



**KAIKOURA
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**SOCIAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE**

AGENDA

7 OCTOBER 2009

Memorial Hall Supper Room

**SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 9.00 AM ON
WEDNESDAY 7 OCTOBER 2009 AT MEMORIAL HALL SUPPER ROOM,
ESPLANADE, KAIKOURA.**

AGENDA

1. *Apologies*
2. *Matters to be raised as General Business*
3. *Matters Arising from Report of 5/8/2009* *page 1*

4. *Minutes Action List*

MEETING	ACTION REQUIRED	BY	DATE ACTIONED
5 August 2009			
	Provide a report on the Trusts related to community funding from Pokie Machines	A Blunt	In progress
	Make a formal request to Council via the monthly agenda regarding a suitable area for an eco-cemetery	Committee Secretary	Completed refer agenda page 17

5. *Community Development Officer's Report* *page 5*
6. *Family Violence Officer's Report* *page 8*
7. *Seek Report* *page 9*
8. *Community Networkers Minutes* *page 10*
9. *Information for Committee*
 - **Natural Burials Report to Council 16/9/2009** *page 17*
 - **Update on Composting Disposable Nappies, Incontinence and Sanitary Products** *page 20*
10. *Correspondence*
 - Outward**
 - **Letter to F Woodham (CDHB)** *page 21*
 - Inward**
 - **Letter from F Woodham (CDHB)** *page 22*
11. *Mayor's Update*
12. *Road Safety Update*
13. *General Business*

Community Development Officer's Report

Report to the Social Services Committee – August/September 2009

Kaikoura Youth Skills Project

1. Andrew has employed 2 people to help with music practice. This is working really well as they are practicing to show case some of their work during the Community Recognition Evening on 28th August, where they will do the entertainment.
2. The Community Recognition Evening went very well and the involved Youth Skills musicians are happy with the result.
3. The Youth Skills project is currently running the local radio station.

Kaikoura Youth Council

- 28th August – Community Recognition Evening – 12 people volunteered to help with this event. They were released from school to help set up the hall. They returned in the afternoon and were busy until the hall was locked up at 11pm. Well done.
- 3rd October – Seafest – 16 people have volunteered to sell water bottles during the entire event.
- 21st November – Inter-Council Sports Event – 10 people have volunteered to help with this event
- 5th December – Kaikoura Village Christmas – 8 people have volunteered to help with this event
- 11 & 12th December – Kaikouraallstars Multi Media Event – 12 people who are not themselves performing have volunteered to help with seating, catering, cheffing, set design, costumes, props and videoing.

The idea for this event is: everyone is working towards a compilation CD, released around the planned multi-media “Cabaret”. The Memorial Hall has been booked, the drama teacher, Merrin Diack, would like to be involved. Over the next few weeks the Youth Council will form sub committees to help with:

1. concepts for the evening
2. script writing
3. set design

Kaikoura Physical Activity Plan

Megan and Kim are running **Kaikoura Sport and Recreation Forum**. ‘Sport Kaikoura’ invites Sport and Recreation clubs and individuals to the ***Kaikoura Sport and Recreation forum***. The forum aims to:

- Present information on ‘Sport Kaikoura’ and what we can do for your club or sport;
- Update the Kaikoura Physical Activity Plan – what’s happening locally?
- Discuss and share information and ideas for sport and recreation in our community;
- Investigate ways to work together to achieve the best results for your club, sport or recreation activity.

When: Tuesday 6th of October, 7- 8.30pm

Where: Memorial Hall – Supper Room, Esplanade, Kaikoura

The Kaikoura Physical Activity Plan can be viewed online:

http://www.kaikoura.govt.nz/docs/Council%20Documents/kaikoura_physical_activity_plan.pdf or

alternatively copies are available at the Kaikoura District Council office. For further information

please contact Kim MacPherson on ptkimmy@xtra.co.nz or Megan Handyside on

megspfeifer@hotmail.com. Alternatively you can phone Susi Haberstock at the Kaikoura District

Council on 319 5026 extn 235

Kaikoura Health Facilities

Felicity Woodham, Carolyn Gullery and David Meats met with Kevin Heays and Stuart Grant to discuss the way forward on the Kaikoura Health Facilities. They are currently looking at the location and there is a movement towards a “green field site” – building from scratch, rather than fitting the building around existing facilities. These partnership discussions revolved around the right community model, the creation of a sustainable health facility.

Family Violence Network and Strengthening Families

The Kaikoura Strengthening Families process is very busy helping families in need. Lois Vallance is currently co-ordinating help for 17 families.

The Family Violence network is working well together. Please see attached Family Violence report for details.

Community Max Project

The Kaikoura District Council is looking for all Not-For Profit organizations to get in touch with Susi at Council if they have a project they need help with. Through the Ministry of Social Development Youth Opportunities Package, money is available under the Community Max scheme to fund youth to work on projects that will benefit the community or the environment. The youth need to be employed for 6 months to qualify for this grant, but that can be in a number of smaller projects, for example:

- 2 weeks admin assistance at each local school (3 months)
- 1 month cleaning up Lyell Creek
- 2 months Hutton Shearwater fencing

By streamlining our projects, we will qualify for all the funding plus supervisor funding. This will enable community projects to be completed and youth to gain valuable skills which will help them with future employment. Please get in touch with Susi by the 28th October 2009 to register your project.

Community Events Calendar - October

Please e-mail all upcoming events to the Community Development officer for monthly updates of the Community Events Calendar. It is becoming well utilized and a valuable resource for both locals and visitors alike to check out what is going on for the month. The calendar is available on line at http://www.kaikoura.govt.nz/special_features/events/

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 2nd | Seafest Big Top Bash – www.seafest.co.nz |
| 3rd | SEAFEST - Have you got your tickets yet? - www.seafest.co.nz |
| 3rd | Saturday Cycling - meet first Saturday of each month at 7.15am at R&R Sports West
End with your mountain bike |
| 7th | Kaikoura District Council - Social Services Committee meeting, 9am Memorial Hall
Supper Room |
| 9th | Seaward Lions meeting |
| 12th | School Term 4 commences
Family Violence meeting, Supper room, Memorial Hall ,10.30am |
| 13th | Community Networkers meeting - an informal networking meeting for service
providers to keep up to date with each others work and collaborate on projects. 12noon,
Memorial Hall supper room. Bring your lunch. |
| 14th | Kaikoura District Council - Tourism and Development Committee meeting, 1pm
Memorial Hall Supper Room. |
| 17th | Kaikoura Schoolyard Market - Kaikoura Primary School 10am to 1pm. phone 3195440
for further information. |
| 17th- 18th | Kaikoura Pro Am, Kaikoura Golf Club, http://www.kaikouragolf.co.nz/golf/events/ |
| 20th | Lions Club of Kaikoura - Dinner Meeting, Kaikoura Bowling Club rooms, Ludstone
Avenue, 6pm. |

24th Kaikoura Schoolyard Market - Kaikoura Primary School 10am to 1pm. phone 3195440
for further information.
Pa Wars-Inter-Marae Challenge. Rugby League & Netball Tournament, Takahanga
Reserve & KK High School Netball Courts.

26th Labour Day

31st Kaikoura Schoolyard Market - Kaikoura Primary School 10am to 1pm. phone 3195440
for further information.

Family Violence Officer's Report

WHAT IS FAMILY VIOLENCE COORDINATOR DOING FOR KAIKOURA?

August /September

Wahine support group has been running for over 2 months. The focus of the group is to support women who have come from abusive families. These meetings are held at McAra house which is supported by The Presbyterian Parish Church. This venue is private and has all the facilities to be warm and comfortable. The group meets fortnightly on a Wednesday from 12 o'clock to 2pm. We have 8 women attending on a regular basis. The group is coming up with lots of wonderful ideas:

- How to make beauty products out of our natural foods e.g. cucumber eye patches
- Rose Petal facial washes
- How to make food go further in these hard economic times, exchanging recipes
- Budgeting is a main topic of discussion
- How to grow a garden, some women have planted their first garden and feel a sense of achievement

It is great to see lots of enthusiasm. Socially this is a great place to meet new people.

Other Community Supports

One of our local Kaikoura backpackers is supporting our group by allowing them to use the spa and pool facilities weekly for a small fee. This allows our women to pamper themselves while having time out. This has really lifted the women's spirits.

Kaikoura Police Sergeant has made enquires how F/V coordinator can support women with local issues. The F/V Coordinator and Jenny Bolton Roche have organised a support *Roster watch* on women who are not coping, but don't need crisis intervention. Colleen Cowan Lee is the other support person whom the Police can contact.

17th and 18th September 09, Police made contact to support a local women who was not coping, but did not need crisis intervention. The F/V coordinator coordinated our first response and it worked well.

Blenheim Women's Refuge, Rachel Black, travels to Kaikoura fortnightly to meet with women who may require support, such as helping women to fill out reports for court.

Te Whare Putea, Jenny Bolton Roche, offers lots of support to our women by making appointments with agencies that travel from out of town who attend Heartlands Centre on a monthly basis, for example and appointment with IRD when they are physically in Kaikoura.

Kaikoura WINZ Case Managers support by making enquires about our Wahine Group.

Next Wahine Meeting

30-9-09 - Marie Normile Social worker for Child Youth and Family will talk about what happens when children are at risk.

It is very important to have a group like this that gives women a place to say what they feel and to feel safe. Helping to set up this new and exciting initiative to support groups such as this, empowering people to make small steps to reach their potential, is a very exciting part of my coordinator's role. I will continue to support the group until they feel confident to run it themselves.

If you know someone who would like to join our Wahine group or speak at one of our meetings please contact Lois Vallance on 03 319 5026 Wednesdays or mobile 0272579535



SEEK Report to the Social Services Committee

There are 20 young people registered with the Youth Transition Service, some of these are actively seeking employment at the moment

There have been some new government initiatives released since the last Social Services Committee meeting including Job Ops which is a scheme which provides a \$5000 subsidy for employing youth aged between 16 and 24 years old. The youth must be unemployed although not necessarily on a benefit. The employer must create a position for them. The employer receives \$3000.00 when the youth starts work and a further \$2000.00 when they have been there for 28 weeks. Information sheets about this subsidy will be available at the meeting. This subsidy has helped me place a number of youth in employment.

The other Youth Employment Package is called Community Max and is a scheme to get youth some skills which make them more employable. Not for profit projects can be undertaken by youth and they must be employed on one or a variety of projects over a six month period and then Work & Income will pay the \$12.50(the minimum wage) per hour subsidy towards their wages. It is hoped that using this scheme some community projects can be undertaken and completed.

We are waiting to hear whether the application for funding for the study regarding the Trade Training Academy has been granted and hopefully this advice will be received by the end of October.

Natural Burials

Background

At the Social Services Committee meeting held on the 5th of August Eco-burials were raised. It was decided at that meeting that a formal request should be made to Council regarding whether there was an area where this could be contemplated in Kaikoura. As a result Council staff was asked to investigate the possibility of providing such a service within the Kaikoura Community.

The report is divided into two sections:

1. Legislative and Planning Issues
2. Location (or lack thereof) of Possible sites

Natural Cemeteries

This section of the report is to consider the possible matters of consideration for operating a natural cemetery within the Kaikoura District. The following are characteristics that distinguish a natural cemetery from a traditional cemetery;

- Embalming is kept at a minimum
- Coffins are designed to quickly compost
- Coffins are buried one meter deep

By having these special characteristics the rate of decomposition is quickened within the earth, thereby producing a more fertile soil. This is in contrast to a traditional method where the body is embalmed, placed in a coffin often made with Medium Density Fiber board (MDF) and plastic handles and buried 2 meters deep.

Natural cemeteries do not use headstones but rather mark the grave with a tree or shrub. Relatives can locate graves using GPS coordinates. While the planting of trees and shrubs does add to the benefits of a natural cemetery, the use of headstones could be seen as more of an aesthetic or personal choice.

The Kaikoura District could benefit from the practice of natural burial even within the traditional aesthetic of the current cemetery. The benefits of natural burial include:

- Enrich the soil from burial
- Reduce the use of embalming chemical which include formaldehyde
- Reduce the possibility of contaminants to ground water and soil from coffins
- Allows locals to bury relatives in a sustainable fashion
- Compatibility with other Council initiatives such as Green Globe and Communities for Climate Protection
- Increase of birdlife within the cemetery area (optional with the plantings of natives)

Natural Cemeteries and requirements under the Resource Management Act

In terms of the Regional Council Rules; resource consent would be required under the *CRC Land and Vegetation Management Plan, Kaikoura* for earthworks with a maximum depth greater than .5m which is a discretionary activity. Resource Consent would also be required for much of Kaikoura under the Rule WQL48 –*Use of Land for a New Cemetery or Extension*.

Any land on an unconfined aquifer, within 50 meters of a stream, or flood plane would need consent. This would include all land within the area known as the Kaikoura flats and does not include the current cemetery on Scarborough Street.

In terms of the Kaikoura District Plan, resource consent would be required in the rural, residential and settlement zones for a commercial activity. Depending on the location of the cemetery (say in relation to water bodies, in a landscape overlay or archaeological area or site) further consents may be required.

As this is a preliminary assessment the need for natural burial may be subject to other requirements depending on the proposed location.

Possible Sites for Natural Burials.

Factors outside planning issues that need to be taken into consideration when choosing a site for natural burials are:

- a. Proximity to potential users
- b. Topography of land

There are three possible avenues when identifying sites to be used as a natural burial site namely:

1. Lands owned by Kaikoura District Council
2. Lands owned by Department of Conservation that has been targeted for the Trees for Travellers project.
3. Other Lands - Individually owned, for example lands owned by a Church Group.

1. Lands Owned By Kaikoura District Council

Lands owned by Kaikoura District Council within the urban area are fairly limited with the only two sites identified from the rating database. No sites were identified within the Kaikoura flats and or within the rural area. The sites identified are:

- Existing cemetery
- Tar depot.

Existing Cemetery

Separate and apart from the plots that have already been created there is approximately 2ha of land available for burials which has to date not been divided into lots. The Draft Natural Burial Policy of Kapiti District Council suggests that at least half a hectare of land is necessary for establishing a feasible forest system.

One of the main advantages of creating a natural burial area within the existing conventional cemetery is that it eliminates the need for any additional resource consent. It would also create a sanctuary within the town for birds and other wild life and create a park setting which could showcase the work of Trees for Travellers whose headquarters is across the road. It would integrate the old cemetery with a new approach so that members of the Kaikoura community who wish to be buried near relatives would have more choice.

This report has not looked at whether the soil at the cemetery would be appropriate for this type of burial. However the recycling center could provide compost for burial.

Tar Depot

This site has been allocated for future development such as a Council Office and indoor sports complex.

2. Lands owned by Department of Conservation

The Department of Conservation owns significant hectares of land within the Kaikoura District. Council would need to work with the Department to ascertain their willingness for the District to use their lands as a Natural Burial Cemetery.

Any partnership gained could be integrated into the whole Trees for Travellers programme where Council currently uses Department of Conservation land for this programme.

3. Other Lands

The possibility exists that there are other sites within the district that could be used for natural burials. In earlier days, most burials were carried out within church yards or within lands owned by churches; the possibility exists that churches within the District may be open to the idea of natural burials and is willing to accommodate this within lands own by the church.

Conclusions

From the above and information at hand it appears that the only site owned by Council that can accommodate natural burials is within the existing cemetery, however the possibility exists where lands owned by others could be used once the relevant planning issues are resolved.

Composting Disposable Nappies, Incontinence and Sanitary Products

The Nappy Disposal service is now operational in Kaikoura with nappy bags being sold at the Council. The nappy bags are then taken to Innovative Waste Kaikoura for disposal, with a collection available only to preschools. Innovative Waste then arranges to transport the bags of nappies to the composting facility. The first delivery to the facility occurred during the week of 14th September.

Around 20 households have taken up the initiative, in addition there seems to be some casual users of the service. Over 30 packs of (13) bags have been sold. There seems to be a mix of elderly persons and young families using the service.

As casual users seem to be tourists purchasing bags for the duration of their stay. Some promotion around short stay tourists may be required with accommodation providers. There is also promotion around Plunket being undertaken.