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REPORT 12  
(1215/12/IM)

## **REPORTS BACK FROM COMMITTEES/PORTFOLIO RESPONSIBILITIES**

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### **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 - 3 August 2011

Projects undertaken or meetings attended by the Tawa Community Board Chair In the two months since our 9 June meeting:

### TAWA PRIMARY SCHOOLS' CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

I visited the three principals I hadn't already seen, to go over the details of how these awards will actually work. I subsequently addressed the Year 5 & 6 kids (or Year 7 & 8s where applicable) in each of the six primary schools in Tawa, plus the Intermediate, telling the students about the actual awards and encouraging them to strive for them. The concept went across well (I think!). The awards ceremony will take place at the Tawa Community Centre (Area 1) on Wednesday 30 November at 6.30pm. The Mayor has agreed to hand out the awards.

### MORNING TEA FOR VOLUNTEERS

Katrina Shanks, National list MP for Ohariu-Belmont, hosted a morning tea in Volunteers Awareness Week (late June) to thank those involved in voluntary and similar work in the northern suburbs. I attended this along with at least three others from the Tawa community, two of those being from the Police Base.

### PORIRUA CIVIC AWARDS CEREMONY

I was invited to this occasion at Pataka Museum and went along with a view to seeing how they run their awards ceremony and what tips I might be able to pick up. The main difference is that they had selected just four volunteers to receive awards, and four in paid roles who perform "beyond the call of duty" (doing somewhat more than what they're paid for), e.g. the head of the Music Department at Aotea College. Quite a lot was said about each recipient, and the recipient in turn spoke a few words.

The supper which followed was a good opportunity to meet a few new people.

### PORIRUA MAYORAL FORUM

This meeting was an opportunity to hear six different speakers expressing their views about "the future governance of the Wellington region", in other words whether they see some form of amalgamation of the various councils taking place and, if so, involving what format. I attended the meeting with Robert Tredger. The "favoured option" appears to be Option 4 (see Pricewaterhouse Coopers report at [www.pcc.govt.nz](http://www.pcc.govt.nz)), "Two tier local government".

Some of the powers-that-be are wanting to take the bull by the horns and instigate changes to the current setup that benefit our region as a whole (assuming there can be consensus), without having such changes foisted upon them by the Government. There seems to be general agreement that there is going to be some change in the future, whether we like it or not. One example was the ridiculous situation of six or seven local bodies each having their own dog licensing rules or different food safety standards. These at least could be brought under one umbrella.

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND ZONE 4 MEETING

This was a three-quarter day meeting attended by Graeme Hansen and me, along with various councillors, a few mayors, and a number of community board members. The main topic addressed in the morning was the lessons we can learn from the Christchurch earthquake(s). John Hamilton, NZ Director of Civil Defence spoke first. He commented that, for a variety of reasons, when the "big one" hits Wellington, the result will be much worse for us than in

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Christchurch. There was huge reluctance in Christchurch to use community boards as a conduit between the community and response teams. In his opinion, “we need to find a way to do it better” [than that]. Wellington’s level of preparedness is still too low. He added that firm and focused leadership is essential [in a disaster situation]. What I took from his message was that

the Tawa Community Board can be involved in “street coordination” in Tawa. We can work with both Neighbourhood Support and Civil Defence in this regard. We need to coordinate with the Civil Defence team. However when we broached this subject with WEMO at morning tea time, we were given what

was effectively a brushoff. Nevertheless there is still a lot that the TCB can be doing in regard to Neighbourhood Support and hammering home Civil Defence’s “being prepared” message in Tawa.

Dr Ian Dawe, Senior Hazard Analyst, Greater Wellington presented statistics on the force of the various quakes in Christchurch.

The afternoon session was mainly for community board members where we reported what was happening in our own areas. One aspect I recall was the Wainuiomata Community Board chair relating how once a month his board have a “stall” in their central shopping area which helps raise their profile and provides a simple opportunity to connect with members of their community.

## **TAWA HISTORICAL SOCIETY’S BOOK LAUNCH**

Graeme Hansen, Robert Tredger and I were part of the 40 or so crowd at the launch of the THS’s latest book, “Arthur Carman’s Suitcase”. Kerry Prendergast gave a short speech. I did too, mainly covering the role that Arthur Carman played as a member of the Tawa Borough Council, on which he served seven terms, a total of 21 years. Further speeches followed.

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT HALF-DAY CONFERENCE**

I joined Jim Higgins, Tawa’s Neighbourhood Support coordinator, at this session. There were nine uniformed police officers and ten civilians taking part, from as far afield as Kapiti, Newtown and Masterton. I became aware of the different “levels” of neighbourhood support that do operate. On the one hand, a rather sociable group in Papakowhai meets together on a monthly basis. On the other, some neighbourhoods are content with no more than a printed list of their immediate neighbours, 10 to 15 or so. That may be for no other reason than there isn’t anyone in their midst prepared to organise the occasional get-together. But as there are various “options” available, it’s better to have something going than nothing at all.

## **TAWA PROGRESSIVE & RATEPAYERS’ ASSN MEETING**

A monthly meeting which both Ngaire and I endeavour to get to most of the time. I was there for July’s Ratepayers’ meeting but not June’s.

## **TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD INFORMAL GET-TOGETHER**

Most of the team took part in this informal discussion.

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## **PETER DUNNE MEETING**

Graeme Hansen and I met with Peter Dunne for a hour, mostly on the topic of Civil Defence and emergency preparedness in Tawa. We expressed our concern over Civil Defence's lack of interest in working with the community board in Tawa.

## **POLICE VOLUNTEERS' WELCOME TO NEW COMMUNITY CONSTABLE**

I joined the Tawa Police Volunteers at a morning tea/meeting to welcome Sarah Riddering to her new posting.

## **TCB COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING**

This involved Margaret Lucas, Robert Tredger, Alistair Sutton and me.

## **TAWA COMMUNITY POT LUCK MEAL**

Graeme Hansen and I represented the community board at this occasion. There was a very small number of people present. I believe there is potential for an event like this to be successful in terms of numbers and in fostering community cohesion/togetherness, and this has been proved in the past. However one of the keys to success is for it to be driven by the local community rather than the council.

## **TAWA NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT DISCUSSION**

This was a discussion of where we're currently at with Neighbourhood Support in Tawa, and where we go from here. It involved Jim Higgins (Tawa NS coordinator), Cr Ngaire Best, Sarah Riddering (community constable), Rob Gregory (Kapiti Mana police), Alastair Campbell (Tawa Lions) and me. We decided that we would make contact with the 50+ names of people previously (and possibly currently) involved with Neighbourhood Support in Tawa to ascertain their willingness to continue playing some part, if only minor, in their own streets. We would also look at the merits of promoting one or two "Neighbourhood Days" in Tawa each year.

## **BNZ CONNECT**

This is a get-together of various Tawa business people on the first Tuesday evening of each month. There is merit, I believe, in community board members taking turns attending this at least once every two months. That would mean we would each go once a year. We sometimes have community concerns brought to our attention at this event. This proved to be the case once again this time.

## **MEETING WITH THE MAYOR**

It makes sense for the chair of the TCB to meet with the Mayor of Wellington once or twice a year to bring her up-to-date on where the board is at, and to convey any concerns we have. The 30-35 minutes spent with Celia Wade-Brown was beneficial for both parties (I hope).

Topics covered:

- Tawa Community Plan, a copy of which I handed to her
- summary of what's currently happening with the board, e.g. communicating with the community via newsletter, building up Neighbourhood Support in Tawa
- Tawa Primary Schools' Citizenship Awards and the Mayor's role in those
- the board's relationship with WEMO, or lack thereof

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## MISCELLANEOUS

- Community eNewsletter sent out twice a month. This includes a TCB update.
- Report compiled on the Community Board Conference Graeme and I attended in Rotorua in May.
- TCB brochure being developed.
- Spring into Tawa Market Day planning, along with Ngaire.

Main items of correspondence (additional to topics covered earlier):

- proposed Tawa New World supermarket
- Tawa Shared Path
- leaking water at Mahoe St property
- badges for TCB members
- trees cut down at south end of Main Road