

## Central Hawke's Bay District Council – Report

TO: Council

FROM: Trish Giddens, Mayor

DATE: 8 September 2009

FILE REF:

SUBJECT: **MAYORAL REPORT AUGUST 2009**

---

### 1.0 SUMMARY

These months have been interspersed with some constituent visits, Town Hall meetings, the CEO's performance review and work around the Civic Awards.

#### **26 - 29 July**

With the Chief Executive, I attended the Local Government Conference in Christchurch. This year's conference contained very good Keynote speakers, informative addresses by members of parliament and a good open and frank session by the Deputy Minister of Local Government John Carter at the Rural/Provincial AGM.

#### **5 August**

With Councillor Manning I attended the Otane Primary School. Whilst some discussion took place with the Principal Dion Crouch around concern of numbers and those living within Otane and choosing to go to school outside of Otane, the opportunity to address the children, field their questions and view their actions of planting in their school vegetable garden was all a good public exercise.

As a result of our last drought meeting I attended an address by Getrude Matshe, a young lady from Zimbabwe who against several odds of leaving her country and moving to New Zealand, has become a motivational speaker and a very successful business woman. This was held in the Opera House in Hastings and there were some Central Hawke's Bay farmers in attendance.

#### **7 August**

I attended the opening launch of the Napier Museum Fundraising project.

#### **12 August**

Craig Foss met with the Chief Executive and I for a general update from us of 'what's happening in our area' and from him 'what is happening in central government.

#### **13 August**

With other staff members I attended a morning of CIMS (Coordinated Incident Management) training suitably run by TeAroha Cook. A good exercise followed by a small test that had my brain working outside the normal.

#### **14 August**

At the Hawke's Bay Opera House I attended an 'Embracing the Future' Breakfast organised by the Hawke's Bay Regional Council. Rod Oram, an economist, addressed us regarding the recession with 'Has Hawke's Bay risen to the challenges and opportunities?' We heard of the cause, effect, damage and hangover and how

Hawke's Bay has responded to it. The general message was – 'Keep Calm and Carry On'.

### **17 August**

I attended the Hawke's Bay Local Government Leaders Forum and the discussion was largely around the proposal by Lawrence Yule regarding amalgamation. Cal Huddleston of HB Wine Country Tourism spoke of the need to improve our Tourism Road Signs in order to present better recognition of our attractions, eg. a bunch of grapes depicting a winery as opposed to another sign amongst many other signs. This was presented as a project fitting well with the Regional Land Transport Committee. Discussion also took place regarding rate funding of Venture HB. Les Probert sought some clarification around the future of the Railway between Napier to Gisborne.

### **18 August**

A meeting was held with the Infracon shareholders at Oruawharo as a stake holders update.

### **21 August**

Councillors Tennent, Butler, the Chief Executive and I attended a one day workshop in Carterton on Finance Governance 101. A good refresher and some good points picked up here.

### **24 August**

With our local MP's I attended a meeting of representatives of the Contractors Federation at Russell Roads in Hastings. Generally roading contractors were concerned at the lack of work coming through, the bulking of projects and the length of time before tenders are placed.

I attended the Annual General Meeting of the district Halls Committees meeting and whilst some committees are getting underway and/or working well, other committee structures need reviewing.

### **25 August**

Mary Collins of WINZ visited to advise of government initiatives endeavouring to place as many out of work 16 to 24 year olds in employment.

Fryer Cup at the CHB College was again a popular and entertaining evening especially as Hobson House took most of the awards.

### **31 August**

CHB College hosted a Science Fair Road Show which was well attended by various schools throughout the day. The road show was an impressive display and presentation. I was also impressed by the knowledge of the students.

### **1 September**

Police Superintendent Sam Hoyle, Eastern District Commander visited with an update of police activities locally and district wide.

### **2 September**

Damian Parata, Regional Team Leader of Department of Internal Affairs visited as an introduction and with general supportive information toward CHB.

I enjoyed a cultural experience of the La Sylphide Ballet at the Napier Municipal Theatre.

**4-6 September**

This was a very good weekend for CHB largely due to the successful promoting and marketing of 'The Festival' activities. Friday night I enjoyed the Lady Killers concert, I judged the Wearable Trash Art awards on Saturday morning, attended the WETA Debate on Saturday night and visited the Festival Art and Craft show on Sunday.

**8 September**

I officially opened and stayed the morning for the 'Safe for Seniors' Seminar organised by Age Concern. Amongst those addressing the seniors regarding safety were representatives from the Police, Fire Service, Night Patrol, Elder Abuse, Red Cross, St. John's Ambulance Services, and WINZ.

Councillors Waite, Tennent, Kingston and I attended a Friends of the Library meeting. Councillor Waite gave a briefing of the purchase of the Waipawa Library premises and it was resolved a working party was required to provide suitable plans regarding the interior design of the Library.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION****THAT**

The report be received.

Trish Giddens  
**MAYOR**