
REPORT 7

**PARKS, SPORT AND RECREATION - UPDATE ON
ACTIVITIES FOR THIRD QUARTER 2013/2014 AND
PROJECTS NEARING COMPLETION IN THE FOURTH
QUARTER**

1. Purpose of Briefing Note

The purpose of this briefing note is to update the Board on the activities of the Parks Sport & Recreation business unit for the 3rd quarter of the 2013/2014 financial year. Parks, Sport & Recreation manage the parks, open spaces, community recreation facilities and recreation programmes on behalf of the residents of Tawa.

2. Executive Summary

The 3rd quarter saw steady attendances at both the pool and recreation centre although there was a small decline in the number of people using the recreation centre over the summer holiday.

During the quarter the pool team worked closely with the team from Keith Spry Pool in Johnsonville to plan for the closure of that facility and how Tawa Pool would assist in serving some of the customers displaced from Johnsonville.

Shaun Pallett the manager of Tawa Pool assisted with the management of the Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre during the quarter which gave opportunities for other staff to step up and take more responsibility at Tawa. In addition to that Shaun has now left Wellington City Council's employment after 10 years to undertake overseas travel.

Work continued on the redevelopment of Grasslees Reserve during the quarter with the opening set for May 2014.



3. Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Tawa Community Board:

1. *Receive the information.*

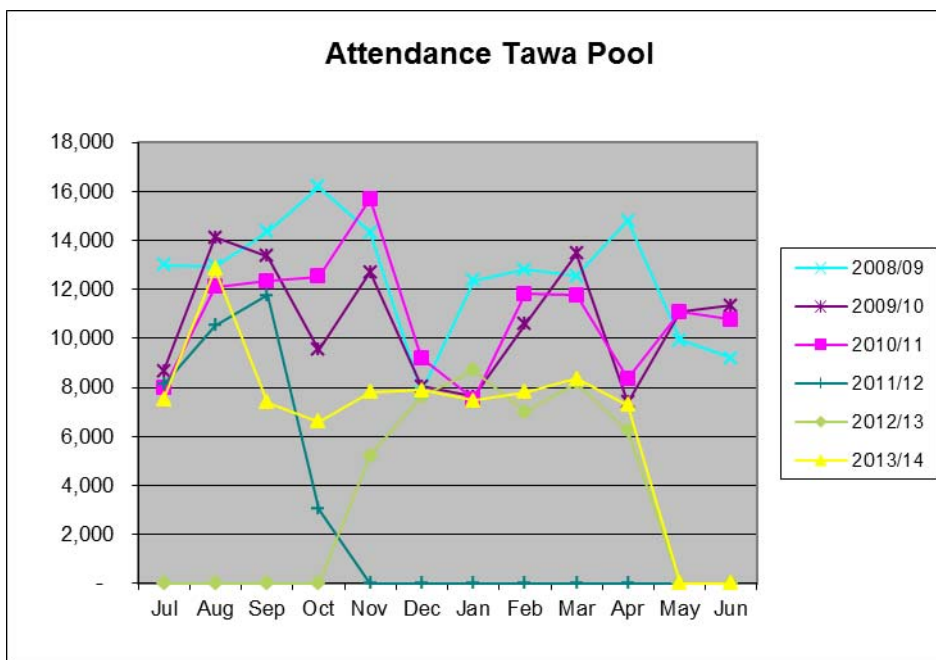
4 Update

Tawa Pool

Numbers continued to increase for the Learn to Swim programme for Term 1 which continued a trend seen term by term since the pool reopened.

As per our last update Birthday Parties at the Pool continue to have a high booking rate by the local community with most slots being booked well in advance.

Work continued in attracting local schools to Tawa Pool in addition to the planning work with those schools that will be displaced by Keith Spry Pool's closure.



Note: The months May and June register zero for the current year as no data has yet been entered

Recreation Centre

Recreation Centre attendance was stable for the 3rd quarter when compared to the same period last year. Numbers attending the school summer holiday programme were lower than the previous year despite increased marketing undertaken through the schools prior to the end of term 4.

This in part is a reflection of the significant number of holiday programme and sports camps that are now taking place during this period. Managers will review

the opportunities that can be taken to refresh our offering to better meet the needs of local residents.

Recreation outreach

Push Play in the Park was delivered at both Duncan Park and Linden West Park during the summer holidays with over 120 children attending across the two events.

Bookings for the Push Play trailer also remained steady throughout the quarter.

Grasslees Reserve Upgrade

With the primary upgrade works completed in the 4th Quarter the general feedback has been very positive especially around the playground upgrade, the basketball court and the new bridge. The new bridge and wide paths have considerably opened up the Park and users can now easily use and enjoy both sides of the Park.

Many of the newly grassed areas will not be looking their best until spring due to the high use of the Park, particularly the playground area. We will need to review those areas in spring and may need to do some additional works at that time.

The bbq's are now wired in but we are waiting for the power supply company to switch them on.

The new handrail on the skate rink barrier is still to have a softer capping added

Willowbank Reserve – Completion of Shared Pathway

Work has substantially been completed during the 4th quarter at Willowbank reserve. A final coat of paint is to be applied to the new bridge handrails and some more rip rap is to be placed against the retaining wall on the northern abutment. The paths to Zande Tce and the Takapu Railway station are programmed to be sealed this week. We will leave up some temporary fencing around the batter slopes and lawn areas until there is a good strike of grass but all and all work should be complete this week.

All the signage is complete except for some minor alterations which will be carried out over the next week or two.

Community Planting

Planting season is now underway across the City. In Tawa, Willowbank has now had 1000 trees planted and the Tawa BMX area has had 300 planted. Still to come is Woodburn Reserve off Takapu Road, a further 1000 plants.

5. Conclusion

Parks, Sport and Recreation continues to receive positive feedback from the community on the programmes and services it delivers to the Tawa community.

During the final quarter of the year we will complete the redevelopment of Grasslees Reserve and open the Shared Pathway and Park. We will manage the additional customers expected at Tawa Pool as a result of the closure of Keith Spry Pool. While Keith Spry Pool remains closed Matt Kilgour will be the acting Manager for both Tawa Pool and Tawa Recreation Centre.

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