

**REPORT OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD AT 9.00AM ON WEDNESDAY 2 JUNE
2010 AT MEMORIAL HALL SUPPER ROOM,
ESPLANADE, KAIKOURA.**

PRESENT: Councillor M McChesney (Chair), Mayor K Heays, Councillor B Woods, L Craig, S Frizzell.

IN ATTENDANCE: S Syme (Committee Secretary), M Handyside, S Haberstock (Community Development Officers), K Roberts, M Mansbridge (Members of the Public), L Vallance (Strengthening Families / Family Violence Coordinator), L Sligo (Kaikoura Star), A Blunt (SEEK), M Unahi (CCS Disability Action), C Davis (Kaikoura High School).

APOLOGIES: D Wright

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

1. GENERAL BUSINESS

This was the final Social Services meeting for Councillor McChesney who had resigned to undertake mission work in Tanzania. Councillor McChesney had invited M Mansbridge to attend the meeting, M Mansbridge had been involved with the first Social Services Committee.

M Mansbridge advised she had started the Social Services Committee in her first Council term with the support of Danny Smith who was Mayor at the time. She advised at that time there were no hearing services, mental health services and no full time dentist in Kaikoura. She began the fight for Heartlands and got Strengthening Families and Safer Community Council in Kaikoura. She advised any trial for any social service was trialed here in Kaikoura and towards the end of her term the Ministry of Social Development was formed. She further advised with the help of Te Tai o Marokura and Te Whare Putea Heartlands came to Kaikoura.

2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

Youth in Local Government Conference

The Community Development Officer advised three youth had attended the Youth in Local Government Conference in Porirua from the 7th -9th of April. This had been a great success. Following the conference the youth who attended spent three hours writing down all the things they wished to achieve with Youth Council. They had since shared a lot of information with other youth and from that Youth Council had wanted to become more involved with Council committees.

Youth Week

Youth Week was from 24-30 May and this year Youth Council had been intent on engaging youth of all ages during the week. Activities with Barnardos were held on Monday 24th. Activities planned with the Primary School on Wednesday had to be cancelled due to bad weather. The Community Development Officer advised the dance which was held on the Friday night had been disappointing for a number of reasons.

Youth Forum and Event Training

The Community Development Officer advised Youth Forum and Event Training would commence the following Friday. This was funded by a \$5,000 grant received from the Ministry of Youth Development. The forum would be held at the Mayfair Theatre. The event would see a youth forum in the morning with discussions around issues for youth in Kaikoura. The afternoon would see representatives of the Seaward Lions of Kaikoura and the Seafest Committee providing event training. Approximately 40 youth had registered for the event.

Sport Kaikoura

The Community Development Officer, M Handyside, advised she had resigned from her position at Sport Kaikoura however she would still be involved with this through her role at Council.

Ministry of Youth Development

Mayor Heays advised he had attended a meeting with representatives of the Ministry of Youth Development. He advised they had been very impressed with the Youth Council and what Kaikoura was achieving with Youth.

3. FAMILY VIOLENCE OFFICER'S REPORT

The Family Violence Officer in conjunction with M Unahi had organised for a crisis intervention for suicide workshop to be held in Kaikoura on 15 June. M Unahi advised in 1996 Kaikoura had the highest suicide rate in New Zealand. The workshop would look at recognizing the triggers for suicide.

Women's Refuge had run their 'Steps to Freedom' course in Kaikoura for the first time. Ten women had attended the course because the course had been so successful Women's Refuge was looking at running a second course.

M Unahi advised she had attended the Whanau Ora roadshow. The concept of Whanau Ora was to encourage families to become more self managing and take responsibility for their own development and was available to all families in need. The governance group was made up of Ngati Hine Health Trust, Ministry of Social Development and the District Health Board.

The Community Development Officer advised the three year Family Violence contract would expire in June. R Aspinall, Family and

Community Services, had advised the contract would be renewed for a further three years.

4. SEEK

A Blunt advised she had also attended the Youth in Local Government Conference. She advised it had been good to network with other providers and noted they had a lot more funding from outside agencies when compared with Kaikoura. She further advised in other regions youth were sent to career services to create their curriculum vitas and learn interview skills and techniques whereas A Blunt provided these services in Kaikoura. A Blunt advised once the careers expo had been run she would investigate running programmes in Kaikoura which had been run in other centres including 'Attitudes to Alcohol'.

A Blunt advised Job Ops had been well utilised in Kaikoura. The programme provided a \$5,000 subsidy for employers and a number of youth employed under this scheme had continued on with the employer in an apprenticeship role. She advised those undertaking an apprenticeship could apply for a grant to fund polytechnic fees and / or tools or travel money. All funding applications to date had been approved. The Community Development Officer advised if any apprentices required help with numeracy and literacy free help was available on a Wednesday evening.

Literacy tutor training was currently taking place in Kaikoura with eight people attending the course. At the end of the course participants would be NZQA qualified tutors. The training was being provided free on the condition that tutors donated 20 hours of their time once qualified.

5. COMMUNITY NETWORKERS MINUTES

The Community Development Officer advised the Department of Internal Affairs had presented on lotteries and COGS funding. On the 16th of June they would be taking appointments to work through applications with individuals. It was noted they seen very few applications from the Kaikoura District.

Donna Swift was conducting a two year research project on the use of violent and anti-social behaviour in girls and was intending to present to the community. The project focused on girls between the ages of 13 and 17 and Kaikoura would be apart of the study. The aim was to develop effective prevention and intervention strategies.

L Craig had attended a workshop on sexual offending and she would be making a presentation to the community networkers meeting and would also present to the Social Services Committee. L Craig advised 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys were sexually abused. Councillor Woods enquired what avenues there were for people who were concerned about someone. L Craig suggested talking to the person, CYFS, school councillors or the Police. Councillor Woods felt the country was not moving very fast when it came to child abuse. A Blunt advised it was difficult to get parents into education as they had to want to be involved. A Blunt

advised there were some good programmes currently being run in Christchurch that could be investigated for Kaikoura.

6. MINUTES ACTION LIST UPDATE

Significance Policy and the Library Building

K Roberts advised she was afraid the Library building could be sold without asking for comment from the community again. She advised however with the possibility of the museum being included in the Library building then she believed it could be more secure. She advised there was nothing in the Significance Policy that would prevent the Library building from being included in it. Councillor Woods advised the library collection should be housed in the best place possible and there could be some place better than the current building and the book collection was always going to be protected as an asset. Mayor Heays advised Council was legislatively bound to provide a Library but not the bricks and mortar.

7. MAYOR'S UPDATE

Kaikoura Health Facilities

Mayor Heays advised a community liaison group had been talking with the Canterbury District Health Board (CDHB). A floor plan had been worked out by the current facility users in conjunction with the CDHB. This floor plan would be put to scale and various sites would be tried to see how it would fit. The liaison group was concentrating on seeing if it would fit on the current site. Mayor Heays advised new health facilities were the Canterbury District Health Boards business and the final decision would be made by them.

ENSOC Undie 500 Charity Drive

Mayor Heays advised he had been involved in a number of radio and television appearances. Council's stance was that it would not, not give the opportunity for people to give presentations to Council. He advised there had been issues with the media and it had become a frenzy. He further advised if the event was to be held here then they would have to meet consent requirements.

8. RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE APPEAL

Councillor McChesney advised she had heard 1 in 3 people will get cancer. L Craig advised there were a number of families in Kaikoura who used Ronald McDonald House. Mayor Heays advised the house was for rural families and M Unahi advised the house was not just for cancer patients. The Community Development Officer suggested money be donated to the community food bank as she was aware there was a desperate need in the community currently.

Councillor McChesney advised funding was received each year from University Medical Students who visited Kaikoura and \$500 was paid to Council for organising and coordinating the visit. This money was available to Social Services to allocate. Councillor McChesney suggested \$500 be donated to Ronald McDonald House.

Councillor Woods suggested \$200 be donated to Ronald McDonald house and \$200 to the food bank. She felt if the whole \$500 was allocated when an emergency arrived there would be nothing left. Mayor Heays suggested a request should be required before funding was given as it was public money.

Moved by Councillor Woods, seconded by L Craig and resolved that \$200 be donated to Ronald McDonald House and \$200 to the food bank on receipt of an application for support.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

Mayor Heays advised Councillor McChesney had been a delight to have on Council and wished Councillor McChesney good luck for future endeavours.

Councillor McChesney advised over the years there had been issues and heated debates and some interesting topics. She said some times you won and sometimes you lost and recommended any body who had a desire to run for Council should investigate doing so.

Councillor McChesney advised she would leave Kaikoura on the 25th of June, following training at St Andrews Hall for cross cultural mission she would be heading to Dodoma, Tanzania. She advised she was looking forward to making a difference in people lives.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.45am