
REPORT 7
(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 June & July 2013

MATTERS ON THE GO

MEETING WITH LOCAL BUSINESS PEOPLE

I have organised five meetings in June and July with a core group of local business people/retailers to discuss what strategies can be put together to boost Tawa as a shopping destination. Good progress has been made over time.

Earlier in July Justin invited Phil Becker (Senior Advisor, Economic Growth Team, WCC) to speak to the group about looking at the possibility of Tawa applying to become a "Business Improvement District" (BID) which would self fund various local improvements to the town centre.

Later in July the group was addressed by Colin Bass, an independent consultant from BusinessLab, in regard to the possibility of proceeding with the BID application.

My role, along with Justin's and Ngaire's, has been to assist the Tawa Business Association (which had been in recess) to get up and running again with a view to handing the reins back to them – sooner rather than later. We have driven things over these past few weeks and will continue to work alongside the business people as they appoint their own leaders and take over running the operation from this point onwards.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLANNING

Ngaire and I are part of a group of local stakeholders who have had a series of meetings over the past two or three months with the end goal being to draw up a plan of action for Tawa (including Grenada North and the Takapu Valley) detailing how we would handle things locally in the event of a major disaster.

The finished plan will be compiled as a brochure – an emergency preparedness plan specifically for the wider Tawa community – which will be funded by WREMO and delivered to every local household. This exercise has already successfully taken place in Wainuiomata with the involvement of their community board.

The Tawa Community Board would be expected to play a key leadership role in such an eventuality.

LIGHTING ON THE TAWA VALLEY PATHWAY

There have been calls from some members of the community for some sort of lighting to be installed on the segment of the Tawa Valley Pathway – Ara Tawa between Redwood and Tawa Stations. However KiwiRail is very specific about "....no lighting being permitted within the rail corridor" which is where that particular section of the pathway is located.

We have been told there's a possibility that some sort of "low subdued lighting" might be the solution. However that is only likely to happen if enough concern is shown by members of the community for KiwiRail to warrant proceeding with this.

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

- Two editions each month have been published in both June and July.
- Community board issues covered were:
- Progress on the Pathway
- Official opening of Tawa Station
- Meeting with local business people

APPENDIX 1

- No bins at Tawa Station
- Pikitanga Reserve
- Pine trees at Willowbank
- Lighting on the Pathway
- The hanging baskets
- Emergency Preparedness Planning

MEETINGS AND EVENTS IN JUNE AND JULY

- 04.06.13 Met with Roger Eynon, National Manager for Neighbourhood Support NZ. Attended local BNZ Connect evening, meeting of Tawa business people.
- 06.06.13 Made brief speech at official re-opening of Tawa Station.
- 07.06.13 Christine Grace (Makara/Ohariu Community Board chair) and I met with WCC Democratic Services officers to discuss new remuneration proposals. Pointed out how out of touch with reality the Remuneration Authority's proposals are.
- 08.06.13 Saturday afternoon meeting of Zone 4 community board members at Petone.
- 12.06.13 Led inaugural meeting with local business people and retailers. Attended Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade function.
- 13.06.13 Tawa Community Board monthly meeting.
- 18.06.13 Met with KiwiRail representative at Tawa Station to discuss possibility of rubbish bin.
- 19.06.13 Second meeting with local business people and retailers. Led by Ngaire.
- 20.06.13 Emergency Preparedness Planning meeting at Tawa Fire Station.
- 21.06.13 Attended meeting of volunteers hosted by Katrina Shanks.
- 22.06.13 Attended official opening of Churton Park Community Centre.
- 26.06.13 Led further meeting with local business people and retailers.
- 08.07.13 Met with journalist at Tawa Station to discuss rubbish bin options. At monthly meeting of the Tawa Progressive & Ratepayers' Association.
- 11.07.13 Further meeting with local business people and retailers.
- 15.07.13 Visited bowling club to discuss problems with rats.
- 22.07.13 Met with journalist and locals at bottom end of Taylor Tce to discuss problem of clearing fallen pine trees.
Met with journalist and bowling club staff member to discuss problems with rats.
- 25.07.13 Further meeting with local business people and retailers.
- 31.07.13 Attended advisory committee meeting for Community Education at Tawa College.

Malcolm Sparrow
Chair, Tawa Community Board
31 July 2013