services which would reduce fragmentation and duplication.

N Doney advised he was still working on the report and would be liaising with Council's Community Development Officer, M Pfeifer.

Councillor McChesney advised she was hearing a lot of things she didn't know and noted it had been a long time since the Education Representative had attended a meeting. Councillor McChesney suggested N Doney and M Pfeifer work out who in particular would drive such a steering group and report back at the next meeting on how the delegation of it would work.

Heartland

J Bolton-Roche advised recent statistics has shown Heartlands had experienced a tremendous amount of growth. It was suggested that more advertising be undertaken regarding drivers licensing by Land Transport Safety Authority.

Asked if Kaikoura could get a Citizens Advice Bureau, J Bolton-Roche advised her role was partly to provide a Citizen's Advice Bureau and noted the phone number to call was 909-9292. Although the phone number did not start with "319" it was not a toll call and should **NOT** be dialed with 03 in front of it.

School Links

Toby Hanbury-Webber advised there was a new website called www.school-links.org.nz for pupils and families. It was understood Kaikoura had not yet been set up on the website but once it was it would be a useful tool for students and parents.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.43am.