

**REPORT OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD AT 9.11AM ON WEDNESDAY 6 JULY
2011 AT TAKAHANGA MARAE, TAKAHANGA
TERRACE, KAIKOURA.**

PRESENT: Councillor D Morgan (Chair), Councillor S Burrows, Mayor Gray.

IN ATTENDANCE: S Syme (Committee Secretary), S Haberstock (Community Development Officer), L Vallance (Strengthening Families Coordinator), A Blunt (Seek), K Roberts (Member of the Public), E Dangerfield (Kaikoura Star) D Clark (District Emergency Management Officer), M Unahi (CCS Disability Action), L Kahu (Te Tai o Marokura).

APOLOGIES: S Frizzell, D Wright, K Mackenzie, M Ryan

Moved by Councillor Burrows, seconded by Mayor Gray and resolved that apologies be accepted.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES 01/06/2011

Moved by Councillor Burrows, seconded by Mayor Gray and resolved that the report of the Social Service meeting held on 1 June 2011 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

2. MINUTES ACTION LIST UPDATE

MMSI was the Methodist Mission Christchurch and they were a social services agency. The Strengthening Families Coordinator had ordered a tool kit and she would present this to the Committee once it had been received.

3. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

Kaikoura Dance Project

An application had been made to the Youth Development Partnership Programme. The Ministry of Youth Development had approved funding of \$10,000 for the period 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012.

Youth Fund

The Youth Council had held the last of their youth forums on the 29th of June 2011. Thirteen users of the hall plus Youth Council had attended the meeting. All parties had taken away a draft memorandum of understanding to peruse and comment on. A draft plan for usage of the hall had also been discussed. An application would be made for funding to improve the building.

Moved by Mayor Gray, seconded by Councillor Burrows and resolved that the Community Development Officer's report be received.

4. STRENGTHENING FAMILIES / TE RITO COORDINATOR'S REPORT

The Strengthening Families Coordinator advised this would be her last Te Rito report. The contract for Te Rito promotions had concluded on 30 June 2011.

The Men's Shed was progressing well with signage nearly completed. A local electrician had volunteered to wire the building and P Fey had also volunteered to help with building work.

The Community Development Officer advised no one could be employed or undertake any family violence work until there was a new contract in place. A verbal date of 1 September for the start of the contract had been advised. It was noted the role had previously been promotions where as the new role would be case management. It was noted Women's Refuge was in Kaikoura every Tuesday.

5. SEEK REPORT

A Blunt advised the Career Expo had been successful with good appraisals received regarding youth behaviour and manners. She was hopeful the Kaikoura High School would run the Careers Expo in the future. It was noted the Youth Council had done a wonderful job of hosting the event and a number of providers had commented the Expo had been one of the best they had attended. A Blunt advised research had shown most youth would make a decision regarding their future career around school year seven or eight.

A Blunt advised there were two new job subsidies which were both centered on the Job Opps scheme. One scheme had six months funding and a training programme was required to be included. This meant at the end of six months if the employer was terminating the employment the employee had some skills which could be used in the future. The scheme was for 16 to 24 year olds.

A Blunt advised she had put together a package for a youth skills programme which would provide youth with the skills employers have advised they would like in prospective employees. She advised if funding was received from COGS it would be a great opportunity for youth.

A Blunt advised trade training had been moved into the high school arena. An application to become part of the pilot scheme had previously been unsuccessful however the trial had been successful and would be launched in schools around the country.

Moved by Councillor Morgan, seconded by Mayor Gray and resolved that the Seek Report be received.

6. CEMETERY / NATURAL BURIALS

The Social Services Committee had previously recommended to Council that they investigate the future life of the cemetery and investigate if

there was an area available for natural burials. A survey of the cemetery had been undertaken by Gilbert Haymes and Associates.

The survey showed there was approximately 940m² remaining in the RSA section. There was 7345m² available next to the existing Catholic section and based on the majority of burials taking place in the last 20 years the area would last approximately 37 years. There was approximately 5070m² of sloping land which was not suitable for standard burials. It was uncertain if this area would be adequate for natural burials.

K Roberts suggested if the sloping area was not suitable for natural burials that a part of the area near the Catholic section could be used for this purpose. Councillor Morgan would obtain general information about natural burials and information would be obtained from the District Planner regarding designation of an area for natural burials.

7. CIVIL DEFENCE AND RURAL FIRE UPDATE

The District Emergency Management Officer advised he had updated the Civil Defence Plan and it was currently in draft form. The Plan would need to be approved by the Canterbury Civil Defence Emergency Management Group.

The District Emergency Management Officer advised he had been successful with a bid for a radio system which would connect the communities within the district. The radios had been purchased and required installation. The main radio would be located in the fire shed which is currently being erected at the Tar Depot. It was anticipated the shed would be completed by the end of July.

L Kahu enquired whether there could be an e-text system for notifying people of civil defence information. She noted in other centres people could register on line to receive e-texts. The District Emergency Management Officer advised Civil Defence Wardens within the district were currently on the e-text system. He advised he was reluctant for an e-text service for the general public as he did not want people becoming reliant on the system. The District Emergency Management Officer advised he would however investigate e-text further. Councillor Burrows advised he would hate to see people drown because they were waiting for a text message.

The District Emergency Management Officer advised he had made an application for new rural fire equipment and the outcome of the application should be known by August. However he had been advised there had been a funding cut of \$198,000 for the top of the South Island.

8. COMMUNITY NETWORKERS MINUTES

Councillor Morgan suggested an Expo to encourage people to come to Kaikoura and provide information. She noted some families who had moved here from Christchurch were struggling. She felt there may be an opportunity to work in with the real estate agents regarding how many

sections and businesses were for sale. Councillor Burrows noted there were a lot of people in Christchurch who were in the red zone that did not need a job they just wanted a new town. He felt Kaikoura could attract the 55 plus age group who were looking to retire.

Mayor Gray noted there were a lot of properties which were available in Kaikoura being listed on Trade Me. Councillor Burrows felt a coordinated list of Kaikoura services was a good idea and could be part of the 'welcome pack'. Councillor Morgan advised she had talked to D Lewis regarding an information guide for the packs and she advised a lot of information from the Council website would also be included. Mayor Gray suggested recycled bags be used for the packs.

9. INWARDS CORRESPONDENCE

A request had been received from St John for donations to be put toward equipment. It was generally felt it would be helpful to know if funds would be retained in Kaikoura. Councillor Morgan felt it would be beneficial to know what equipment was needed locally. It was generally felt a donation to the regional fund was not the right approach.

It was noted the Social Services Committee received \$500 each year through a donation from third year Otago University Medical Students. M Unahi advised she was concerned the agencies who hosted the students did not have a say in how the money was allocated.

Alzheimers Canterbury had requested a weekend package in Kaikoura be donated for an auction to raise money for the charity. The Tourism Officer had forwarded the request to accommodation and activity providers within Kaikoura and had asked them to respond directly to the organizers if they were able to assist.

10. MAYOR'S UPDATE

Mayor Gray advised he had attended the longest day which was the last day of the Cactus programme. The programme had been run in Kaikoura over the previous eight weeks. Mayor Gray felt it had been a great programme for the community. He advised 125 people had attended the evening meal and food had been donated by organisations in the community. Four students had won an Outward Bound course.

Mayor Gray advised a Rugby World Cup Committee had been set up following discussion through the Tourism and Development Committee. He advised the group would be undertaking projects around Kaikoura. The first project was bus shelters in the West End.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.39am.