

**MINUTES OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES MEETING HELD
AT 9.00AM ON WEDNESDAY 6TH AUGUST 2008 AT
KAIKOURA MEMORIAL HALL, 34 ESPLANADE,
KAIKOURA.**

PRESENT: Councillor M McChesney (Chair), S Frizzell (Disability Sector), L Kahu (Te Tai o Marokura), R Allen (Te Runanga o Kaikoura)

IN ATTENDANCE: L Copping (Committee Secretary), M Pfeifer (Community Development Officer), M Kennedy (Road Safety Officer), D Wright (Order of St John), R Te Ua (Family Violence/Strengthening Families), A Carter (Hospital Manager), M Kiddle (Midwife), M Hislop, C Hartley, K Roberts, (members of the public), L Hayward, B Earney (Healthcare New Zealand).

APOLOGIES: Mayor K Heays, Councillor B Woods, A Blunt, L Craig, M Unahi, L Vallance.

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

1. HOSPITAL UPDATE

Councillor McChesney requested an update on Kaikoura Hospital from Hospital Manager, A Carter.

A Carter advised the architects were due in Kaikoura today to look at the site prior to preparing concept plans for the new hospital. A committee would then be formed to look at the concept plans. A Carter advised she believed the hospital would be demolished in stages as it was built.

2. MINUTES ACTION LIST UPDATE

Supermarket Price Comparisons

Included in the agenda was a table of food prices from New World Kaikoura, Countdown Blenheim, New World Stanmore Road, Christchurch, and Pak n Save. It was noted New World Kaikoura were on a par with other supermarkets when the coupon was working, however more specialised items such as baby bottles were more expensive than in other centres. The committee agreed this exercise was now completed.

Cloth Nappy Update

The Community Development Officer advised at the July meeting that she was eager for this project to continue and was happy to drive it as she believed it had not been driven to its potential, and noted already interest in the project had picked up. Midwife, M Kiddle, advised flyers were given to new mums on a first visit. It was noted it was also being promoted by the Public Health Nurse and through Te Tai o Marokura.

Moved by Councillor McChesney, seconded by L Kahu and resolved that the Social Services Committee continue the reusable cloth nappy project.

3. RECEIPT OF MINUTES FROM 02/07/2008

Moved by S Frizzel, seconded by D Wright that the minutes of the Social Services Meeting held on 02 July 2008 be received subject to the following amendments:

- 1. Community Expo – date now 16 September*
- 2. Exercise Pandors – date is Friday 29th August.*

4. MIDWIFERY UPDATE

M Kiddle advised to date nothing definite had been received regarding a new birthing unit for Kaikoura. One of the big cruxes was who would look after patients overnight as there were only two midwives. There was also questions surrounding the updating of the existing birthing unit with appropriate new equipment. M Kiddle advised the Canterbury District Health Board were yet to sign off on contracts new equipment for the birthing unit. It was noted there was a strong desire for babies of families that had been in Kaikoura for generations to be born in Kaikoura.

5. COMMUNITY NETOWRKERS MINUTES

It was noted there was currently no Kaikoura coverage from Epilepsy due to a resignation, however D Kerrison of the Brain Injury Association was trying to keep an eye on it until a replacement was appointed.

Demand for food parcels from Heartlands was very high.

6. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

Youth Council

Two Kaikoura High School students had been supported by Council to attend the Youth In Local Government Conference being held in Christchurch in October and upon their return from the conference they would be holding workshops to pass things on to others that they had learnt.

The Youth Council were currently working with Council staff and local developers to create more recreational areas for youth and were currently in discussion regarding a proposed half court.

Youth Skills Project

The Community Development Officer advised she was currently in the process of setting up a governance group, along with an employment contract for a coordinator. It was hoped this project would commence by the start of September.

Vegetable Garden workshop

Ideas and donations were sought for this project. It was hoped two vegetable gardens would be created with workshops centered around them in the hope of educating people to grow their own vegetables.

Liquor Ban

Funding for liquor ban education and signage had been received and as a result three large new signs showing a map of where the ban was had been erected. It was hoped signage would soon be placed in bars and advertising was scheduled to take place in the Kaikoura Star. The Community Development Officer advised she was interested to hear of any other ways on how to get the message out.

Kaikoura Physical Activity Plan

Submissions to the recently advertised draft plan were heard and a second draft would be presented to Council later in the month, for adoption.

Opening of Pensioner Units

The pensioner units were now completed however an official opening was twice postponed due to stormy weather. A new date had not yet been set.

7. FAMILY VIOLENCE OFFICER'S REPORT

A verbal update was provided by R Te Ua.

8. COMPOSTING OF DISPOSABLE NAPPIES

Included in the agenda was a report from District Planner, R Vaughan, on a new initiative that had been successfully trialled in Christchurch. The trial had shown that disposable nappies and incontinence products in the waste stream could be commercially composted, thereby reducing pressure on landfills.

For Kaikoura, it was proposed that a weekly composting system be offered using a bio-degradable bag at a subscription fee. The biodegradable bags would be sold to Council with the cost of the disposal included in the cost of the bag, however as the cost was currently higher than the cost of disposing of a normal black rubbish bag, subsidising the cost was suggested to promote the scheme. Support was sought from the Social Services Committee for this initiative.

Moved by Councillor McChesney, seconded by S Frizzell and resolved that:

- 1) the Social Services Committee receive the information contained in the report;***
- 2) the Social Services Committee give support to the composting nappy initiative;***
- 3) the Social Services Committee instruct staff to seek final costs on the composting nappy initiative.***

9. ROAD SAFETY UPDATE

The Road Safety Officer provided a report advising a new campaign had just commenced with Police, New Zealand Road Transport Association and ACC concerning the speed of traffic on State Highway 1 from Seddon to Cheviot. The campaign also had extensive advertising behind

it and billboards throughout the district had been changed and were targeted at truckies.

The Road Safety Officer sought support from the committee for lowering of the blood alcohol level from the present level of 80mg per 100ml of blood to 50mg per 100ml of blood. He advised there was a lot of trauma and accidents associated with drink driving and noted the social cost for alcohol accidents in 2006 was \$725million and police were adamant lowering the level would reduce trauma dramatically. The committee agreed to further discuss supporting this matter at the September meeting.

10. CIVIL DEFENCE UPDATE

A verbal report on the recent flooding of the district was given by the Civil Defence Officer. He advised Kaikoura had been extremely lucky as a district to get off as lightly as it did, however there had been quite a lot of damage to roads and bridges including a large slip at Oaro. There was extensive damage to Inland Road, within the Hurunui district where the whole mountainside appeared to be moving, and the road was expected to remain closed for at least a further month.

While Kaikoura didn't get the high winds as predicted, it did have the storm surge and at 3am on 31st July waves were breaking across the road on low lying areas, including over top of the wharf.

Rainfall was high with 350mm recorded in the Puhi Puhi valley. An emergency meeting was called at 12.30am on the night of 31st July with the Civil Defence Emergency Manager, Fulton Hogan, Councillors, Environment Canterbury and some Council staff. Conditions were reviewed and it was decided there was no need to declare a civil defence emergency within the district.

The committee felt it may timely for Council to inform the community of its civil defence siren.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.21am.