

**MINUTES OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES MEETING HELD
AT 9.00AM ON WEDNESDAY 5TH MARCH 2008 AT
TAKHANGA MARAE, KAIKOURA.**

PRESENT: Councillor M McChesney (Chair), Mayor K Heays, Councillor B Woods, S Frizzell (Disability Sector), J Bolton-Roche (Te Whare Putea), L Kahu (Te Tai o Marokura), R Allen (Te Runanga o Kaikoura).

IN ATTENDANCE: L Copping (Committee Secretary), M Pfeifer (Community Development Officer), K Mackenzie (District Nurse), D Wright (Order of St John), R Te Ua (Family Violence/Strengthening Families), C Hartley, K Roberts (Members of the public), A Blunt (SEEK), T Dawson (Te Tai o Marokura), S Brady (Royal NZ Foundation for the Blind), M Unahi (CCS), L Vallance (Mental Health).

APOLOGIES: M Falloon, L Craig, T McCowen, D Lamond, M Kennedy.

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

1. MINUTES ACTION LIST UPDATE

Police Housing

Councillor McChesney advised a new officer was due to the district shortly and would be moving into the vacant Police house next to the Police Station. She advised she would like to make it an issue and write to Police to ask if members of the public could rent Police houses when they were empty. R Te Ua advised one of the reasons Kaikoura was losing offices was because some districts offered free accommodation to Police officers. Councillor Woods noted arrangements such as free accommodation fell under individual employment contracts and would be factored into individual salary packages. Councillor Woods felt the committee should be more respectful as she believed it was not up to the committee to tell the Police what to do with their houses.

T Dawson advised the main problem was that Kaikoura was a stepping stone for Police. Generally Police were given two options upon the completion of their training, either south Auckland or Wellington or as part of their elective they could choose a rural posting.

It was decided Councillor McChesney would speak to Sergeant R Smith to see what was more applicable and specific in terms of the Committee supporting local police.

Family Violence Needs Analysis Plan

Included in the agenda was a Family Violence Needs Analysis Plan. R Te Ua advised the plan identified the lack of programmes available in Kaikoura. R Te Ua advised she was looking at holding a women's

empowerment programme in August/September and was also planning programmes for men, with the help of R Jenkins, Stopping Violence facilitator from Blenheim. R Te Ua advised there had been enquiries for anger management classes and further advised she had funding to fund positive mentors.

Clearances from Driveways – Transit

Transit had advised although they did not have a specific parking policy, Land Transport NZ Road Code specifically stated vehicles must not park in front of or closer than 1 meter to a vehicle entrance. Councillor McChesney advised the white lines on the sides of the road were in fact painted right up to the entrances, and asked that this matter be clarified further. It was noted B Stratten of Transit would be attending the April meeting.

2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

Youth Council

A recruitment campaign was about to commence within the High School following the exit of some members due to tertiary education outside of the district. A community fun day was being planned for 31st May to celebrate National Youth Week and World Smokefree Day. It was noted the focus of Youth Week for 2008 was on the importance of relationships for young people.

OSCAR

Funding for this programme was confirmed and the Community Development Officer was now seeking a commitment of numbers prior to advertising the programme. A minimum of 12 children was required.

Kaikoura Education Trust

An Education Trust was being set up for the benefit of Kaikoura residents, to act as a platform or umbrella from which groups and organisation could launch educational projects or offer opportunities for education within the community.

Physical Activity Plan

The Community Development Officer advised the draft document was about to go out for public consultation. She advised a presentation would be give at the April meeting.

Youth Project 2008

Funding was being sought for a large scale Youth Project to be held in 2008. The project would involve running workshops on things such as dance and music utilizing talented people in the community to act as tutors and mentors as there was currently limited access to such things in the community. A series of outcomes would also be worked towards over the year, concluding with a cabaret event. Councillor McChesney advised the Mayfair Theatre were about to purchase a DVD projector and suggested it may be an ideal venue as it also had a stage.

3. FAMILY VIOLENCE REPORT

Children's Day

The Family Violence Coordinator advised she was busy organising a Children's Day event for Saturday 8th March. A free bouncy castle, barbeque and performing arts including hip hop dancers, local talent and egg and spoon races would be held.

A&P Show

A display was set up with the Council tent at the A&P Show. A gentleman had come along and offered free firewood to the needy and a list was being compiled.

Crime Prevention

R Te Ua advised the Community Development Officer would be attending a valuable funding workshop the following week. She advised it would be a worthwhile workshop to attend in terms of Crime Prevention Policy issues and small grants funding.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Included in correspondence was an email from a disabled person who had recently visited Kaikoura, outlining the lack of accessibility throughout the West End for disabled people. A response from Council's Building Control Unit was also included in the agenda.

Disability Sector representative, S Frizzel, advised he was aware of the current inaccessibility throughout the West End and agreed there was little that could be done to overcome it because of the positioning and height of the buildings throughout the West End. He advised difficulty could also be experienced within commercial premise car parks such as New World and Southern Paua. Mayor Heays advised he would check with Council's Planning and Building departments to see if disabled carparking was a requirement within resource consents for areas such as Southern Paua/Kaikoura Surf. J Bolton-Roche suggested the Parking Warden phone number could be given to M Unahi of CCS to give to all of her clients. Mayor Heays suggested shop owners would most likely be more than happy to place slips of paper under windscreens of vehicles advising they were illegally parked in a disabled park.

M Unahi entered the meeting at 9.50am

M Unahi advised she was starting to get a relationship with Council and had requested a meeting some time ago with Councillors and BJ Clark.

5. COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

The Community Development Officer advised outcomes of what well-being meant to everyone on the Committee were included in the agenda as identified at a workshop held in December. The Committee had brainstormed on what it thought were the main issues for Kaikoura and had decided on 4 priority areas for the committee to work on throughout 2008 being Income, Youth, Food Costs and Fuel Costs. The Community Development Officer suggested groups be formed under each of the headings and that everyone become part of one of the identified groups,

meet and brainstorm and report back to the committee each month so that it could work towards making a difference to those areas. The Community Development Officer suggested focusing mainly on food and fuel.

6. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Heays presented his report. He advised Council was currently going through it's Annual Plan and Annual Budget process, working with various staff and workshops to determine spending for the 2008/09 year. The draft document would go out for public consultation which would provide an opportunity for the community to let Council know what it wanted it to do for the coming year.

Kea Crossing

Mayor Heays advised it was great to see the Kea Crossing outside St Josephs Convent School. It was working well and was also being used by Kaikoura High School.

West End Upgrade

Footpath upgrading within the West End was scheduled to be undertaken in the later part of the first half of the year. Councillor Woods noted this project was not funded by general ratepayers as there was a considerable rating differential for commercial business which paid for upgrades such as this within the West End.

School Buses

Mayor Heays advised he had spoken to the local bus company regarding a school bus service from South Bay however it appeared the ruling of providing a school bus inside of a 2.3 distance from schools was unlikely to change. L Kahu advised she and B Pagan of Kaikoura Primary School had looked at this some time ago. They were advised if they went down the 2.3km rule it did not hold enough weight in terms of seeing change however if they targeted it in terms of safety then there was a greater chance. She advised if Council or Transit were not going to make State Highway along the South Bay Racecourse safer then she would approach it from a safety point of view as there was no opportunity for young children to walk to school from South Bay.

Police

Mayor Heays advised it was important for the public to know if they needed to phone for police assistance at night, to phone 111. He advised there was no point ringing the local police station as all calls needed to be lodged via NZ Police internal method using 111.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

Re-usable Nappy Promotion

Councillor Woods asked for an update on the Social Services Committee nappy project. The Community Development Officer advised she would speak with local plunket nurses and provide a report to the May Meeting

Hospital Update

MP, Colin King, had advised he was eager to come to the April Social Services meeting and had suggested Canterbury District Health Board provide an update on the hospital project at the meeting.

L Vallance entered the meeting at 10.32pm

SEEK

A Blunt advised she had received a good response from recent advertising in the Kaikoura Star and had 4 young men on her books eager to enter into apprenticeships for either building or electrical work.

A Blunt advised she had been working on an employers directory which she hoped to have available by mid year and noted employers had been extremely positive and provided help wherever they could.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.41am.