

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 FEBURARY AND MARCH 2009

1.0 SUMMARY

These past two months have seen me meeting one on one with community members, and agency representatives, responding to correspondence and involved with meetings around Safer Communities and Economic Survival.

8 February

As Mayor I was invited and attended the 150th Celebrations of the Waiapu Diocese at Christ Church at Pukehou. This on what appeared to be the hottest day of the year was well attended with the overflow accommodated in the marae. After the dedication of a Stained Glass window by the Right Rev. Sir Paul Reeves the celebrations continued at Te Aute College.

10 February

Our first Hawke's Bay Local Government Leaders Forum for 2009 and with Alan Dick as the new Chairman for the Regional Council and we were updated with Local Government concerns, the remuneration issue, the proposed regional fuel tax and the stimulus package by Central Government.

16 February

At the Pettigrew Green Arena Hawke's Bay Inc held a meeting with invited Rugby World Cup affected parties to go over our bid and the projected programme.

18 February

The CEO and I met with Alan Dick and Regional Councillor Tim Gilbertson as an introductory meeting with the Regional Council's new Chairman and his opportunity to ask about Central Hawke's Bay's needs.

I was also visited by two local Police constables to show their interest in ensuring Central Hawke's Bay stays a safer community.

19 & 20 February

Along with the CEO we attended the Rural Sector meeting in Wellington. We were addressed by four Ministers and the content was largely as I reported last Services meeting.

22 February

Another hot day and another successful year for our Council with the Mayoral Cycle Challenge. With the organisation by Ethna Renner, support of Council staff, Sports Hawke's Bay and the Mighty Hawks we once again won this challenge in our Category of populations between 11,000 and 58,000. Pretty impressive as Central Hawke's Bay has the lowest population in this category of 24 Councils. With 272 cyclists and 507 points raised by 1 point for each cyclist and bonus points for celebrities a further challenge could see all Councillors taking part in 2010.

27 February

In response to community concerns I coordinated a meeting between MP's John Hayes and Craig Foss, Police, community representatives including Iwi and network agency representatives, to specifically address Gang Issues and safer communities. This meeting allowed the free expression of views and produced a plan of action for all to reduce and hopefully eliminate the anti-social behaviour we are currently noticing in our community.

2 & 3 March

With four councillors and the CEO I attended the Zone 3 Meeting in Napier. We were addressed by the Minister of Local Government, Rodney Hide and had the opportunity to share the main issues of our Council. Sharing an evening meal with some attendees provided some good network opportunities.

6 March

A Hawke's Bay Economic Summit was held at the Opera House in Hastings. This was coordinated by Hawke's Bay Inc, EIT, Hawke's Bay Chamber of Commerce and the Ministry of Social Development. Presentations from the Primary, Secondary and Service industries gave us updates, some with supportive statistics, as to the state of the economy of Hawke's Bay. The summation was we were not doing too badly however we were encouraged to stay positive and were given pointers on how to survive economically.

10 February

I attended the Ministry of Social Developments Youth Gang Governance Group meeting in Napier which was called earlier than expected largely as a result of Central Hawke's Bay's concerns.

As Tamatea Board members, we met with the Tararua Mayor and CEO, and fellow share holders in Infracon. Board members Pat Gallagher and Jeanette Samundsen have been invited to address Council.

13 March

The Town Hall Launch of 'Lights On' with a large portion of those invited in attendance was one of those very pleasant and well received events. With the dramatic start, guests well catered for, a good display of history and future projections, very good light entertainment and the announcement of monies received to date, the feedback has been decisively positive. We look forward to the success of this project.

16 March

In support of WHK Coffey Davidson a presentation was made to Central Hawke's Bay businesses of a 'Special Seminar – Economic Survival Kit'. This was aimed at small to medium sized local businesses and aimed to help them operate and adapt to the changing market conditions.

17 March

I was interviewed for my monthly radio spot at the Tavistock Hotel where there were many businesses enjoying breakfast in true Irish fashion on St Patrick's Day.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION***THAT***

The report from Her Worship the Mayor for February and March 2009 be received.

Trish Giddens
Mayor