
REPORT 9
(1215/12/IM)

REPORTS BACK FROM COMMITTEES/PORTFOLIO RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Purpose of Report

To provide the Community Board members with a reporting back facility regarding their portfolio responsibilities and other activities they have been involved with as a member of the Tawa Community Board. A copy of activities covered by the Chair of the Board is attached as appendix 1.

2. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Tawa Community Board:

- 1. Receive the information.*

CHAIR'S REPORT covering September 2012 MATTERS ON THE GO

I gave a speech at the Tawa Union Church Men's Group recently. In that I stated there are three main issues the community board is working on right now:

Firstly, the Earthquake Preparedness meeting on Wednesday 3 October. I have been cooperating with the community centre in terms of publicising the event – with the usual three billboards in place (at both ends of the Main Road and in Takapu Road), posters in shop windows and promotion in the community eNewsletter, also in school and church newsletters, local rags and in yesterday's 'Capital Day' page in the DomPost.

Secondly, the question of amalgamation. The board supported the public meeting at the Tawa Union Church led by Regional Review panellist Sue Driver. Around 25 people were there, and a useful discussion took place. Four members of the board attended that meeting.

The community board has subsequently forwarded a submission – led by Robert – suggesting that more shared services and greater collaboration between councils is the way to go, without the need for full amalgamation which would mean “swallowing up” local communities with the loss of their specific identities.

The third issue we're currently dealing with is the re-build of Tawa Railway Station. Ngaire and I have been working with the Tawa Historical Society and the GWRC in regard to the artwork to be incorporated on 16 panels on the new structure. We've had a few meetings already, with more to go.

There is a fourth issue currently on the go, but mostly being driven by Chris and Justin. That is the hanging baskets which are to be installed outside the shops on the Main Road between Drummond's Pharmacy and the Library.

TWO BIG COMMUNITY EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER

Spring into Tawa Market Day

This took place on Saturday morning, 8th September, with 64 stalls booked. Despite 'inclement' weather the event was an undoubted success, involving many community groups and with significant crowds turning up on the day. It was organised primarily by the chair of the board and, to a lesser extent, Cr Ngaire Best. The community board had its own relatively low-key stand, enabling Margaret Lucas to liaise directly with a number of members of the public.

APPENDIX 1

“Tawa Goes to Town” (Tawa Music Festival)

Involving around 700 participants (including school children from eight local schools) and an audience of almost 1650, this has to be Tawa’s biggest community gathering of any sort. The event took place on the evening of Tuesday, 18th September, at the Michael Fowler Centre and was a huge success. I was part of the organising committee and responsible for the publicity.

OTHER MATTERS

One issue that has been raised recently is whether there is likely to be a pedestrian crossing from the vicinity of the Takapu Road station carpark, across the busy road to allow people access to the new supermarket currently being constructed at Takapu Island. The short answer seems to be ‘no’. The road at that point is apparently part of the NZ Transport Authority roading system (part of the State highway system). The NZTA does not want to encourage pedestrian access to Takapu Island due to its close proximity to the motorway off-ramp. Community board members have been or are likely to be invited to:
The opening of the New World supermarket on Monday evening, 8th October.

The opening by the Mayor on Saturday 27th October of the yet-to-be-constructed pedestrian access across the railway tracks behind Tawa Pool. This forms part of the Tawa Shared Pathway.

The re-opening by the Mayor of Tawa Pool on Saturday 17th November.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER

- 03.09.12 Brief meeting with coordinator of Johnsonville Community Centre
- 05.09.12 Regional Review public meeting at Tawa Union Church (mentioned earlier)
- 08.09.12 Spring into Tawa Market Day
- 10.09.12 Wellington Airport Regional Community Awards ceremony in Council chambers. Graeme and Robert also there.
- 11.09.12 Meeting of Zone 4 community board representatives with Minister of Local Government, David Carter, in Katrina Shanks’ office in parliament buildings. Good interaction with the Minister regarding the amalgamation question. Also taking part were Katrina Shanks MP and new Local Government New Zealand chief executive, Malcolm Alexander. Robert was there too.
- 12.09.12 Meeting to discuss artwork to be incorporated into Tawa Railway Station. Ngaire also there.
- 13.09.12 Tawa Community Board monthly meeting
- 16.09.12 Meeting of Tawa Shared Walkway judging panel to choose new name for pathway. Three other board members also involved.
- 18.09.12 Tawa Music Festival
- 21.09.12 Morning tea at Pregnancy Help headquarters in Tawa. Graeme also there.

APPENDIX 1

- 25.09.12 Local Government Reform hui in Petone, most of afternoon – involved Sir Geoffrey Palmer and Sue Driver from the Regional Review panel, eight local mayors, various local body councillors including GWRC councillors, and other assorted bods. Went with Graeme and Robert.
- 26.09.12 Separate meetings with two local business people to discuss community matters
- 27.09.12 Spoke at Tawa Union Church Men's Group. Robert also there.

Two community eNewsletters were sent out in September, and printed versions made available at the temporary store and the Library. There is a steady stream of community news items coming through for this, which necessitates publishing it twice a month.

Malcolm Sparrow
Chair, Tawa Community Board
4 September 2012