

**MINUTES OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES MEETING HELD
AT 9.00AM ON WEDNESDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER 2008 AT
TAKAHANGA MARAE, TAKAHANGA TERRACE,
KAIKOURA.**

PRESENT: Mayor Heays (Deputy Chair), Councillor B Woods, S Frizzell (Disability Sector), L Kahu (Te Tai o Marokura), J Bolton-Roche (Te Whare Putea).

IN ATTENDANCE: L Copping (Committee Secretary), M Pfeifer (Community Development Officer), D Wright (Order of St John), K Mackenzie (District Nurse), L Hayward (Healthcare New Zealand), S Brady (Royal Blind Foundation), C Hartley, K Roberts, (members of the public), E Dangerfield (Kaikoura Star).

APOLOGIES: Councillor M McChesney, A Blunt, A Carter, L Vallance, R Te Ua, M Kennedy, L Craig, R Allen, M Kiddle.

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

1. MATTERS ARISING FROM REPORT OF 06/08/2008

K Mackenzie advised she felt it was very important for High School youth to attend meetings and asked that the School be reminded of this.

Liquor Ban Signage

Councillor Woods asked where around the district the new liquor ban signage had been placed. M Pfeifer advised one sign had been placed at the Scarborough/Killarney Street intersection, one on Beach Road by the Lobster Inn Motor Lodge and a third one on the Esplanade. Councillor Woods advised she had heard comments that they had been placed too low and suggested they be placed higher which was noted by the Community Development Officer.

Pensioner Unit Opening

It was noted an official opening of the pensioner units had not taken place to date due to two earlier openings being cancelled due to increment weather. It was hoped the opening would take place by the end of the month.

2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

Kaikoura Youth Skills Project

Interviews for a coordinator were scheduled to take place later in the day as a result of funding being received from the Ministry of Youth Development for youth skill projects. The Community Development Officer advised tutors were being accessed for things such as art, music tuition, dance, graphic design as well as many more.

Community Exp

The Community Expo was scheduled to take place on Tuesday 16th September at Takahanga Marae.

Kaikoura Physical Activity Plan

The Community Development Officer advised Council had adopted the Kaikoura Physical Activity Plan at its meeting of 20th August and that it would be included in all future Council planning.

3. FAMILY VIOLENCE OFFICER'S REPORT

The Family Violence Officer's report was taken as read in the absence of R Te Ua. The Community Development Officer advised the Family Violence position had reduced from 15 to 10 hours per week as adequate funding was not received.

J Bolton-Roche entered the meeting at 9.27am.

4. REQUEST FOR LOWERING OF BLOOD ALCOHOL CONCENTRATION

Included in the agenda was a generic submission form from the Point Zero Group calling for support for the lowering of the legal blood alcohol concentration for driving to 50mg alcohol per 100ml of blood for adult drivers. The current legal level was 80mg of alcohol per 100ml of blood.

Councillor Woods wondered if lowering the level from 80mg to 50mg per 100ml blood would be helpful as those caught were often well over the limit.

Submission forms were requested from individuals at the meeting and three were received to be passed on to the Road Safety Officer.

Moved by S Frizzell, seconded by L Kahu and resolved that the Social Services Committee formulate a submission to the Ministry of Health regarding the lowering of blood alcohol concentration to 50mg per 100ml blood and also to the Draft National Alcohol Action Plan.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Heays provided a verbal update and tabled the Ministry of Social Development 2008 Social Report, the Families Commission Report and Regional Indicators for Nelson, Marlborough & West Coast districts.

CDHB Update

Mayor Heays advised he had received an update from General Manager, G Bateup, and tabled it noting rather disappointedly that it now appeared that the Canterbury District Health Board were putting the Kaikoura Hospital project on hold pending further consideration. Mayor Heays advised he had written to G Bateup asking who Kaikoura could vent its frustrations to and had been advised all correspondence regarding this matter could be addressed to the Chairman of the Board, Mr A James or the Chief Executive Officer, Mr G Davies.

Moved by J Bolton-Roche, seconded by S Frizzell that the Social Services committee write to the appropriate people to vent its frustrations and disappointment to the stalling of the hospital proposal and that they be invited to attend a future meeting to explain the rationale behind the project being put on hold.

Storm Update

Mayor Heays provided an update on the recent flooding. He advised Kaikoura district had generally been very lucky although there had been a lot of damage to the district roads which would be a cost to the ratepayer. Some of the repair works would be subsidised by New Zealand Transport Agency however it would not be fully subsidised. Mayor Heays advised Council's engineers and contractors were doing their best to get things up and running. He commended M Kennedy, the Fire Brigade, Council Staff and Police for their tireless work. L Kahu noted a very bad washout in the Lynton/Kahutara area had seen contractors working relentlessly to get the road open. It was agreed that the Committee write to contractors, police and fire brigade to commend them on their work during the flooding.

Road Safety

Mayor Heays advised the ACC Speed Camera had recently been tossed into the ocean by vandals. Police were busy working on catching the culprits.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

S Brady for the Royal Foundation for the Blind asked for an update on the edges of the library steps being painted and asked the committee to campaign on her behalf to Council. She advised she would also like to see a disability audit undertaken in Kaikoura.

Moved by Councillor Woods, seconded by S Frizzell and resolved that the Social Services Committee notify the Council in general that action be taken on the painting of the Library steps and that an investigation into a town accessibility audit be looked at.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.03am.