

Central Hawke's Bay District Council – Report

TO: Council
FROM: Trish Giddens, Mayor
DATE: 29 January 2009
FILE REF: COU1-700
SUBJECT: MAYORAL REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2008 – JANUARY 2009

1.0 SUMMARY

Whilst 2008 for Central Hawke's Bay ended quietly, unfortunately the start of the New Year has held some tragic events for our community. Grateful thanks to our firemen (many pulled from retirement) as a result of a fire at the Waipukurau aerodrome, prevented a potentially explosive situation and the loss of property.

As a result of the loss of life resulting from an altercation in Onga Onga, many CHB residents have expressed their wish for more to be done to ensure we live in a safer community. MP's have been approached and Craig Foss in attendance at the funeral is aware of the community's feelings.

The meetings regarding the Town Hall project continue as we plan for the launch date. The CEO and I also visited the townships of Otane and Waipukurau to view and discuss the issues, growth and potential growth of these areas. All other townships will be visited over the next two months.

11 December

I attended the Annual General Meeting of Infracon. I have a lot of respect for and am pleased Brett Davies has been appointed to the Board.

12 December

I attended the cocktail party celebrations for 150 years of Local Government in the Hawke's Bay region. This was held at the Hawke's Bay Opera House with David Marshall the guest speaker.

16 December

I attended the prize giving services of the Onga Onga School and was suitably impressed with the technology in place at the school, the modification of the classroom settings and the enthusiasm of the staff.

18 December

During the Council meeting lunch break as Mayor I attended and addressed the Pakeke Centre Christmas luncheon at the RSA.

23 December

Along with other related body representatives I attended a Drought Assessment meeting at the Hastings District Council. The general consensus from the meeting was that we were not in drought but again needing to be aware and ensure the support and education was available to those who may need assistance.

5 January

I attended the powhiri for the Te Tai Timu Trust and the 70 children attending the Kaitiaki programme held at the Westpac Pool, Pourerere Beach and the Te Angi Angi Reserve.

On the Thursday evening I attended the presentation of the overview of the 5 day programme and a concert by the children. A lot of work went into this programme with Rob Hewitt leading much of the programme, Sergeant Ross Gilbert in attendance for the entire 5 days and MAF, DOC and Water Safety New Zealand representatives taking a large and active role also.

27 January

Along with the CEO and Jenni Giblin I met with a representative from the Eastern and Central Trust to present the model of the intended Town Hall project and our case for funding towards the upgrade. We were advised that the pool may not be as much due to the economic downturn. The meeting regarding the allocation of funding was being held on 28 and 29 January.

28 January

MP John Hayes visited and relayed some concerns made to him regarding the impending rate rises. With the CEO we took the opportunity to discuss the government's intention regarding infrastructure. Our needs for assistance have since been resubmitted to his office. We also talked amalgamation and he advised his intention to survey the electorate members and seek their views. The Eastern and Central Community Trust will soon be seeking election of 6 directors. CHB does not have a representative on the Trust and has not for the last two elections. If you are aware of suitable candidates (ie. with good business acumen) for recommendation and submission to John Hayes please advise me as soon as possible.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION***THAT***

The report be received.

Trish Giddens
Mayor