



Ashburton District Council

AGENDA

A **MEETING** of the **FINANCE & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE** will be held as follows:

Date: Thursday 17 September 2009

Time: 1.30 pm

Venue: Council Chamber
5 Baring Square West
Ashburton

B LESTER
Chief Executive

MEMBERS:

Cr K L Holmes (Chairman)
Cr N A Brown
Cr R C Beavan
Cr J A Everest
Cr R J Kilworth
Cr J A Kingsbury
Cr K W P Lowe
Cr J Sparks
Mayor M B O'Malley (ex officio)

AGENDA

	Page
1 APOLOGIES	
2 NOTIFICATION OF EXTRAORDINARY BUSINESS	
3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 6/08/09	1
4 MATTERS ARISING	
5. CORPORATE SERVICES	
5.1 Information Systems	7
5.2 Records and Administration	9
5.3 Customer Services	10
5.4 Miscellaneous Matters	12
6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES	
6.1 Ashburton CBD Safety and Security	15
6.2 Youth Café – Request for Council Support	18
6.3 Community Plan 2009-19 – Actions from considerations of submissions	25
6.4 Ashburton District Tourism Annual Survey of Clients	26
6.5 Enterprise Ashburton Annual Survey of Clients	28
6.6 Elderly Persons Housing Survey	30
6.7 Road Closure – Methven Big Air	32
6.8 Community Consultation and Planning	35
6.9 Financial Governance Seminar - Timaru	38
6.10 Library	39
6.11 Parks and Recreation	42
6.12 Youth Council Meetings – 4 August and 1 September 2009	44
6.13 National Cycleway Project – Ashburton District Proposal	47
7. FINANCE	
7.1 Rakaia Volunteer Fire Brigade – ex Land Rover	51
7.2 Rural Firefighters' Uniform – request for funding	53
7.3 Finance	55
7.4 Forestry	55
7.5 Property	56

8. BUSINESS TRANSACTED WITH THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED

8.1	Confirmation of minutes – 6/08/09		83
	• Police Report	Section 7(2)(f) Maintain effective conduct of public affairs	
	• Property Matters	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities	
	• Property & Investment Subcommittee	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities	
	• Electricity Ashburton Shareholders	Section 7(2)(a) Protection of privacy of natural persons	
8.2	Ashburton Railway Station Mediation	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities	87
8.3	Ashburton Aquatic Park Charitable Trust	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities	91
8.4	Property Matter	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities	105
8.5	Property Matter	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities	106
8.6	Property Matter	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities	108
8.7	Property Matter	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities	110
8.8	Property Matter	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities	112
8.9	Property Matter	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities	114
8.10	Property & Investment Subcommittee	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities	116
8.6	Police Report – Senior Sergeant Grant Russell	<u>4.00 pm</u>	Verbal
	Section 7(2)(f) Maintain the effective conduct of public affairs		

11 September 2009

5. CORPORATE SERVICES

5.1 INFORMATION SYSTEMS

5.1.1 General

The main local government computer system that processes property and rating information is undergoing a major upgrade. This upgrade involves staff from all departments and is scheduled to be completed at the end of February. An additional human resources and payroll module is being added. The group of programmes that are in use by most of the staff in the Council will have a common look and feel with the information being presented in a more standard format. The web site received the most visits this year which is encouraging because it means that the information is being constantly updated and is relevant and attracts repeat visits. All key performance indicators are on track.

5.1.2 Ashburton District Council Web Site

The Council web site was visited 28,336 times in August 2009, which is the most number of visits this year. Notices and cemetery records continue to be the most popular pages. Job vacancy details were viewed and a hundred application forms were downloaded. These downloads from the web site save time and money for the Council and staff and also allow for a wider audience and pool of potential applicants.

August 2009 Top 10 Pages viewed

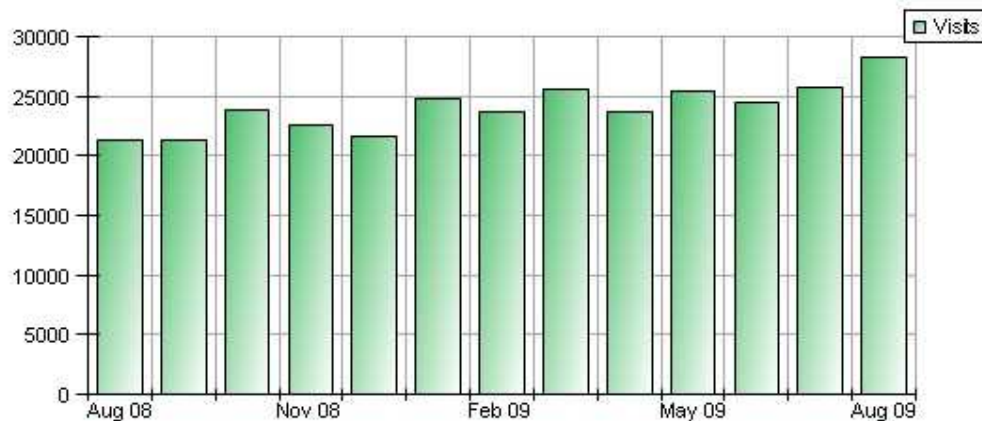
	June 2009		August 2009	
Top 10 pages viewed	Notices	2,564	Notices	1,875
	Cemeteries	837	Cemetery Records	890
	Cemetery Records	733	Cemeteries	816
	Job Vacancies	606	Job Vacancies	583
	District Planning	445	District Planning	513
	Contact Us	390	District Planning Appends	463
	News-Tenders	382	Maps	433
	Forms	347	Forms	347
	Maps	325	Contact Us	417
	Resource Consents	312	Tenders	415

5. CORPORATE SERVICES

August 2009 Top 10 Documents downloaded.

	June 2009		August 2009	
Top 10 documents downloaded	Ashburton District Population Report V2	123	Ashburton District Population Report V2	165
	Water Rangers Job Description	75	District Diary	101
	District Diary	64	Employment Application Form	100
	Residential Building Consent Application Pack	63	Community Services Officer vacancy	67
	Employment Application Form	51	Assistant Property Officer vacancy	61
	Cattle Stock Crossing	45	Neighbourhood Open Spaces Strategy with Map	56
	Final Community Plan V1	43	Newcomer information	55
	Stage 2 Initial Report	43	Building Consent Customer Guide	49
	Trade Waste Application	42	Ashburton Business Estate Scheme Plan	48
	Stock Underpass Install	46	Commercial Industrial Application Pack	48

Year to date visits to the Council Web Site



5. CORPORATE SERVICES

5.1.3 Key Performance Indicators

This table reports the monthly progress of the activities that are measured for the annual report. There are additional details about the use and responsiveness of the help desk.

	Apr 09	May 09	June 09	July 09	Aug 09	Target	Annual (average)
System and network availability	100%	100%	99.9%	100%	99.9%	95.0%	99.9%
Web site availability	100%	100%	99.4%	100%	100%	99.0%	99.8%
Help desk response times	100%	100%	95.0%	100%	97.8%	95.0%	98.5%
Help Desk call details							
Unresolved (running total)	27	43	36	42	20		
Requests received/month	65	72	60	45	95		
Responded to within 1 hour	65	72	57	45	93		
Not responded to within 1 hour			3		2		

5.1.4 Upgrade to the Property and Rating system, previously known as Proclaim.

A major upgrade to the (Proclaim) property and rating system has started and key staff from each department are being trained. The next step will be testing followed by general user training. The Councillors Lounge has been booked for testing and training from September 2009 until March 2010.

5.2 RECORDS AND ADMINISTRATION

5.2.1 Records

More current building consent paperwork is being scanned and their property folders are being reorganised, improving the storage of the property files. In July, the Manager attended the two day ALGIM Records Management Symposium.

5.2.2 Archives

Further to Michael Hanrahan's advice, the Property Manager has acquired two de-humidifiers to improve the environmental conditions in the basement.

5.2.3 LIM Reports

Thirty nine LIM reports were produced in July and 32 in August (42 and 45 in 2008.) Only three LIMs were of non-residential properties. The average completion time was 3.1 and 3.6 days (6.6 days in 2008). All were completed within 10 days.

5.2.4 Data Integrity

The Address Task Force continues to work on:

- procedures, training and documentation for assigning full addresses and property files to new properties;
- meeting New Zealand Post standards for postal addresses; and
- de-duplicating address data on property and rating.

An August Statement of Accuracy test of the rates service addresses came out at 78%. Ten months earlier only 0.3% met the NZ Post standard. The Council qualifies for the maximum discount on bulk mail when it achieves an accuracy rate of 85%.

In another strand of activity, a Records Officer is reviewing subdivisions consents to the end of 2008 to ensure consent associations are correctly associated and addresses assigned to new properties.

5. CORPORATE SERVICES

5.2.5 Administration

All the Council's insurance portfolio has been renewed for another year and the invoices are being processed.

The Council has just been required to meet an unexpected (and unbudgeted) excess charge of \$10,000 + GST from New Zealand Mutual Liability RiskPool, with whom we are insured for public liability and professional indemnity. The plaintiff in this case completely withdrew their complaint against Council, but not before RiskPool had already incurred large costs. The Council are required to pay RiskPool the first \$11,250 of their unrecovered expenses as an excess.

The Council awaits the results of the revaluation of facilities at 33 sites listed in the Area Committees Insurance schedule – mainly community halls. The updated valuations will minimise the risk to the Council from insuring under-valued properties.

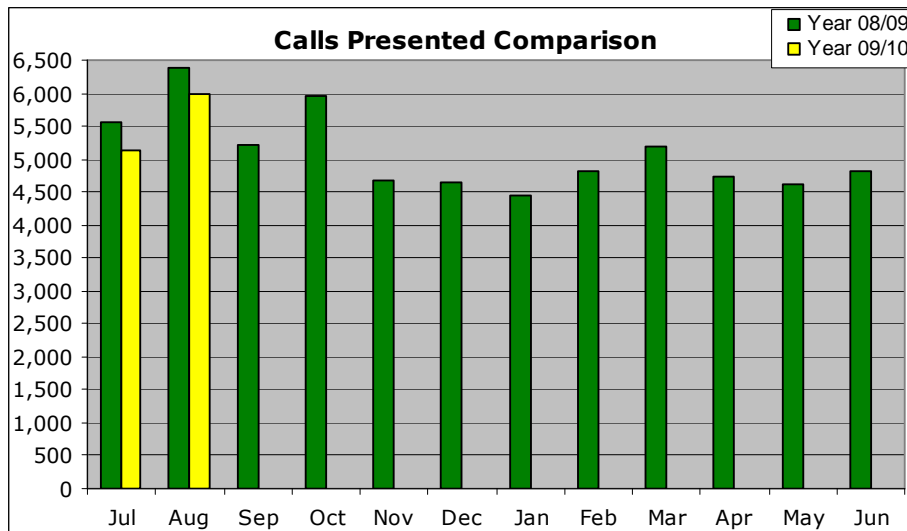
A 'Working smart with Outlook' course was organised in July for 11 managers and personal assistants.

5.3 CUSTOMER SERVICES

5.3.1 Telephone Calls

During August 2009, 5,997 calls, 328 faxes and 333 emails were made and sent to the Ashburton District Council (this does not include calls made direct to staff extensions). 81% of incoming calls were answered within 20 seconds. Calls presented in comparison to last year are shown in Chart 1.

Chart 1



5. CORPORATE SERVICES

Chart 2 shows the breakdown of calls by department. The effect of calls about rates and rates rebates in August had a significant impact on the percentage of calls for the Finance / Rates / Property Department. This Department normally account for about for about 23% of the total number of calls received and this rose to 37% in August.

Chart 2

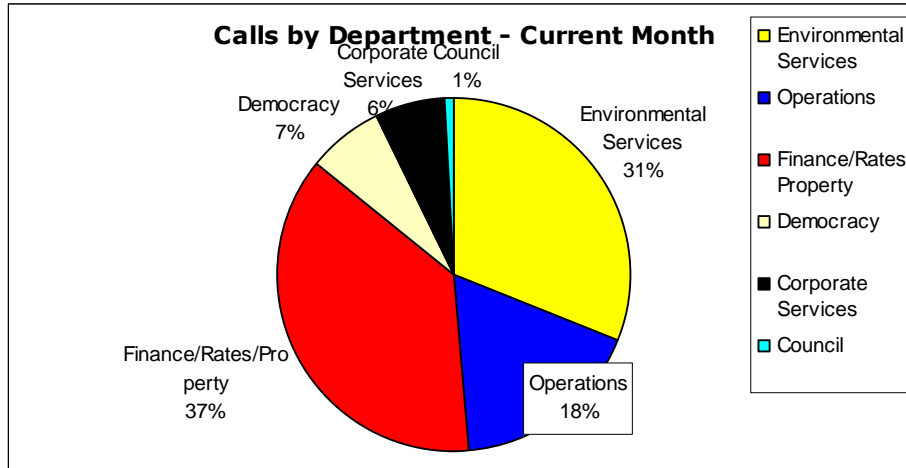
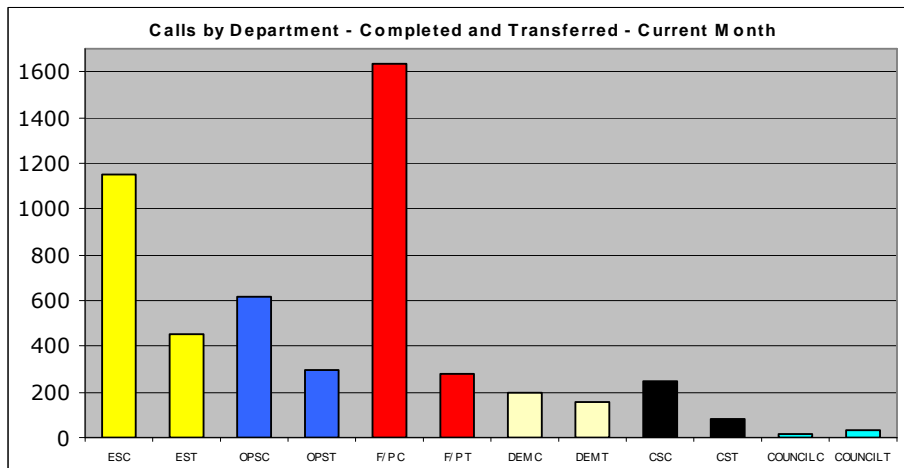


Chart 3 shows the total number of calls received and calls completed by Customer Services for each department during August. 75% of all calls answered in the Contact Centre in August were not required to be transferred to department staff. Again the impact of calls about rates and rates rebates is easily seen. Of significance is that of the nearly 2000 calls received on 307 7700 for the finance department (mostly regarding rates and rates rebates) less than 300 (15%) were required to be transferred to finance staff.

Chart 3



Also in August Customer Services sent out 912 letters and rates rebates applications to those who were granted a rebate last year. Up to 4 September, we had interviewed and processed 602 applications. 594 to the value of \$283,833 had been granted and eight declined.

5. CORPORATE SERVICES

5.4 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

5.4.1 Mail Management

Mail management report as at 11 September 2009

Mail Management details	July 09	Aug 09	Sept 09	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 09
Unanswered requests (running total)	46	38					
Requests received/month	13	13					
Requests due this period	22	10					
Requests closed this period	10	21					

5.4.2 Council Seal

Under authority, since last meeting —

- **Lease Documents**
 - Transfer – Hutton vs Lysaght – Council’s Consent
 - Deed of Lease – Sublease – 322 East Street – Depeche Mode Ltd
 - Transfer – 35 Park Street – Hutton vs Lysaght – Council’s Consent
- **Sale & Purchase Agreement**
 - Waterton Township – ADC vs Scotts
- **Agreement**
 - Vesting Road – The Crown vs ADC
- **Contract**
 - Contract AM-AF12 – North East Ashburton Business Park - Sewage Rising Main, External to the Park
- **E-dealing Form**
 - Reserve Transfer – SADC vs Jomar Farms Ltd
- **Licence to Occupy**
 - Ecan land – Off Dobson Street – ADC vs Bevan Wilson
 - Ecan land – Dobson Street – ADC vs Hamish McGregor
 - Reserves – Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road – ADC vs Syme
 - Land off Ollivers Road – Harold Hood vs ADC
 - Reserve - Thompsons Track – ADC vs PLC Farm Ltd
 - Reserve – Curraghaloo Grazing Ltd vs ADC
- **Certification of Approval**
 - Lochhead Charitable Trust – PrivatePlan Change No 7, Methven

5.4.3 Minor Applications

- Child Cancer Foundation Street Appeal – 8-14 March 2010
- SPCA Cupcake Day – Street Stall – 31 August 2009
- Greenpeace NZ – Street Appeal – 21 September 2009
- Savvy Direct Street Appeal (Red Cross & IHC) – 18/09/09, 16/10/09, 27/11/09 & 11/12/09
- St John’s Presbyterian Church Cake & Produce Stall – Methven Mall – 28 August 2009
- Methven Cricket Club Raffle – Methven Mall – 2/10/09

5. CORPORATE SERVICES

5.4.4 Letter of Thanks / Congratulations

Received from:

- Methven Heritage Project – acknowledging Council’s support and grant of \$500,000.
- Heart Foundation (Ashburton Branch) – acknowledging the Christchurch School of Medicine \$500 donation.
- Hockey Mid-Canterbury – acknowledging Deputy Mayor’s officiating at closing ceremony, and expressing thanks to Council Parks staff for assistance during recent Hockey Tournament in Ashburton.

S ALLEN

Corporate Services Manager

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

FILE NO: cc 9/29/10 2/32
DATE: 17 September 2009
REPORT TO: Finance and Community Services
FROM: Manager Democracy & Community Services
SUBJECT: CBD Safety and Security

6.1 ASHBURTON CBD SAFETY AND SECURITY

6.1.1 SUMMARY

To update Council on measures taken to improve safety and security in the central business district.

6.1.2 RECOMMENDATION

- “1. That Council receives this report.
2. That the actions recommended in this report be carried out as soon as practicable.
3. That where funding is necessary and not accessible from department budgets then the Civic Amenities Reserve Fund be available.”

6.1.3 BACKGROUND

In September 2008, following meetings with key parties a CBD Action Group was established and a Town Centre Action Plan put into effect.

Most of the recommended actions in the Plan have been implemented, notably:

1. Lighting along the ‘Green’ has been upgraded and has significantly improved the safety of the environment.
2. Town Centre Ambassadors have been appointed and, following a successful trial, funding has been approved for the programme to continue in the 2009-10 financial year. Police and security agencies say there is less damage from vandalism and less violent activity on the streets. Their presence is appreciated by management of licensed premises and proving to inhibit general criminal activity.
3. Closed circuit cameras have been increased in number and are placed strategically around the town centre. Units are able to be easily moved from time to time to monitor areas which become trouble spots. The recorded footage is frequently used by Police and security companies to assist in identification of offenders.
4. The Ashburton Licensing Trust has a courtesy vehicle providing late night service for all of its outlets.
5. CBD liquor licence holders have developed an Alcohol Accord which brings consistent standards to all licensed premises and importantly includes a process which sees a person barred from one licensed premise barred from all licensed premises.

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

6. The Council's Licensing Inspector has increased awareness of the CBD liquor ban and the responsibilities of licence holders generally through a significantly enhanced web site.
7. Licence holders (through the Accord) have been provided with full information on the contractual requirements of Council's road and pavement cleaning service providers. Monitoring has been enhanced and standards have risen significantly.
8. The town centre liquor ban has been further promoted through the provision of footpath signage and is also monitored by security and Ambassadors as well as the Police.

On 7 September 2009, the Mayor called a meeting to establish the effects of the steps taken, what work remains to be done and what new concerns may have arisen. Attendees were representatives of the Police, TSG Security, Masterguard Cameras, Town Watch and the Safer Community Council on behalf of the Town Centre Ambassadors. Council was represented by the Licensing Inspector, the Regulatory Manager and the Manager Democracy & Community Services. There was general agreement that the measures taken had gone a long way towards making the town centre a safer place and that the concerns that were being aired in the media last year have not been in the news this year.

There is still work to be done, however, and the following points were noted:

- i) There is a need for better lighting in Somerset Lane. The combination of 'The Shed' and the Licensing Trust's new building has led to the existence of dark and unsafe areas in the lane. Council will work with the Trust to provide appropriate lighting.
- ii) The lighting around the water feature at Tancred Street-East Street intersection is poor and unsafe. There is also a surplus of vegetation around the sides and back of the water feature. These two deficiencies will be remedied using Council's Property and Parks Managers.
- iii) Council is to liaise with Electricity Ashburton to ensure contracts are carried out to the standard and in the timeframe expected and that any obstacles are drawn to Council's attention. This to be managed through the Operations Department.
- iv) There needs to be an increased awareness of the liquor ban. The Regulatory Services department is to assess signage required – elevated is recommended, and develop plan for locating at strategic and highly visible areas.
- v) The Manager Democracy & Community Services is to work with Town Watch, Masterguard Cameras and the Police to develop a process whereby Council's CCTV system will be manned at appropriate times. Town Watch to sound out more volunteers for this purpose.
- vi) The West Street car park is a problematic area most weekends with the presence of boy racers and people breaching the liquor ban. The possible closure of the car park in the late evening is the subject of a separate report to the Operations Committee. CCTV cameras will be placed strategically in the car park and there will be greater emphasis given to enforcement of the liquor ban.
- vii) The Manager Regulatory Services is to workshop a schedule of infringement fees with Councillors. Among offences which Council can police is the liquor ban and provision will be made for Council's security agency to enforce the ban using the infringement fee.

There was discussion on the presence of gangs in town with the consensus being that there is no greater presence than has been the case for many years. The Mayor also asked for all parties to co-ordinate their services where possible. While there are boundaries to all relationships it should be to the mutual benefit of all parties to work co-operatively.

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

6.1.4 OPTIONS & RISKS CONSIDERED

The suggested actions are all logical and go towards making our community safer. There should be no risk attached.

6.1.5 STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 provides that –

The purpose of local government is ...

(b) to promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of communities, in the present and for the future.

6.1.6 STRATEGIC LINKS

LTCCP, Community Outcome 5 –

Healthy, active people enjoying a good quality of life in a caring and safe community.

Strategic Objectives:

- *A range of agencies work together to create a safe environment*

6.1.7 CONSULTATION

This meeting was for agencies enforcing the law and maintaining security in the CBD. All appropriate agencies were invited to participate.

6.1.8 FINANCE

Much of the actions described above can be funded from departmental budgets. In the event that work out of the ordinary is required use can be made of the Civic Amenities Reserve Fund which presently holds about \$12,000.

Prepared By

J G ROLLINSON
Manager
Democracy & Community Services

Approved By

B LESTER
Chief Executive

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

FILE NO:

DATE: 17 September 2009

REPORT TO: Finance and Community Services Committee

FROM: Project Support Officer

SUBJECT: Youth Café – Request for Council Support

6.2 YOUTH CAFÉ – REQUEST FOR COUNCIL SUPPORT

6.2.1 SUMMARY

The Ashburton Youth Café Charitable Trust has approached Council requesting support for a new youth centre establishment in Ashburton. The Trust are proposing to provide a social outlet for 11-18 year olds and are seeking Council input to the project through financial support, general guidance and representation on the management board. **Pages 57-82**

6.2.2 RECOMMENDATION

“That Council declines the assistance requested by the Ashburton Youth Café Charitable Trust.”
--

6.2.3 BACKGROUND

Lynnette Bridge presented a proposal for a Youth Café to Council on 13 August 2009. The matter was referred to the Finance and Community Services Committee for further consideration.

Summary of Proposal

The Youth Café Trust (not yet incorporated or registered) is proposing to develop a Youth Café in central Ashburton to provide a social outlet for 11-18 year olds. The working committee consider there is a lack of appropriate facilities for the youth of Ashburton, and providing a venue for teens to gather and socialise will assist in addressing the problem of anti-social teen behaviour.

It is anticipated the proposed Youth Café will offer teens an alternative social activity which is age-appropriate, enjoyable, and a safe and supervised environment. It is proposed that services and activities the centre would offer include; a café (drinks (non-alcoholic) and light refreshments), and forms of entertainment including a gaming area, lounge and a dance/band entertainment area for events.

Venue: The preferred location for the proposed Youth Café is a venue on West Street in central Ashburton. The lease for this building has been estimated at \$20,000 - \$25,000 per annum. The site offers a central location, while being located away from town's central bars.

Opening Hours: The proposed Youth Café would operate seven days a week, opening from 4pm on weekdays and from 9am during the weekend. The centre would be open until 9pm Monday-Thursday, midnight on Friday and Saturday evenings, and 5pm on Sunday.

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Operation / Management: The working group is currently in the process of registering as a charitable trust. They are also looking to secure an organisation, or ‘umbrella’ charitable trust to guide and oversee the project and to act as a conduit for funding.

The Trust is proposing a management committee of ten, comprised of two members from community support agencies, four youth members, the manager of the facility, one representative from Council and two interested community members.

Support Received for the Proposal: A number of organisations have offered financial or in-kind support for the proposed Youth Café. These are detailed in the Trust’s documentation.

Request for Council Funding

The project’s working committee has approached Council requesting support for the project in terms of funding, guidance, and representation on the management board. The committee has requested the following:

- **Council fund the lease of the premises for the Youth Café**
Rent for the preferred property has been estimated at \$20,000 - \$25,000 per annum.
- **Council contribute to funding the manager’s position**
Part or full funding the manager’s position - estimated at \$52,000.
- **Council provide seed funding of \$6000 for establishment costs**
- **Council waive any associated compliance/permit costs**
- **Council offer guidance and representation**

The project team has suggested the Youth Café Management committee operate with 10 members including the manager, two community support agencies, four youth, two community members and one representative from Council.

Local Government Involvement in Youth Centres

Councils have a fairly limited role in providing for youth initiatives of this type. A request for information was extended to all councils with 12 providing a response. Below is a summary of the responses received.

Based on the responses received, the success of youth cafés/centres is mixed. Of the twelve respondents, five currently have a youth café or centre operating in their city or town. These are in Christchurch (Te Koru, Papanui); Nelson (New Hub, Nelson CBD); Waitomo (Te Kuiti); Blenheim; and Waitakere (Global Café, Henderson). The centres have been in operation ranging from 1-10 years. Most are still operating successfully, with the Te Kuiti centre currently redefining its services and with an uncertain future.

Two councils had previously been involved with a youth facility which has since closed, (Invercargill and Papakura). Closure of these centres was due to negative community sentiment, insufficient patronage, lack of funding, and being a labour intensive exercise.

Palmerston North City Council signalled support for a Youth Centre in their 2009-19 LTCCP. A feasibility study is to be carried out shortly. Four local authorities told us they have no involvement in youth centres (Franklin, Hauraki, Western Bay of Plenty and Selwyn).

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

We are also aware of similar youth café type initiatives operating in Auckland and Wellington. Global Café in Henderson, as mentioned above, has a second centre in central Wellington. The management of both facilities is contracted to Zeal Charitable Trust.

Youthtown is a drop-in facility in central Auckland which runs after school and school holiday programmes, as well as ski-camps and other outdoor activities.

Both Global Café and Youthtown provide successful examples of youth centres, however it is important to consider the metropolitan environment in which they are based, and the population these cities have to support such centres.

Previous Initiative in Ashburton - Crossroads Youth Facility (1997-2001)

The Crossroads Youth Facility was established under the Safer Community Council, and opened in April 1997 as part of the wider 'Ashburton Youth Resource Project'.

The Safer Community Council appointed a Youth Project Worker with funding from the Department of Internal Affairs. The Project Worker's role was to establish and manage the venue, provide holiday recreation programmes and co-ordinate support, referral and advocacy services.

Crossroads offered a "youth-owned" social venue where youth could meet, interact and relax in a safe, drug and alcohol free environment. The centre included a café, holiday programmes, and after-school activities in addition to offering general support, referral and advocacy services for youth. The facility was open from 10am-5pm Monday to Friday, and 7pm –midnight Friday and Saturday nights.

The major funder in the establishment of the centre was the Department of Internal Affairs, granting \$30,444. Council provided the Ashburton Safer Community Council with a bridging loan of \$12,486 to cover the remaining costs of establishment. In addition, Council granted operational costs contributing to the lease and rates of \$6,400 per year.

Crossroads faced a number of issues during the time it was operational including fluctuating visitor numbers, staffing issues and limited income. Early in the project the co-ordinator of the Safer Community Council noted "uncertainties" surrounding the youth facility in her annual report to Council.

The café was licensed for the sale of food only which meant all refreshments were required to be bought in. It was anticipated at the outset that the café would be the primary source of revenue, however this did not eventuate. The café became a liability, and was replaced with vending machines within twelve months of the facility opening.

By the second year the facility was operating only on weekends, with special programmes offered during the week. However the centre had staffing issues with turnover of staff and the facility was often reliant on volunteers to cover the operation of the cafe. The number of youth using the facility was reported as inconsistent.

The bridging loan provided by Council was to be repaid within 12 months. Due to the centre not performing as anticipated, the Safer Community Council was unable to repay the loan when required. In March 1998 the Safer Community Council applied for the bridging loan to be written off in order to ensure the continuation of the facility. Council approved the request in April 1998.

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Funding from the Department of Internal Affairs for the youth worker position ceased at the end of 1999. In September 2000, the Safer Community Council requested Council funding of \$15,000 towards the Youth Project Worker's salary, which was approved by Council.

The Safer Community Council recognised the concept of a drop-in centre had reached its "expiry date", and looked to re-focus the facility to attract a new generation of youth.

Crossroads was renamed Nexus, and was no longer a drop-in or entertainment venue. Nexus offered activity based programmes for at-risk youth aged 10-15, but never really got off the ground and the project was ended in the 2000/01 year.

Current Youth Initiatives in Ashburton District

Ashburton Youth Health Centre

The Ashburton Youth Health Trust operates a centre that offers support, advice and helps connect young people to appropriate social services. The centre targets youth who have left school, with the aim of getting them engaged with, and back into the community.

Following a submission to the Annual Plan 2008/09 Council has been providing funding of \$11,500 annually for the leasing premises on Park Street. This funding has been budgeted to continue in future, though this is able to be reviewed through each Annual plan process.

Methven Youth Café

A youth café in Methven was established by Mt Hutt Elim Church in May 2009. The centre operates 7pm-11pm on Friday evenings. Activities offered include pool, table tennis, gaming consoles and a lounge area for youth to relax and socialise; and the centre offers light refreshments, selling a range of pre-packaged food and drinks.

The Methven Youth Café is a separate financial activity under the umbrella of the Mt Hutt Elim church, and it is likely to establish a charitable Trust as it grows. The centre is run by volunteers and is financially supported by fundraising and donations.

Miscellaneous Youth Activities

There are a range of other community activities and groups for young people in the district including scouts, guides and church-run youth groups, sporting clubs, kapa haka groups, student executives at Ashburton College and Mount Hutt College, and a Youth Council run by Ashburton District Council.

Viability/ Sustainability of the Proposed Centre

Ashburton's past youth centre project was unable to be sustained and the mixed success of other centres throughout New Zealand brings into question the viability of the proposed youth café.

Most local authorities involved in youth centres who responded to our request for information have significantly larger populations than Ashburton District. Of those operating successful youth centres, the closest in size to Ashburton is Marlborough District with a population of 42,549. There is, therefore, a question of whether Ashburton district's youth population (3114 youth aged 11-18) will sustain a successful youth centre.

On the basis of the minimum daily forecast of operations, as set out in the business proposal, the Ashburton Youth Café Trust expect to have 175 youth visitors per week, 5.6% of the district's total youth.

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

In our view it is likely that visitors will come mostly from the immediate Ashburton urban area, which has a total youth population aged 11-18 of 1734¹. This means the Trust will need to attract 10% of local youth to the café.

This target is likely to be difficult to achieve on a consistent basis. As indicated in the proposal, an accountant has expressed concern that the level of patrons predicted is high.

The Ashburton Youth Café Trust is expecting a minimum annual income of \$183,820, as outlined below.

Income Forecast			
Day	Number of Visitors	Minimum Spend	Minimum Total Income Per Day
Monday	25	\$10	\$250
Tuesday	25	\$10	\$250
Wednesday	25	\$10	\$250
Thursday	25	\$10	\$250
Friday	50	\$12.50	\$625
Saturday	60 Youth	\$12.50	\$750
	20 Adults	\$13.00	\$260
Sunday	40 Youth	\$15.00	\$600
	20 Adults	\$15.00	\$300
Minimum income forecast per week			\$3535
Minimum income forecast per year			*\$183,820

*Note: the minimum income forecast per year figure differs from that shown in the proposal document. This is due to a calculation error in that document.

During the years the Crossroads Youth Facility operated, income never reached anywhere near this level of revenue. The minimum income forecast by the Ashburton Youth Café Trust is more than three times the revenue of Crossroads in its most successful year².

Considering the lowest expected income based on youth patrons only, if 175 youth visited the centre per week and spent a minimum of \$10 each, this would give a gross income of \$1750 per week, or \$91,000 per year - still significantly higher than the highest annual revenue achieved by the Crossroads facility.

Skills and Experience of Trust Members

There is no reference in the proposal document to any of the people involved having previous experience in setting up and running a facility of this type. There seems to be a reliance on these skills being brought to the project by the paid manager.

¹ Figure aligns with Statistics New Zealand boundaries and includes; Ashburton Central West, Ashburton Central East, Netherby, Hampstead, Allenton, Tinwald, Plains Railway and Fairton.

² Based on the financial reports available from Crossroads (all except 1997/98)

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

In most other cases we looked at similar facilities operated initially, and in most cases for many years, on a voluntary and low cost model often utilizing premises available for little or no cost before moving to a more permanent and professional basis.

Gaining this level of experience and track record has been important for securing higher levels of funding. This proposal is looking to bypass this stage of development.

Feasibility Study

No feasibility study has been undertaken with only an outline business plan and other high level information on governance provided in the documents so far. Council would need to see evidence of key aspects such as market research and financial or in-kind support prior to committing to the level of funding requested.

Any application for lotteries funding and most government sources will require a rigorous feasibility report to be undertaken. While Council does not have a specific policy in this regard it should be careful in considering any financial commitment without this level of information as other funding may be difficult to obtain without it.

Licensing and Consent Requirements

Food Premises Licensing - The proposed Youth Café would be required to obtain a license for the sale and preparation of food to meet standards to enable food preparation to be carried out on the premises. This would need to be considered in the fit-out of the building to ensure the facility meets commercial kitchen standards. This does not appear to have been factored in to the proposal document.

Building Consent – It is likely that building consent will be required to alter or create a kitchen for commercial purposes, depending on the building leased.

Resource Consent – Depending on the location of the proposed Youth Café, it is possible resource consent may be required due to the activity, noise, and operating hours.

The Ashburton Youth Café Charitable Trust has requested Council waive the cost of any consent or compliance costs associated with the establishment of the centre. Council does not consider it appropriate to waive consent and licensing costs and if Council decided to cover the cost of such costs, this would have to be covered by grant funding.

6.2.4 STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

6.2.5 OPTIONS AND RISKS CONSIDERED

1. Council provides the funding and assistance as requested

Lease of premises - \$20,000 – \$25,000 per annum, subject to the lease agreement.

Funding of manager - up to \$52,000

Establishment costs - \$6,000

If successful the project would provide an alternative social venue for youth not currently available.

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Risks and considerations associated with Council approving the request

- The proposal is not fully detailed yet, and the financial projections appear very optimistic.
- None of the people associated with the project appear to have experience or skills in this area.
- The previous similar initiative in Ashburton did not generate the interest or income needed to be self-sustaining and relied on grant funding to continue. Initiatives of this type have a low success rate throughout New Zealand. It is considered likely this initiative would require significant ongoing funding assistance.
- Council may need to take care in committing to covering the costs of the lease as it is possible the cost may increase significantly in subsequent years.

Also Council may find itself obligated to fund the lease even if the facility ceases to operate. These risks could be minimised by Council contributing a fixed grant amount rather than covering the cost of rent.

- The Youth Café may not be sufficiently supported by the youth of the district, increasing the reliance on grant funding to cover costs. As noted earlier in the report there are few examples of a similar initiative operating successfully and none in a community of this size.
- If Council were to approve funding, it is recommended that Council obtains elected member representation on the management board

2. Council declines all funding requests pending further information

Council declines funding requests for the lease, manager's salary and establishment fund.

- There are no financial risks to Council associated with this option.

6.2.6 STRATEGIC LINKS

The proposed Youth Café would contribute to the following of Council's strategic documents and plans:

- Social Wellbeing Strategy
 - Our children and young people are safe and secure and have the opportunity to participate, succeed and engage in positive activities*
- Community Outcomes
 - Outcome 5: Healthy active people enjoying a good quality of life in a caring and safe community*
 - Outcome 6: A community with access to a variety of cultural, recreational and heritage experiences and facilities that enrich our quality of life*

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

6.2.7 CONSULTATION

A decision to be involved in a project of this nature would normally be included in Council's Community Plan or an Annual Plan and to go through the associated consultation process. There are, however, no consultation requirements associated with this proposal.

6.2.8 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Depending on the option chosen, may be up to \$77,000 per year, plus a one-off grant of \$6,000.

Prepared By

J SCOTT
Project Support Officer

Approved By

G THOMAS
Community Planning Manager

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

FILE NO: 1/8/1
DATE: 13 August 2009
REPORT TO: Council
FROM: Community Planning Manager
SUBJECT: Community Plan 2009-19 Actions from Considerations of Submissions

6.3 COMMUNITY PLAN 2009-19 – ACTIONS FROM CONSIDERATIONS OF SUBMISSIONS

6.3.1 SUMMARY

When considering submissions made to the Community Plan 2009-19 Council made decisions on actions to be undertaken with respect to each submission. Many of these were a case of writing to submitters to inform them of Council decisions relevant to their submission. Some require further action by Council officers. The attached report details the current status of outstanding actions.

Separately attached

6.3.2 RECOMMENDATION

“That the Committee receives the report.”

6.3.3 BACKGROUND

Not applicable.

6.3.4 STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

6.3.5 OPTIONS & RISKS CONSIDERED

Not applicable.

6.3.6 STRATEGIC LINKS

Ashburton District Council Community Plan 2009-19
Ashburton District Community Outcomes – various.

6.3.7 CONSULTATION

Not applicable.

6.3.8 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Detailed at a project level where applicable.

Prepared By

G THOMAS
Community Planning Manager

Approved By

J G ROLLINSON
Manager
Democracy & Community Services

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

FILE NO: 9/10/9
DATE: 17 September 2009
REPORT TO: Finance and Community Services
FROM: Project Support Officer
SUBJECT: Ashburton District Tourism Annual Survey of Clients

6.4 ASHBURTON DISTRICT TOURISM ANNUAL SURVEY OF CLIENTS

6.4.1 SUMMARY

The attached report presents the results of the 2009 survey of client satisfaction for Ashburton District Tourism. *Separately attached*

The Community Plan 2006-16 identified client and resident satisfaction targets for Ashburton District Tourism to assess performance and community expectations. These targets are:

- At least 90% of clients are satisfied with Ashburton District Tourism's overall performance (2009 - 87%)
- At least 85% of clients consider the services provided by Ashburton District Tourism add some or considerable value to their operation (2009 – 70%)

6.4.2 RECOMMENDATION

“That the information be received.”

6.4.3 BACKGROUND

Each year the Council carries out a client satisfaction survey for Ashburton District Tourism. This survey enables Council to monitor performance targets set for Ashburton District Tourism in the Community Plan 2006-2016 and the Annual Plan. The results of the 2009 survey are attached to this report for the information of the Committee.

6.4.4 STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

6.4.5 OPTIONS AND RISKS CONSIDERED

Not applicable.

6.4.6 STRATEGIC LINKS

This survey enables Council to monitor performance targets set for Ashburton District Tourism in the Community Plan 2006-2016 and the Annual Plan.

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Outcomes:

Outcome 1: A thriving and diverse local economy that provides the foundation for a quality lifestyle.

Outcome 2: Natural and developed environments are sustained for the enjoyment of current and future generations

Outcome 6: A community with access to a variety of cultural, recreational and heritage experiences and facilities that enrich our quality of life

6.4.7 CONSULTATION

Not applicable.

6.4.8 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

Prepared By

J SCOTT
Project Support Officer

Approved By

G THOMAS
Community Planning Manager

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

FILE NO: 1/3/19
DATE: 17 September 2009
REPORT TO: Finance and Community Services
FROM: Project Support Officer
SUBJECT: Enterprise Ashburton Annual Survey of Clients

6.5 ENTERPRISE ASHBURTON ANNUAL SURVEY OF CLIENTS

6.5.1 SUMMARY

The attached report presents the results of the 2009 survey of client satisfaction for Enterprise Ashburton. *Separately attached*

To assess performance and community expectations of Enterprise Ashburton, the Community Plan 2006-16 includes the following performance targets:

1. At least 90% of users consider that Enterprise Ashburton delivers a quality service to the District (2009 – 98%)
2. At least 90% of users consider that the Enterprise Ashburton services has added value to their businesses (2009 – 92%)

6.5.2 RECOMMENDATION

“That the information be received.”

6.5.3 BACKGROUND

Each year the Council undertakes client satisfaction survey for Enterprise Ashburton. This survey enables Council to monitor performance targets set for Enterprise Ashburton in the Community Plan 2006-2016 and the Annual Plan. The results of the 2009 survey are attached to this report for the information of the Committee.

6.5.4 STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

6.5.5 OPTIONS AND RISKS CONSIDERED

Not applicable.

6.5.6 STRATEGIC LINKS

This survey enables Council to monitor performance targets set for Enterprise Ashburton in the Community Plan 2006-2016 and the Annual Plan.

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Outcomes:

Outcome 1: A thriving and diverse local economy that provides the foundation for a quality lifestyle

6.5.7 CONSULTATION

Not applicable.

6.5.8 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

Prepared By

J SCOTT
Project Support Officer

Approved By

G THOMAS
Community Planning Manager

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

FILE NO: 10/4/1
DATE: 17 September 2009
REPORT TO: Finance and Community Services
FROM: Project Support Officer
SUBJECT: Elderly Persons Housing Survey

6.6 ELDERLY PERSONS HOUSING SURVEY

6.6.1 SUMMARY

The attached report presents the results of the 2009 survey of client satisfaction for residents in Ashburton District Council Elderly Persons Housing units. ***Separately attached***

The Community Plan 2006-16 identified client and resident satisfaction targets for Enterprise Ashburton to assess performance and community expectations. These targets are:

- At least 85% of tenants are satisfied that the overall standard of the units is appropriate for Elderly Persons (2009 – 97%)
- At least 85% of tenants are satisfied with the service and response they receive from the Council's property department (2009 – 94%)

6.6.2 RECOMMENDATION

“That the information be received.”

6.6.3 BACKGROUND

Each year the Council carries out a client satisfaction survey for its Elderly Persons Housing activity. This survey enables Council to monitor performance targets set for Elderly Persons Housing in the Community Plan 2006-2016 and the Annual Plan. The results of the 2009 survey are attached to this report for the information of the Committee.

6.6.4 STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

6.6.5 OPTIONS & RISKS CONSIDERED

Not applicable.

6.6.6 STRATEGIC LINKS

This survey enables Council to monitor performance targets set for Elderly Persons Housing in the Community Plan 2006-2016 and the Annual Plan.

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Outcomes:

Outcome 5: Healthy, active people enjoying a good quality of life in a caring and safe community.

- A caring community that supports the elderly and helps others in need.

6.6.7 CONSULTATION

Not applicable.

6.6.8 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

Prepared By

J SCOTT
Project Support Officer

Approved By

G THOMAS
Community Planning Manager

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

FILE NO: 0510/68/02
DATE: 17 September 2009
REPORT TO: Finance & Community Services Committee
FROM: Community Services Officer
SUBJECT: Road Closure – Methven Big Air

6.7 ROAD CLOSURE – METHVEN BIG AIR

6.7.1 SUMMARY

To recommend the temporary closure of roads in Methven, for the purpose of allowing the Methven Big Air Organising Committee to hold the Methven Big Air on Saturday 26 September 2009.

6.7.2 RECOMMENDATION

“That the following roads be closed to ordinary vehicular traffic for the purpose of allowing the Methven Big Air Organising Committee to hold the Methven Big Event:

- **BARKERS ROAD**, from Mackie Street to the end of the street, Methven from 10.00 am Saturday 19 September, to 10.00 am Friday 2 October, 2009
- **STATE HIGHWAY 77 (MAIN STREET)**, from Bank Street to McKerrow Street, Methven from 1.00 pm Saturday 26 September, to 1.00 am Sunday 27 September
- **FOREST DRIVE**, from State Highway 77 (Main Street) to McMillan Street from 1.00 pm Saturday 26 September, to 1.00 am Sunday 27 September
- **METHVEN CHERTSEY ROAD**, from State Highway 77 (Main Street) to the Medical Centre from 12.00 noon Saturday 26 September, to 1.00 am Sunday 27 September.”

6.7.3 BACKGROUND

The Methven Big Air Organising Committee has applied for a temporary road closure for the purpose of holding the Methven Big Air, for the following roads in Methven:

- **BARKERS ROAD**, from Mackie Street to the end of the street, Methven from 10.00 am Saturday 19 September, to 10.00 am Friday 2 October, 2009
- **STATE HIGHWAY 77 (MAIN STREET)**, from Bank Street to McKerrow Street, Methven from 1.00 pm Saturday 26 September, to 1.00 am Sunday 27 September

Detour: Bank Street, McMillan Street, Forrest Drive, Blackford Street, McKerrow Street Methven

- **FOREST DRIVE**, from State Highway 77 (Main Street) to McMillan Street from 1.00 pm Saturday 26 September, to 1.00 am Sunday 27 September

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

- **METHVEN CHERTSEY ROAD**, from State Highway 77 (Main Street) to the Medical Centre from 12.00 noon Saturday 26 September, to 1.00 am Sunday 27 September.

Detour: Mackie Street, Hall Street Methven

During the periods of closure the above detour provisions will be made for ordinary vehicular traffic which would otherwise use the roads.

This application must be considered by Council under Paragraph 11(e) of the Tenth Schedule of the Local Government Act 1974, because the length of time the road is required to be closed exceeds that provided for under the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulations 1965, namely no more than 12 hours in any 24 hour period.

The Methven Big Air Organising Committee has advised the following:

- In conjunction with the Methven Police the town's glass ban will be strictly enforced
- Off licensees will be contacted and requested they sell only cans leading up to and during the event. The Blue Pub and the Canterbury Hotel will also use plastic cups on the night of Saturday 26 September.

The Methven Big Air Organising Committee has been advised of the conditions of closure as follows:

1. Approval by this Committee.
2. Approval by the Transport New Zealand Agency for the closure of State Highway 77.
3. No objections being upheld against the closure in response to the statutory advertisement.
4. Arrangements are to be made for a pre-event and post-event inspection with a representative from the Council's Operations Department. The inspections are to be completed within three days of the event and results of the inspections will be recorded by Council.
5. The road must be reinstated to the condition prior to the event. Any costs incurred by the Council as a result of this event, including maintenance costs or reinstatement costs, will be charged to the Methven Big Air Organising Committee. Any restoration work required is to be carried out to an arranged programme with Council.
6. Necessary arrangements are made for the tidying and clearing of the road on the closed section of the road and the disposal of any litter.
7. The Methven Big Air Organising Committee is required to arrange adequate insurance against its liability to pay damages to any person or entity in respect of any claim on account of damage to property or injury to persons where the damage or injury results from the holding of this event.
8. Provision of a Traffic Management Plan, conforming to the requirements of the Transport New Zealand Agency Code of Practice for Temporary Traffic Management.
9. The Methven Big Air Organising Committee shall be responsible to ensure that the correct road signs and barricades are in place during the full period of the closure and promptly removed after the conclusion and clearance of the road.

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

10. The Methven Big Air Organising Committee is required to provide adequate safety marshals in distinctive clothing for the event.
11. Ensure that a clear access way to the Methven Medical Centre is maintained for emergency vehicles at all times.
12. The Big Air Organising Committee shall arrange temporary fencing to protect plantings and grassed areas in the central viewing area of the event.
13. Should weather conditions become sufficiently adverse that the road could be damaged as a result of holding the event the organisers shall take the necessary steps to protect the road. This may include delaying or cancelling the event.

6.7.4 OPTIONS & RISKS CONSIDERED

The event is run annually and has been managed without incident in the past. The responsibilities for risk free operation lie with the organisers and all contingencies are covered in the conditions of closure.

6.7.5 STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Clause 11 of the Tenth Schedule of the Local Government Act 1974 provides –

“That Council may, subject to such conditions as it thinks fit... close any road or part of a road to all traffic (e)... for any exhibition, fair, market, concert, film making, race or other sporting event or public function.”

6.7.6 CONSULTATION

The event was initially scheduled to be held on Saturday 15 August but postponed to Saturday 26 September.

This renewed proposed road closure has been publicly notified in the Ashburton Guardian on Wednesday 12 and Wednesday 26 August, 2009 and Snowfed on Thursday 20 August, with objections called for by 4.00 pm Monday 31 August, 2009.

6.7.7 STRATEGIC LINKS

Not applicable.

6.7.8 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

Prepared By:

V PRENDERGAST
Community Services Officer

Approved by:

J G ROLLINSON
Manager
Democracy & Community Services

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

6.8 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND PLANNING – CURRENT PROJECTS

6.8.1 Community Outcomes Monitoring Framework and Report

The Ashburton District “State of the Community Report” has been printed and sent key stakeholder organisations. This has been a significant piece of work that has been well undertaken by the community planning team and by Policy Advisor Toni Spittle in particular.

6.8.2 Methven and Rakaia Community Strategy Reviews

The community planning team are continuing to work with the Rakaia Community Association and the Methven Community Board to finalise drafts for both documents.

Both the draft documents have been out for community consultation and submissions have been considered and changes made where appropriate.

The Plans have been adopted by the Methven Community Board and the Rakaia Community Association respectively and are now being formatted and printed. We expect to receive the final Methven Community Strategic Plan document in the coming week and the Rakaia document will be approximately three weeks away.

We would like to hold a workshop with Councillors to discuss actions of particular significance to Council and to get a wide understanding of the strategies. This will happen after the documents have been adopted.

6.8.3 New Comers Report

The Community Development Officer based at the Ashburton Safer Community Council has been distributing the report to stakeholder organisations and individuals. We have had to undertake a second print run of the report. If any Councillors would like a copy please contact the Community Planning Manager.

6.8.4 Ashburton District Social Wellbeing Forum

Work is continuing among the various work streams associated with the Social Wellbeing Strategy. As specific projects come up these will be reported to the Committee as appropriate.

6.8.5 Elderly Persons Housing Tenants’ Survey

The annual survey of residents living in Council’s elderly persons housing units is complete and has been included on the agenda for this meeting of the Finance and Community Services Committee.

6.8.6 Council Agencies Survey

The annual surveys of clients of Ashburton District Tourism and Enterprise Ashburton are complete and have been included on the agenda for this meeting of the Finance and Community Services Committee.

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

6.8.7 Art Collection Policy

A draft Council Art Collection Policy has been prepared and will be reported back to the Arts and Culture Assessment Subcommittee at its next meeting. Work will continue on developing a revised terms of reference for the sub-committee and on any other associated policy requirements.

6.8.8 Social Agencies Survey

The Project Support Officer has worked with Ashcoss and key social service providers in the district to develop a survey aimed at tracking demand for services and availability of resources. It is hoped this survey will enable the social services sector to be aware of trends emerging in demand for service and sector capacity to respond, particularly in this period of rising unemployment.

The first report has been completed and has been sent to participating organisations for evaluation and feedback. It is anticipated this report (if found to be a valuable exercise) will be undertaken every three or six months. The community planning team will continue to work with Ashcoss and the other agencies on this project.

6.8.9 Ashburton District Tourism

The community planning team recently met with the manager of Ashburton District Tourism to discuss common work potentials. Of particular interest for us are progressing the Ashburton District Visitor Strategy, developing policy and promotion around freedom camping in the district and promoting the 2010 World Ploughing Championships. Work will progress on all these projects over the coming months.

6.8.10 SPARC Active Communities Funding

Council's Policy Advisor, Toni Spittle has been working with Sport Mid Canterbury and Rakaia sports organisations on an application for funding to SPARC based on developing a multi-sport facility and governance structure at the Rakaia Domain. We will advise Council as this progresses.

6.8.11 Annual Report

Work is progressing on the Annual Report though there have been delays in receiving information from some departments which have put the process back approximately two weeks. If there are no further hold-ups in information provision Council should still be able to adopt an audited Annual Report within statutory deadlines.

6.8.12 District Licensing Agency Workshop

A workshop has been held with the District Licensing Agency and other interested Councillors to develop a Council submission to the Law Commission report "Alcohol in our Lives". The final submission will be reported back to the next Environmental Services Committee meeting prior to being sent to the Commission.

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

6.8.13 State of the Community Report

This report was presented to Council at its meeting of 13 August 2009. The report was included as extraordinary business to enable it to be available to the community in line with statements in the Community Plan 2009-19 to that effect. Council requested the report be included on the agenda of the next meeting of the Finance and Community Services Committee to enable discussion on the document and its contents to take place.

The State of the Community Report measures our community's progress towards achieving the district's seven community outcomes. As this is the district's first community outcomes monitoring report it establishes a baseline for future state of the community monitoring and reporting.

The Ashburton District community outcomes were developed in 2005 through a consultative process with the community, and provide Council and other government and community organisations with indications of where the community wants to be in the future. The aim in producing this report has been to not only meet the relevant legislative requirements but also to provide Council, government agencies, community organisations, business and residents with a valuable source of statistical information about the district and to identify trends occurring across the full range of community wellbeing; social, economic, environmental and cultural.

Council is required to report on progress made to achieving community outcomes at least every three years. The next report is scheduled to be undertaken in two years, in 2010/11, to enable the report to inform the development of the next community plan.

The Report has strategic links with the following Council plans –

- Ashburton District Community Plan 2009/19
- Ashburton District Community Outcomes
- Ashburton District Social Wellbeing Strategy
- Ashburton District Visitor Strategy
- Ashburton District Walking and Cycling Strategy
- Ashburton District Physical Activity Strategy
- Methven Community Strategic Plan
- Rakaia Community Strategic Plan

Council sought the agreement of key stakeholders for the monitoring and reporting procedures of the State of the Community Report, as per the Local Government Act s.92(2)

Budget was allocated in the 2008/09 for the costs associated with printing this report. This was carried over to the 2009/10 financial year.

J G ROLLINSON
Manager
Democracy & Community Services

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

6.9 FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE SEMINAR – Timaru, 10 August 2009

Three Councillors attended the course in Timaru which started at 8.30 am and finished at 5.00 pm.

The course presenter was an ex Ashburtonian, David Ward, now CEO of Horowhenua District Council (about the same size as Ashburton District Council).

We started with our respective LTCCPs and went to our balance sheet, income statement and cash flow statement, to get an understanding of the Council's "books". Also discussed was depreciation, or DISP, and how it worked, and whether to charge for it or not (Council's choice).

Policy was another area of importance, this being the basis for all decisions – this is where Councillors make their major contribution to the process, as are

- intergenerational equity
- significance
- economic well-being
- revenue and funding
- public benefit / private benefit

An area other councillors were concerned about was monies spent on consultants. It was explained to us that councils need to use these services as in-house staff can't be proficient in every aspect of one-off jobs, and it is prudent to use consultants. There was some discussion as to whether councils got value for money from these consultants and the answer given was simple – there is a report to be presented to Council called the "Professional Services Contract" report which outlines what the consultant did, how much he was paid and what the outcome was. This should be presented to Council as required.

Another very important step in the LTCCP process is the "Asset Management Plans". Every Councillor should have a copy of these as they are the basis for all asset renewals. Without them you cannot predict when assets, eg water pipes, roads etc, need to be replaced.

Attached is the "Indicative Financial Model" which flow charts the procedure to achieving the desired outcomes.

This was a worthwhile workshop and a lot was learnt by the participants.

Councillors N Brown
 J Burgess
 J Kingsbury

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

6.10 LIBRARY

6.10.1 Issues and Membership

Issues were slightly down compared to 2008 for July, but up in August by a far greater margin despite the beautiful early spring weather. With 128 new members in July, and 95 in August, it seems there are still new people moving into the District.

6.10.2 Donation

The Win Skellerup Library Trust has donated \$1500 for the purpose of purchasing popular fiction books for adult readers. We seem to be allocated donations from this source every two or three years, along with other public libraries, and it is always a pleasant surprise to receive this addition to the book budget.

6.10.3 Displays

The popularly named Anti-Smacking Referendum was publicized until mid- July with a display by Barnados. The Alzheimers Society also had a display that month, and a Safer Community Council display entitled “Families without violence” went from late July to early August.

In August the Toy Library held a display promoting its services in the Children’s Library.

6.10.4 Library Week

Library Week 2009 ran from 10 to 16 August with the theme “Escape, Explore, Discover”, which Ashburton promoted as ‘Escape the winter, Explore the library and Discover all it has to offer’.

One activity on offer during the week was one-on-one help to explore the library’s online catalogue and information resources. All the people who took part had particular subjects they wanted to explore and were surprised at the wide range of readily available information.

Ashburton District Tourism also helped with the theme, creating a display of the district’s attractions, encouraging people to explore and discover Mid Canterbury.

6.10.5 Mid Canterbury’s Favourite Read 2009

Library staff began this promotion in July, collecting nominations for favourite books. Almost 500 nominations were received for Adult, Young Adult and Children’s books, with the winners announced during Library Week.

Two titles emerged as first equal favourite. *Silks*, by Dick and Felix Francis and *Twilight* by Stephenie Meyer, with Kate de Goldi’s *The 10pm Question* and Stuart MacBride’s *Cold Granite* following close behind.

Adult readers enjoyed a huge range of fiction, from Jane Austen’s *Pride and Prejudice* to Khaled Hosseini’s *The Kite Runner* and Bernard Cornwell’s Richard Sharpe series.

No one title emerged as a winner in the non fiction section, but biographies were clear favourites amongst Ashburton readers.

For young adults, Stephenie Meyer and J K Rowling emerged as the favourites with several other interesting authors also receiving a mention. Melina Marchetta, Tamora Pierce and New Zealand’s Fleur Beale were amongst those chosen, along with the classic *Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy*.

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Many of the children's favourites were no surprise as Hairy Maclary, Daisy Meadows and Zac Power books always fly off the shelves. Older authors such as Enid Blyton and Dr Seuss still feature as children's favourites, alongside some of today's great authors, such as Morris Gleitzman and Kate DiCamillo.

When the library ran a similar promotion in 2005, Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code* was the favourite book, with Bryce Courtenay heading the list of favourite authors.

6.10.6 Children's Library

In July there were class visits from the new Christian school, and from the Baptist and Hannah 'n' Henry's pre-schools.

After-school visits included a Brownie group working towards their animal badges, and some Pippins who arrived dressed as their favourite book characters.

The July school holiday event had a Pirates and Parrots theme, with a story reading followed by the children constructing their own treasure maps, parrots and pirate hats. This activity attracted about 60 children. We were pleased to have the help of two Altrusa Club members in entertaining the children.

6.10.7 Statistics for July

Issues	July 2009	June 2008
Non-fiction	5552	5650
Fiction	5406	5084
Large Print	2734	2559
English Resources	13	19
Rentals	76	101
Young Adult Fiction	1026	946
Young Adult Non-Fiction	149	123
Young Adult Magazines	66	86
Young Adult CD	75	83
Paperbacks	443	452
Magazines	468	501
Adult Audio	125	153
Adult Video	348	337
Junior Fiction	9007	9146
Junior Non-Fiction	2421	2576
Junior Magazines	412	454
Junior Audio	413	416
Junior Video	840	960
Requests	20	24
Stack	118	100
Undefined	119	141
TOTAL	29831	29911

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

<u>Memberships</u>	Total at end July 2009	July 2008	Added during July 2009
Adults	7931	7894	73
Young Adults	1014	1004	4
Junior	2936	2929	42
Non-resident	114	106	0
Other	387	394	9
TOTAL	12382	12327	128
<u>Foot Traffic</u>		July 2009	July 2008
		13038	13521
<u>Year To Date</u>		13038	13521
<u>Reference Enquiries</u>		July 2009	July 2008
Adult		893	591
Children		160	130
Total		1053	721

6.10.8 Statistics for August

Issues	August 2009	August 2008
Non-fiction	5199	5198
Fiction	5049	4726
Large Print	2840	2554
English Resources	14	26
Rentals	57	100
Young Adult Fiction	873	965
Young Adult Non-Fiction	130	106
Young Adult Magazines	45	60
Young Adult CD	79	71
Paperbacks	419	493
Magazines	512	435
Adult Audio	145	127
Adult Video	234	305
Junior Fiction	7998	7710
Junior Non-Fiction	2371	2175
Junior Magazines	286	280
Junior Audio	330	385
Junior Video	706	876
Requests	17	19

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Stack	116	105
Undefined	107	50
TOTAL	27527	26766
Issue - Year To Date	57358	56677

<u>Memberships</u>	Total at end August 2009	August 2008	Added during August 2009
Adults	7945	7897	60
Young Adults	1011	996	2
Junior	2920	2937	30
Non-resident	116	104	1
Other	386	395	2
TOTAL	12378	12329	95
<u>Foot Traffic</u>		August 2009	August 2008
		11661	12194
<u>Year To Date</u>		24699	25715
<u>Reference Enquiries</u>		August 2009	August 2008
	Adult	738	817
	Children	65	140

6.11 PARKS AND RECREATION

6.11.1 Ashburton Domain

Spring is upon us so there has been a lot of maintenance such as hoeing annual beds, mowing lawns, cutting edges, spraying etc.

Twenty four flowering cherries, Prunus 'Shirotae', have been planted inside the brick wall along West Street. Root Barrier was installed between the trees and brick wall.

A number of seed needed for the spring planting (summer display) have been sown, eg begonia & geraniums which have germinated already and are being pricked out at present.

Two new pieces of playground equipment were installed in the playground.

6.11.2 Tinwald Domain

More clearing work and chipping of branches has been done. The area that was cleared along Maronan Road boundary has been cultivated and sown with grass seed.

Three NZ Red Beech, Nothofagus fusca, have been planted in the Plains area, by the Tinwald branch of Red Cross to acknowledge 150 years of the Red Cross organisation. They were planted on 12 August 2009 which was also the 60th anniversary of the Geneva Convention.

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

6.11.3 Township Beautification and Sports Grounds

Carpet roses have been trimmed in the berms at the northern approach, Coniston Waters, Oak Grove, Chalmers Avenue as well as Methven and Rakaia townships.

More neighbourhood playgrounds have been topped up with bark.

New playground equipment was installed at Davis Crescent.

A couple of mowing rounds have already been completed.

There has been some light tree pruning done at the Friendship Lane elderly person's cottages as well as general maintenance at other cottages.

6.11.4 Rural Reserve Beautification

The rural gang was involved with the transplanting of the big trees out at the Ashburton Business Park.

They have completed a mowing round and a spray run at Barrhill, Bowyers & Taylors Streams, Hakatere & Wakanui and North Reserve.

Twenty eight planes, Platanus acerfolia, have been planted along part of the stretch of the new passing lane at Ealing. The planting starts at the old original rest area and heads north.

6.11.5 Training

John Hoogweg, Frith Chamberlain, Brent Ching and Ross Bragg have been attending Theory Training Days in Christchurch, each Wednesday in August, covering subjects such as Botany and Soils & Plant Nomenclature. These have been provided by the NZ Horticulture Industry Training Organisation (NZHITO).

6.11.6 Ashburton Business Park

We have transplanted approximately 100 large trees, 3 to 6 metres in height, with a large treespade truck that we contracted from Treescape in Auckland through City Care in Christchurch. The trees came from our open ground nursery at Argyle Park and also from Mona Lodge Nursery on Allens Road, thanks to the generosity of Michael and Judy Kingsbury.

6.11.7 Cemeteries

A number of graves at Ashburton Cemetery have been topdressed as well as maintenance work on the driveways.

Rural cemeteries have been given a spray run and a line of Lombardy Poplars, Populus 'Lombardy', have been planted along the western boundary of the Hinds cemetery.

Ashburton Cemetery

June 2008		June 2009	
Interments	9	Interments	5
Ashes	3	Ashes	9
July 2008		July 2009	
Interments	10	Interments	9
Ashes	4	Ashes	4
August 2008		August 2009	
Interments	14	Interments	11
Ashes	5	Ashes	3

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

6.12 YOUTH COUNCIL MEETINGS

MINUTES of a meeting of the **ASHBURTON YOUTH COUNCIL** held on Tuesday, 4 August, in the Council Chambers, Ashburton District Council, commencing at 5.40 pm.

PRESENT: S Putaranui (Chair), S Ruck, B Stevenson, S Smith, L MacGregor, J Lester and J Leonard

Also in attendance, J Sparks and V Prendergast

APOLOGIES: G Wragg, R Kilworth, K Moses, Emma McGregor, G Robertson and J Corbett
Sustained

Minutes

“That the minutes of the Ashburton Youth Council held on Tuesday 21 July, 2009, be taken as read and confirmed.”

Blair / Jazz

Carried

Matters Arising

Youth Café/Bar concept

Stacey reported on the follow up meeting she recently attended for the proposed Youth Café/Bar. The Café organisers are still investigating a potential location on West Street for the Café. They will be holding their next meeting for interested parties on Wednesday 5 August. The Café organisers are currently in the process of setting up a trust for the project.

Matters for Discussion

National Youth Forum on Cultural Diversity

Vikki thanked the five youth council members who put their names forward to attend the National Youth Forum on Cultural Diversity to be held in Wellington from August 22-24. A draw was held and Blair and Stacey are the successful candidates who will be representing us at the Forum. They will report back to the Youth Council about the Forum at our next meeting in September.

Future Plans for the Ashburton Youth Council

Youth Council members held a brain storming session and came up with ideas to what they might like to arrange in the future. Some of these ideas were:

- Fashion parade, Mr Ashburton, Miss Ashburton
- Graffiti Wall
- Senior dance
- Skits competition/Ashburton’s got talent
- Town lip sync
- Pool party
- Sports competition ie squash, touch football
- Courses for young people – ie budgeting
- Host inspirational speakers – ie. MP’s, sports stars, aid workers
- Orientation day – ie about careers options, university
- Visits to other Youth Councils
- Attend a Council Meeting, meet all the Ashburton District Councillors
- Drive in movie

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

- Romance evening
- Night carnival
- Father & son projects
- Mother & daughter projects
- River raft racing
- Quiz nights
- Coast to coast like event but instead local and say Ashburton River to Lake Hood
- Kite day
- Karaoke
- Sausage sizzles with proceeds going to a local charity or school team

It was agreed that all are good ideas, but the 'how to' accomplish them remain a problem. Members have decided to start with the small, achievable items on the list and work their way up to other events from there. Vikki will enquire at Bunnings, Mitre 10, The Warehouse and Harvey Normans as to when their bbq's are available to hold sausage sizzles for use by community groups. Once a suitable date is found members will man the bbq on behalf of a local group and donate all proceeds to them. Members are optimistic that by creating public good will and attention they will be able to raise the profile of the Youth Council and of young people doing worthy deeds in the community.

Vikki will also investigate the possibility of Youth Council members joining the Ashburton District Councillors for a 'meet and greet' in the near future.

General Business

Stacey advised she has been approached by local BMX riders who have concerns about the overgrown state of the BMX track behind The Warehouse. Vikki will investigate who has the responsibility of looking after the track and will report back to members at the next meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Ashburton Youth Council will be held on Tuesday 1 September, 2009, in the Council Chamber commencing at 5.30 pm.

The meeting concluded at 6.45 pm.

MINUTES of a meeting of the **ASHBURTON YOUTH COUNCIL** held on Tuesday, 1 September, in the Council Chambers, Ashburton District Council, commencing at 5.35 pm.

PRESENT: S Putaranui (Chair), B Stevenson, S Smith, L MacGregor, J Lester, G Wragg, S Lewthwaite, K Moses, E McGregor, J Corbett and J Leonard

Also in attendance, R Kilworth and V Prendergast

APOLOGIES: J Sparks, G Robertson and L Howden

Sustained

Minutes

"That the minutes of the Ashburton Youth Council held on Tuesday 4 August, 2009, be taken as read and confirmed."

Stacey / James

Carried

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Matters Arising

BMX Track

Vikki reported a public BMX track exists behind the Warehouse and it was set up around the same time as the skatepark. The land was provided by Council and a licence to occupy the land was given at that time. Due to lack of use it has become overgrown, but anyone is able to use it if they wish. There is also a cycle challenge track at the Tinwald Domain if BMX enthusiasts wish to use that.

Matters for Discussion

National Youth Forum on Cultural Diversity

Stacey and Blair gave a brief verbal account on their recent attendance at the National Youth Forum on Cultural Diversity held in Wellington. Both enjoyed the forum immensely and they will provide the Youth Council a written report about the forum in the near future.

Proposed Ashburton Youth Café

Stacey reported she has recently attended a meeting for the proposed Youth Café and along with Kate and Luke has been elected members of the Youth Café's Board. Details of the Café are still being worked on behind the scenes and a possible site for it has been found. Funding for running of the Café is still to be sourced.

Youth Council Meet & Greet with Councillors

A tentative date for Youth Council members to meet the Ashburton District Council Councillors has been set for Tuesday 3 November after the scheduled Youth Council meeting that night. Further details of a presentation to give to the Councillors during the meet and greet is required to be worked out at the next Youth Council meeting,

Community BBQ

Members have chosen Saturday 26 September to hold a fundraiser bbq at Harvey Normans. Gemma will ring Harvey Normans to check this date is still available for use. Once availability is confirmed James will make up a roster of who can man the bbq and when. A suitable charity to receive the proceeds of the bbq will be decided upon shortly.

General Business

Gemma advised that many of the current Youth Councillors are in Year 13 and will be leaving Ashburton soon for tertiary study. To ensure high membership continues Gemma will begin promotion of the Youth Council at Ashburton College and Sam L at Mt Hutt College.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Ashburton Youth Council will be held on Tuesday 13 October, 2009, in the Council Chamber commencing at 5.30 pm.

The meeting concluded at 6.35 pm.

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

6.13 NATIONAL CYCLEWAY PROJECT – ASHBURTON DISTRICT PROPOSAL

Ashburton District Tourism's Manager, Nigel Birt has provided Council with an update of the Ashburton District bid to develop a cycleway as part of the National Cycleway Project being administered by Tourism New Zealand and the Ministry of Economic Development. He provides a background to the National Cycleway Project, including the process to implement, followed by the activity within our region to this point. Detailing the objectives of the months ahead, a summary is followed by appendices that include the proposed route and an example of the database we have established to date.

Council feedback is sought along with a letter of support that can be included in ADT's district bid to central government.

The National Cycleway Project – Background:

The National Government implemented the national cycleway project after the concept evolved from the job summit early in 2009. The cycleway project has evolved from the conceptual phase to the implementation phase over the last 6 months as central government has developed the process and resources required to ensure an efficient process. The concept has received a very positive response with many enquiries in the early phases, to the point that central government had to refine the process further and define parameters for groups to work within.

The National Cycleway Project – Process:

Central Government has passed the project onto Tourism New Zealand and the Ministry of Economic Development to administer. With government wanting action, 'Phase One' established seven 'quick-start tracks' (including three DOC tracks), that were chosen from initial proposals and have been funded for track development to start in September 2009. The cycleway project was at this stage receiving a lot of interest and proposals in many differing formats, and 'Phase Two' was established to maintain a systematic and consistent structure for all. Phase Two is to run from September 2009 until September 2010 and follows the following process:

- The Ministry of Economic Development (MED) established and implemented a Market research paper due for completion and results by mid September 2009. Market research findings into the types of experiences that potential users of the cycleway tracks are seeking will be made available at this time. This will assist in the MED in establishing the 'Funding Framework' that regional cycleway projects will be required to submit their proposals within. The Funding Framework is due for release at the end of September, to regions and districts willing to submit a proposal.
- A 'Cycleway Road-show' will visit each region during October, view the proposed routes and assist each district in inputting their proposal into the Funding Framework structure, to ensure that the process is understood, and provide any necessary assistance.
- The proposals in the Funding Framework structure will be due in to the MED during December 2009 for the first review.

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

- Proposals successfully chosen from the Funding Framework phase, will be move onto the Feasibility Phase, where funding may be granted to conduct a feasibility study of the proposal. The Feasibility Phase will gather very specific information on each proposal, prior to returning to MED for a further review.
- Successful district projects from the Feasibility Phase will then be asked to prepare a business case to present to the government, establishing a joint venture relationship between central government funding and the proposed district cycleway projects and communities involved.
- Phase Two Cycleway approved tracks are hoped to have development started during the latter part of 2010.

The National Cycleway Project – Key Outcomes:

From the information that we have received to date the key outcomes that the National Cycleway project wishes to achieve are:

- Utilising a National Cycleway to increase both domestic and international tourism opportunity at a nationwide level. This development is green, sustainable and in line with New Zealand's 100% pure marketing campaign. Cycleways are a proven attraction appealing to a wide variety of demographics, while increasing the economic benefit for areas and businesses associated with these cycleways.
- The Market Research paper will provide further information when released, however early indications are that government wish to see cycleways developed that:
 - Cater for a wide range of groups and are generally easy to moderate bike rides on well formed surfaces (Not Mountain biking);
 - Have a lot of pre-existing infrastructure in place so that central government financial investment achieves greater results.
 - Are 3 to 4 days long with facilities every 30-40km;
 - That encompass local attractions, heritage and ecological values; and that are iconic to New Zealand's high scenic values.
 - That creates employment opportunities for the current and future communities of the region. A higher focus is on tourism employment developments around the cycleway once established, over and above the employment opportunities in the construction phase of tracks.
 - Reflect a strong, regional partnership approach to the development of cycleway projects. A partnership could comprise, for example, several local government authorities, Trusts, iwi, organizations, private investors and regional tourism organizations.

Ashburton District Cycleway – Background:

Prior to the announcement of the National Cycleway project, the Ashburton District had a number of differing groups exploring the concept of various cycleway/walkway developments. These groups included the Rakaia Township community, Methven and the foothill communities, along with Ashburton and the Lake Hood developers.

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

With the development of a National Cycleway Project, many of these individual groups wished to progress quickly in their projects in order to maximize the potential of funding opportunities in being included in the National project. It was clearly stated by Central government during the establishment phase that they wished to see proposals from districts and regions presented in one complete project, rather than multiple proposals within any given region.

It was clear at this point that Local Councils or Regional Tourism Organisations were the most appropriate channels in which to present proposals to Central Government for consideration. Ashburton District Tourism, fronted by Nigel Birt with the assistance of Councilors Kelvin Holmes, Jos Everest and Jac Sparks coordinated the collective approach as a unified district to the cycleway project.

A number of consultation meetings were held to combine all the individual group efforts to date and to allow the general public to have input into the districts cycleway plan and presentation to the national project. It was very apparent from these meetings that there was strong support for the project, a high level of individual research to date and some economic investment by the private sector into track development available. From these initial district meetings a strong steering group was developed to assist Ashburton District Tourism with the proposal. A collective decision was also made of the best route to present to the National cycleway that would best fit with the criteria received to date, along with outlining some possible future routes that could add value to the main route once it has been established.

This process over the past three months has created a vision for our district and a collective group prepared to drive the project forward. With or without central government funding, there is motivation to explore the feasibility of cycleway development within the Ashburton District.

Ashburton Cycleway Project – Action to Date:

- Public meetings held to unify all sub-groups and allow public consultation.
- Steering group formed to assist in the district proposal.
- Collation of all the information received by the various groups and individuals to date.
- Contact made with Tourism New Zealand and the Ministry of Economic Development researching the likely criteria that would be considered in a cycleway proposal, and clarification of the process that is required.
- Decision made on the key route that would best fit with the government criteria received to this point. Then dividing of this route into sections that could be researched by sub-groups within the steering committee. Also collation of possible secondary cycleway route potential within our district that would add future value to the primary route.
- Establishment of the key criteria requiring research for each section and the assignment of steering group members to this research.
- Development of a database in which to store the information collected so that when the Funding Framework Structure is receive, the information is easy inserted allowing for a quick turn-around.
- Development of a detailed electronic map of the proposed routes.
- Consultation with National MP Jo Goodhew and MP Tim McIndoe from Hamilton West on the districts cycleway proposal. They provided the group with some key feedback on how best to precede and present the proposal based on the information they have received to date.

6. DEMOCRACY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Ashburton Cycleway Project – Future process:

As of the date of this report the steering group is following the following timeline until further information is received from the Ministry:

- 08 Sept to 23 Sept - The sub groups within the cycleway steering group are collecting information as per their allocated tasks thus far. This includes Kelvin Holmes and Jos Everest having discussions with RDR management, ECAN and Council to establish support and update them on the proposed.
- Preparing and implementing initial discussions with key landholders to establish their feelings around the project.
- 28 Sept to 09 Oct - Identify any weaknesses or parts missing in the proposal and focus on improving these. Contact with other areas that have had the MED 'roadshow' visit, and gather information that may assist.
- Mid to late Oct – 'Roadshow' visits provide an outline of what is needed to finalise the districts presentation. This will define the tasks and timeframe for October to December 2009.
- Present the Ashburton District Cycleway Proposal in December 2009.

Summary:

The National Cycleway project is an opportunity for the Ashburton District to joint venture with central government and develop infrastructure that will provide great community benefit, enterprise opportunities, tourism growth and greater seasonal sustainability for tourism operators. With this amount of central government funding being invested in a national cycleway, the global marketing of the finished product by Tourism New Zealand will only be substantial. Ashburton District, if included in the national cycleway project, would greatly benefit from the promotion to come. Therefore this project has massive potential benefit for the district and requires as much support as possible.

Nigel Birt
General Manager
Ashburton District Tourism

7. FINANCE

ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

FILE NO: 5/10/2/2
DATE: 17 September 2009
REPORT TO: Finance and Community Services Committee
FROM: Finance Manager
SUBJECT: Rakaia Volunteer Fire Brigade – Ex Rakaia Land Rover

7.1 RAKAIA VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE – EX RAKAIA LANDROVER

7.1.1 SUMMARY

Council has received a request from the Rakaia Volunteer Fire Brigade requesting to be able to purchase the ex Rakaia Land Rover.

7.1.2 RECOMMENDATION

“That Council transfers the ownership of the ex Rakaia Land Rover to the Rakaia Volunteer Fire Brigade at no charge.”

7.1.3 BACKGROUND

Council has received a letter dated 30 July 2009, from the Rakaia Volunteer Fire Brigade asking Council whether they can purchase the ex Rakaia Land Rover that has been used at Lauriston. The letter outlines the history of the 1958 Land Rover which according to the letter was originally purchased from funds raised by the Rakaia community. The vehicle is now surplus and would normally be tendered, but would be of limited value. Given the history of this vehicle and its purchase, it is appropriate to give this to the Rakaia Volunteer Fire Brigade rather than have them buy it. This is consistent with the Council’s decision in giving the Gwyn v8 fire pump to the Methven Firefighters Support Group Inc at the 8 August 2009 Finance and Community Services Committee. The Council’s Emergency Management Officer is aware of the request and supports the proposal.

7.1.4 STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

There are no statutory implications arising from approving the recommendation in this report.

7.1.5 OPTIONS AND RISKS CONSIDERED

Council could retain ownership or consider selling this item either to the Rakaia Volunteer Fire Brigade or place the vehicle up for open tender. Given that the value of this vehicle is limited and we have a community group willing to look after and preserve it, the option of vesting it in the community group is preferred.

7. FINANCE

7.1.6 STRATEGIC LINKS

The recommendation could be seen to be consistent with the following Strategic Outcome 6:

- Cultural, recreational and heritage facilities are maintained and developed to meet community needs.
- Cultural, recreational and heritage experiences and facilities are accessible to the community and actively used.

7.1.7 CONSULTATION

There is no specific consultation required.

7.1.8 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council will forego and proceeds from the sale of this plant item but will save any costs associated with its upkeep.

Prepared By

P BRAKE
Finance Manager

Approved By

B LESTER
Chief Executive

7. FINANCE

ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

FILE NO: 5
DATE: 17 September 2009
REPORT TO: Finance and Community Services Committee
FROM: Finance Manager
SUBJECT: Rural Fire Fighters Uniform – request for funding

7.2 RURAL FIRE FIGHTERS' UNIFORM – REQUEST FOR FUNDING

7.2.1 SUMMARY

The rural fire fighters in the Ashburton District are requesting funds for a dress uniform, at an initial cost of approximately \$9,000 plus GST.

7.2.2 RECOMMENDATION

“That Council provides finding of up to \$9,000 for the purchase of shirts and ties, and badges for the rural firefighters, the funds to be from the rural fire account.”

7.2.3 BACKGROUND

The combined rural fire forces have requested funding towards the purchase of dress shirts with rural fire logos, a tie and identification badges. The uniforms would be used at the next service awards ceremony to be held in the 2010/2011 financial year. They hope to hold this event regularly in the future (every 2-3 years) in recognition of the service the fire fighters provide the community. The estimated cost to provide shirts, ties and badges to 140 fire fighters is approximately \$9,000 + GST. This cost would be for the initial purchase although there is likely to be some ongoing cost each year in providing new firefighters with these items.

7.2.4 STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

7.2.5 OPTIONS & RISKS CONSIDERED

The application could be declined as a non essential item, as it is not directly related to their core function. The applicants could seek alternative sources of funding in the community.

7.2.6 STRATEGIC LINKS

Not applicable.

7.2.7 CONSULTATION

There is no further consultation required.

7. FINANCE

7.2.8 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

The rural fire account currently has a credit balance of approximately \$130,000, which is the source of this funding. The ongoing expenditure is unknown at this stage.

Prepared By

P BRAKE
Finance Manager

Approved By

B LESTER
Chief Executive

7. FINANCE

7.3 FINANCE

7.3.1 Financial Reports

Financial reports are not available at this stage of the year.

7.3.2 2009-19 Long Term Council Community Plan Audit Costs

The audit cost of the 2009-19 LTCCP was \$66,223. This was \$6,777 below Audit New Zealand's estimate of \$70,000. This saving reflects the positive comment made by Audit New Zealand regarding the very good standard of the draft LTCCP produced to Audit and only minor changes were required as a result of the audit work.

7.3.3 Rating Revaluation

Council's three yearly rating valuation has now been approved by the Valuer General as at 1 July 2009. A copy of the approval is attached. **Pages**

The audit procedure went smoothly and no major issues were raised during the audit. Council will receive an audit management report from the Valuer General at some stage outlining their audit findings.

Notices of the revised valuations are currently being mailed out and objections must be received no later than 14 October 2009. Objections can be made either in writing or at Quotable Value's web site www.qv.co.nz.

7.4 FORESTRY

7.4.1 Sales and Harvesting

SALES INFORMATION REPORT - FOREST SUMMARY *Period: 1/6/2009 to 31/8/2009*

Products	Quantity Units	Net Value
Domestic Sawlogs	3161.790 tonnes	\$45,027.95
Export Sawlogs*	3058.947 JAS	\$12,841.24
Total	6220.737	\$57,869.19

* not total export value

Harvesting works at Springburn were completed at the start of August with over 3000 tonne of logs uplifted in July. Production for the month of August was down again as the logging crew completed harvesting work at Lake Clearwater and on the Ashburton Gorge Rd. Works at Lake Clearwater included the removal of potentially dangerous trees near a playground and other trees adjacent to bachs. At the completion of this work the logging crew moved to Winslow where we were looking forward to harvesting a stand not affected by wind damage. Unfortunately a little over a week after we started this plantation the district was subjected some severe north-west gales which caused extensive damage to this plantation. Wind damaged trees threatened a public road which required an emergency closure.

7. FINANCE

The export sales values above are quite modest, the Council is however due wash up payments for export logs in excess of \$30,000. This is the result of export log prices increasing. The increase in export prices also means that our admin prices have increased which means that net export log prices have increased by at least 50%.

7.5 PROPERTY

7.5.1 Sales and Harvesting

Tender documents have been prepared and tenders called. Tenders close 28 September 2009.

7.5.2 Methven Medical Centre

Floor plans have been approved by the medical personnel and the architect has been asked to proceed with working drawings and contract documents. It is hoped to call tenders October/November 2009 with a view to having the building closed in and operational by next ski season.

7.5.3 Pendarves Fire Shed

Revised scheme plans have been prepared and will be forwarded for comment.

7.5.4 Lauriston Fire Shed

A meeting has been held with adjoining owners to resolve siting issues.

7.5.5 Resource Centre

The verandahs have been re-roofed. Specifications for painting are nearing completion. It is intended that tenders will be called early/mid October.

7.5.6 Administration Building Temporary Accommodation

The building consent has been received and tenders have been called closing 20 October 2009.

P L BRAKE
Finance Manager