

Notice is hereby given that a Meeting of the Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee will be held on:

Date: Monday, 12 June 2017
Time: 6pm
Meeting Room: SDC Office,
Venue: 18 Diana Street, Lumsden

Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee Agenda

OPEN

MEMBERSHIP

Chairperson Rob Scott
Deputy Chairperson Alf Maclean
Members Kevin Skoropada
Carolyn Smith
Greg Tither
Morris Williams

Councillor John Douglas

IN ATTENDANCE

Committee Advisor Rose Knowles
Community Kelly Tagg
Partnership Leader

Contact Telephone: 0800 732 732
Postal Address: PO Box 903, Invercargill 9840
Email: emailsdcc@southlanddc.govt.nz
Website: www.southlanddc.govt.nz

Full agendas are available on Council's Website
www.southlanddc.govt.nz

Note: The reports contained within this agenda are for consideration and should not be construed as Council policy unless and until adopted. Should Members require further information relating to any reports, please contact the relevant manager, Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.

Terms of Reference - Community Development Area Subcommittees

Community Development Area Subcommittees are delegated the following responsibilities by the Southland District Council.

- Represent and act as an advocate for the interest of its community.
- Consider and reporting on all matters referred to it by the Southland District Council, or any matter of interest or concern to the Community Development Area Subcommittee;
- Maintain an overview of services provided by the Southland District Council within the community;
- Consider annual estimates for expenditure within the community and recommend these to Council;
- Communicate with community organisations and special interest groups within the community;
- Undertaking any other responsibilities that are delegated to it by the Southland District Council.

In addition to these activities, Community Development Area Subcommittees will consider how best to provide for our communities, and the people who live there, into the future.

Community Development Area Subcommittees will provide leadership by:

- Positively representing their community and the Southland District;
- Identifying key issues that will affect their community's future and work with Council staff and other local representatives to facilitate multi-agency collaborative opportunities.
- Promote a shared vision for the wider community of interest area and develop ways to work with others to achieve positive outcomes

Community Development Area Subcommittees will adopt a strategic focus that will enable members to:

- Provide local representation and guidance on wider community issues, initiatives and projects.
- Contribute to the development and promotion of community cohesion, by developing and supporting relationships across a range of stakeholders at a local, regional and national level.
- Take part in local community forums, meetings and workshops.
- Inform local residents and ratepayers on issues that affect them.

Community Development Area Subcommittees shall have the following delegated powers and be accountable to Council for the exercising of these powers.

Engagement and representation

- Facilitating the Council's consultation with local residents and community groups on local issues and local aspects of district wide issues including input into the Long-term Plan, Annual Plan, and policies that impact on the Board's area.
- Engaging with council officers on local issues and levels of service, including infrastructural, recreational, community services and parks, reserves and cemetery matters.
- Representing the interests of the community at Council, Committee or Subcommittee meetings when a motion under debate relates to a matter that the Board considers to be of particular interest to the residents within its community.
- Monitoring and keeping the Council informed of community aspirations and the level of satisfaction with services provided.

Financial

- Approving expenditure within the limits of annual estimates.
- Approving unbudgeted expenditure for locally funded activities up to the value of \$10,000.

Rentals and leases

- In relation to all leases of land and buildings within their own area, on behalf of Council;
 - Accepting the highest tenders for rentals of \$10,000; or less per annum.
 - Approving the preferential allocation of leases where the rental is \$10,000 or less per annum.

Local assets and facilities

- Overseeing the management of local halls and community centres which are owned by Council and where no management committee exists. This will occur by way of relationship with officers of Southland District Council.
- Appoint a local liaison person responsible for community housing.

The Community Development Area Subcommittees can make recommendations to Council on:

Assets and Facilities

- Annually providing feedback on any asset management plans or community services strategies applicable to the community for which the Community Development Area Subcommittee is responsible.

Rentals and leases

- In relation to all leases of land and buildings within their own area, on behalf of Council;
 - Recommending rentals in excess of \$10,000 per annum to the Group Manager Services and Assets.
 - Recommending the preferential allocation of leases where the rental is in excess of \$10,000 per annum to the Group Manager Services and Assets.

Contracts/Tenders

- Recommending tenders less than \$200,000 to the Group Manager Services and Assets.
- Recommending tenders in excess of \$200,000 to the Services and Assets Committee.
- Recommending tenders to the Services and Assets Committee where preference is not for acceptance of the highest tenderer,

Financial

- Recommending annual estimates to Council
- Recommending unbudgeted expenditure in excess of \$10,000 to the Services and Assets Committee.

Local Policy

- Considering matters referred to it by officers, the Council, its committees or subcommittees, including reports and policy and bylaw proposals relating to the provision of council services within the Board's area; and
- Making submissions or recommendations in response to those matters as appropriate.
- Appoint a local liaison person responsible for community housing.

The Chairperson of each Community Development Area Subcommittee is delegated with the following additional responsibilities:

- Approval of leases, rental agreements and the rollover of existing contracts under \$1,000;
- Engaging with Community Development Area Subcommittee members to make submissions to the Council on behalf of the Community Development Area Subcommittee where a submission period is outside of the Community Development Area Subcommittee meeting cycle. Where a Chairperson is unable to base a submission on a consensus among Community Development Area Subcommittee members, a Community Development Area Subcommittee meeting must be held.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM PAGE

PROCEDURAL

1	Apologies	5
2	Leave of absence	5
3	Conflict of Interest	5
4	Public Forum	5
5	Extraordinary/Urgent Items	5
6	Confirmation of Minutes	5

REPORTS

7.1	Council Report	15
7.2	Freedom Camping	25

UPDATES

8.1 Chairperson's Report

The Chairperson, Member Scott, to report on matters with which he has been involved since the subcommittee's last meeting.

8.2 Committee Reports

Works & Cemetery – Kevin Skoropada
Hall – Alf Maclean
Community Housing – Morris Williams
Information Centre – Carolyn Smith
Nth Sld Development Fund Allocation – Rob Scott & Greg Tither
Nth Sld Development Charitable Trust - Rob Scott & Greg Tither

8.3 Councillor's Report

Councillor Douglas to report on activities from the District Council table.

1 Apologies

At the close of the agenda no apologies had been received.

2 Leave of absence

At the close of the agenda no requests for leave of absence had been received.

3 Conflict of Interest

Committee Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision-making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

4 Public Forum

Notification to speak is required by 5pm at least two days before the meeting. Further information is available on www.southlanddc.govt.nz or phoning 0800 732 732.

5 Extraordinary/Urgent Items

To consider, and if thought fit, to pass a resolution to permit the committee to consider any further items which do not appear on the Agenda of this meeting and/or the meeting to be held with the public excluded.

Such resolution is required to be made pursuant to Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, and the Chairperson must advise:

- (i) the reason why the item was not on the Agenda, and
- (ii) the reason why the discussion of this item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

Section 46A(7A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (as amended) states:

“Where an item is not on the agenda for a meeting, -

- (a) that item may be discussed at that meeting if-
 - (i) that item is a minor matter relating to the general business of the local authority; and
 - (ii) the presiding member explains at the beginning of the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public, that the item will be discussed at the meeting; but
- (b) no resolution, decision or recommendation may be made in respect of that item except to refer that item to a subsequent meeting of the local authority for further discussion.”

6 Confirmation of Minutes

- 6.1 Meeting minutes of Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee, 10 April 2017

Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee held in the SDC Office, , 18 Diana Street, Lumsden on Monday, 10 April 2017 at 6pm.

PRESENT

Chairperson	Rob Scott
Deputy Chairperson	Alf Maclean
Members	Kevin Skoropada Carolyn Smith Greg Tither Morris Williams
Councillor	John Douglas

IN ATTENDANCE

Committee Advisor	Rose Knowles
Community Partnership Leader	Kelly Tagg

1 Apologies

There were no apologies received.

2 Election of Chair and Deputy Chair

Record No: R/17/4/7353

Cr Douglas called for nominations for Chair of the Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee.

Alf Maclean nominated Rob Scott and Morris Williams seconded the nomination.

There were no other nominations and the nomination of Rob Scott for the Chair of the Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee was PUT and declared CARRIED.

Cr Douglas call for nominations for Deputy Chair of the Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee.

Morris Williams nominated Alf Maclean and Greg Tither seconded the nomination.

There were no other nominations and the nomination of Alf Maclean for the Deputy Chair of the Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee was PUT and declared CARRIED.

Resolution

Moved Member Smith, seconded Member Williams **and resolved:**

That the Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee:

- a) **Receives the report titled “Election of Chair and Deputy Chair” dated 3 April 2017.**
- b) **Elects a Rob Scott to be Chair of the Subcommittee for the 2017/2020 Triennium.**
- c) **Elects a Alf Maclean to be Deputy Chair of the Subcommittee for the 2017/2020 Triennium.**

At this point Councillor Douglas handed the chairing of the meeting over to Rob Scott.

3 Leave of absence

There were no requests for leave of absence.

4 Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5 Public Forum

There was no public forum.

6 Extraordinary/Urgent Items

There were no Extraordinary/Urgent items.

7 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolution

Moved Member Maclean, seconded Member Smith

That the Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee confirms the minutes of Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee meeting held on 1 March 2017 as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Reports

8 General Explanation from Chief Executive

Record No: R/17/4/7354

Community Partnership Leader – Kelly Tagg was in attendance for this item. She advised that the content of the report explained the various parts of the legislation that as a Member of the Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee need to be aware of.

Resolution

Moved Member Williams, seconded Member Skorapada **and resolved:**

That the Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee:

- 1. Receives the report titled “General Explanation from Chief Executive” dated 3 April 2017.**

9 Terms of Reference and Delegations 2017/2020

Record No: R/17/4/7355

Community Partnership Leader – Kelly Tagg was in attendance for this item. She advised that the Terms of Reference and Delegations that were before the Subcommittee for noting had been approved by the Southland District Council at its meeting on Wednesday 26 October 2016.

Resolution

Moved Member Smith, seconded Member Maclean

That the Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee:

- a) **Receives the report titled “Terms of Reference and Delegations 2017/2020” dated 3 April 2017.**
- b) **Note the Terms of Reference and Delegations for Community Development Area Subcommittee approved by Council at its meeting on Wednesday 26 October 2016.**

10 Standing Orders

Record No: R/17/4/7356

Community Partnership Leader – Kelly Tagg was in attendance for this item. She advised that the purpose of the report was to advise the Subcommittee that the Standing Orders were adopted by Southland District Council at its meeting on Wednesday 26 October 2016.

The Subcommittee noted that the Standing Orders have been adopted by Council for use at all meetings of the Council, Committees, Subcommittee, Community Board and Community Development Area Subcommittees.

Resolution

Moved Member Tither, seconded Member Williams **and resolved:**

That the Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee:

- a) **Receives the report titled “Standing Orders” dated 7 April 2017.**
- b) **Note that Southland District Council at its meeting on Wednesday 26 October 2016 adopted Standing Orders for use at all Council, Committee, Subcommittee, Community Board and Community Development Area Subcommittee meetings of the Southland District Council and that it is required to operate in accordance with the Standing Orders so adopted.**

11 Elected Members Code of Conduct

Record No: R/17/4/7357

Community Partnership Leader – Kelly Tagg was in attendance for this item. She advised that the Code of Conduct was adopted by Council at its meeting on Wednesday 26 October 2016.

The Subcommittee noted that the Code acts as a guide to ensure a standard of behaviour that is expected by all elected member (Councillors, Community Board and Community Development area Subcommittees when they are acting under Council delegations.

Resolution

Moved Chairman Scott, seconded Member Williams

That the Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee:

- a) **Receives the report titled “Elected Members Code of Conduct” dated 5 April 2017.**
- b) **Determines that this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of Section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002.**
- c) **Determines that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with Section 79 of the Act determines that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.**
- d) **Notes the Elected Members Code of Conduct for Councillors and members of the Community Boards and Community Development Area Subcommittees of the Southland District Council which was adopted by Council at its meeting on 26 October 2016.**
- e) **Adopts the Elected Members Code of Conduct when acting under its statutory powers as provided for in the Local Government Act 2002.**
- f) **Notes that the Elected Members Code of Conduct must be complied with when the Board is acting under its delegations approved by Council at its meeting on 26 October 2016.**

12 **Schedule of Meetings for 2017**

Record No: R/17/4/7358

Committee Advisor – Rose Knowles was in attendance for this item. She advised that the purpose of the report is to approve a schedule of meeting dates for 2017 so that meetings can be publicly notified in accordance with the requirements set by the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

The adoption of a meeting schedule allows for reasonable public notice preparation and planning for meeting agendas. The Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 which has requirements for Local Authorities to follow for public notification of meetings.

Southland District Council approved the Terms of Reference for the Community Development Area Subcommittees at its meeting on 26 October 2016. In the approved terms of reference was the frequency of meetings was noted as being the same as the 2014/2017 triennium.

Resolution

Moved Member Williams, seconded Member Tither

That the Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee:

- a) **Receives the report titled “Schedule of Meetings for 2017” dated 4 April 2017.**
- b) **Determines that this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of Section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002.**
- c) **Determines that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with Section 79 of the Act determines that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.**
- d) **Agrees to meet at the Southland District Council Office, 18 Diana St, Lumsden at 6pm on the following dates in 2017:**
 - **Monday, 12 June 2017**
 - **Monday, 14 August 2017**
 - **Monday, 9 October 2017**
 - **Monday, 4 December 2017**

13 Community Liaison Persons

Record No: R/17/4/7414

Committee Advisor – Rose Knowles was in attendance for this item.

Mrs Knowles advised that the purpose of the report is to appoint Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee members as liaison persons to numerous entities in the Lumsden Community.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Douglas, seconded Member Maclean

That the Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee:

- a) **Receives the report titled “Community Liaison Persons” dated 4 April 2017.**
- b) **Agrees to appoint Morris Williams as the Community Housing liaison person for Lumsden for the 2016/2019 triennium.**
- c) **Agrees to appoint Subcommittee members for the 2016/2019 triennium as liaison persons for the following:**
 - **Works & Cemetery – Kevin Skoropada**
 - **Memorial Hall – Alf Maclean**
 - **Information Centre – Carolyn Smith**
 - **N S Development Fund Allocation – Rob Scott & Greg Tither**
 - **N S Development Charitable Trust – Rob Scott & Carolyn Smith**

14 Council Report

Record No: R/17/3/6878

Community Partnerships Leader – Kelly Tagg was in attendance for this item.

Mrs Tagg took the Subcommittee through the Council report and particularly highlighted the following:

- Around the Mountain Cycle Trail
- Southland Regional Development Strategy
- Fresh water management
- New dog registration discounts
- Freedom camping
- Community Governance and Representation Review
- Community Leadership Plan workshops
- Community Conversations
- People and Capability
- Claycrete Trail
- Finances

Resolution

Moved Member Skoropada, seconded Member Smith

That the Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee:

- a) **Receives the report titled “Council Report” dated 5 April 2017.**

15 Recently Adopted Policies

Record No: R/17/3/4049

Community Partnerships Leader – Kelly Tagg was in attendance for this item.

Mrs Tagg advised that the report was to inform the Subcommittee of policies that had been adopted by Council.

Resolution

Moved Member Williams, seconded Member Tither

That the Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee:

- a) **Receives the report titled “Recently Adopted Policies” dated 5 April 2017.**
- b) **Notes that the Council has recently adopted three new policies, two of which came into effect on the 23rd of February 2017.**

16 Updates

16.1 Chairperson's Report

The Chairman, Rob Scott, reported on matters with which he has been involved since the subcommittee's last meeting;

- Lumsden School children requests to do some planting in the township and work with the Museum.

Members Skoropada and Smith to meet with the children and plan their requests.

- MB Fund application for the Railway Upgrade has not be submitted this round, with more work to be completed on the planned upgrade before being submitted next round.
- Recreation Grounds - No response as yet on the new Sports Group to be formed.

16.2 Councillor's Report

Councillor Douglas reported on matters from the District Council table. These included;

- Cycle trail update
- Te Anau Wastewater update
- CDA Elections
- Claycrete trials
- Medical Trust Issues in Lumsden

The meeting concluded at 8pm

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT
RECORD AT A MEETING OF THE LUMSDEN
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AREA
SUBCOMMITTEE HELD ON 10 APRIL 2017

DATE:.....

CHAIRPERSON:.....

Council Report

Record No: R/17/5/11555
Author: Kelly Tagg, Community Partnership Leader
Approved by: Rex Capil, Group Manager Community and Futures

Decision Recommendation Information

Item 7.1

Chief Executive

Havelock North Water Inquiry

- 1 The "Report of the Havelock North Drinking Water Inquiry: Stage 1" was released in mid-May. Stage 1 of the Inquiry has essentially focussed on what occurred at Havelock North and why.
- 2 The Inquiry found that there were a number of failings by Hastings District Council, drinking-water assessors appointed under the Health Act 1956 and employed by the Hawke's Bay DHB, and Hawke's Bay Regional Council, being the key parties with responsibility for the water supply regime in Havelock North. While none of the faults identified directly caused the outbreak the Inquiry notes that a different outcome may have occurred if the identified deficiencies had not existed.
- 3 Stage 2 of the Inquiry is now proceeding and will look at lessons and improvements that can be made more broadly to the way in which water is managed across New Zealand. This will include looking at the regulatory regimes under which the various agencies involved operate.
- 4 The outcome of Stage 2 is expected to have ramifications for the broader water policy settings within which all local authorities across New Zealand operate and will no doubt inform other policy work being undertaken by Central Government.
- 5 Local Government New Zealand will be making submissions on behalf of all local authorities. Much of this submission is expected to draw on the work completed as part of their Water 2050 project through which they have advocated for the development of a co-regulatory model to help drive the lifting of standards across the sector.
- 6 As part of the broader policy debate about the development of water standards it is important that there is a stronger linkage between the different aspects that need to be covered including issues ranging from the setting of standards through to the financing and community affordability of infrastructure to deliver required standards over time.

Civil Defence Review

- 7 The Government have decided to carry out a review of civil defence policy settings. The review is described as: "Better responses to natural disasters and other emergencies in New Zealand", and will be led by a Technical Advisory Group ("TAG") which is chaired by Hon Roger Sowry.
- 8 The terms of reference for the review are expected to be released at the end of May with provisional recommendations likely to go to Government by the end of August.
- 9 The overall focus of the review will be on the following three broad areas:
 - Decision rights – that is how should the chain of command work;
 - The nature of information flows to the public and media given available technology and the nature of the resources available locally and centrally to assist; and

- Capability and capacity across the system including ways and means to better deploy resources depending on priorities.

10 Officers will continue to monitor the review as it proceeds and report on any outcomes of significance to Southland.

Southland Regional Development Strategy (SoRDs)

11 Work has been progressed to develop a proposed consultation document for the formation of a new Southland Regional Development Agency as a council controlled organisation.

12 The agency would be formed as a limited liability company with its shareholders consisting of the four Southland Councils, Iwi and community based organisations to ensure that there is a 'whole of region' approach to regional development moving forward. Other key aspects of the proposal include the appointment of a skills based board, to ensure that the focus is on the appointment of directors with an appropriate level of expertise, and the creation of a separate tourism division to ensure that there is an appropriate level of focus placed on development of the tourism industry. This proposal is consistent with the recommendation made by the SoRDS Tourism Action Team.

13 If the proposal is accepted by all four Councils then there would be a joint community consultation exercise undertaken. This would streamline the process and ensure that there is a common set of recommendations provided back to each of the Councils.

Land and Water Plan

14 Last year Council lodged a comprehensive submission on the Environment Southland (ES) proposed Land and Water Plan.

15 ES are now moving into the formal hearings process with a requirement for detailed evidence to be submitted by 12 May although they have granted time extensions for some submitters.

16 Officers have now lodged, in conjunction with the Gore District and Invercargill City Councils the evidence needed to support the submission previously approved by Council. The Councils are due to present their evidence at a hearing in September 2017.

Rural Fire

17 The transition process to merge Rural Fire Authorities with the NZ Fire Service to create Fire and Emergency Management NZ (FENZ) is continuing. FENZ will officially come into being from 1 July 2017.

18 As part of the transition process Council has formally resolved to approve the sale of the relevant firefighting equipment to FENZ at a nominal price. More recently officers have also been working with FENZ to agree transitional arrangements for the provision of a range of support services including Information Technology services. It is expected that these arrangements will continue through until June 2018.

Tourism Infrastructure Fund

19 On 11 May the Government announced a new Tourism Infrastructure Fund to replace the Mid-sized Regional Facilities Fund and Regional Growth Partnership Fund.

20 The new fund will have some \$25 million per annum available to assist with co-funding of tourism related facilities in district's that meet the relevant criteria.

21 Officers will give consideration to whether there are any infrastructure projects within this District that might meet the criteria. This will be done via work that needs to be progressed to develop a programme of works needed to implement the Open Spaces Strategy that was adopted by Council in 2014. Officers will look to include these projects in the draft 2018 10 Year Plan.

- 22 It is important to recognise the co-funding requirement and hence the need for funding to be available through existing budgets.

Te Anau Wastewater Discharge Project

- 23 On 22 March Council received formal advice indicating that the Smith Family no longer wished to proceed with the proposed sale of their land to Council for potential use as an alternate disposal site for the Te Anau Wastewater project. From a contractual perspective, Council is now able, under the Deed of Agreement that it has with Fiordland Sewage Options, to exercise the Kepler consents should it so choose.
- 24 At its 17 May meeting Council asked officers to proceed with the development of a Business Case for the Kepler option. This decision reflects the importance of Council continuing to progress development of this option given the need to have any alternative fully operational by December 2020, unless new consents can be obtained for the existing Upukerora discharge.
- 25 In parallel with the work on the Kepler Business Case officers are also progressing development of potential criteria and a process via which it might identify potentially suitable alternative disposal sites. Work is underway to develop these criteria with a report back on these going to the Te Anau Wastewater Project Committee in August.

Around the Mountains Cycle Trail

- 26 At its 17 May meeting Council asked to progress the development of a business case for a "Heartland Ride" option from Walter Peak to Centre Hill.
- 27 As part of the business case process officers are also required to advance negotiations with the three main external funders, including the Crown, to agree on the implications of Council proceeding this option on the existing contractual arrangements. To date the Crown has been clear that it expects the Council to complete the Trail to the Great Ride standard and for Council to do otherwise would be a breach of its Funding Agreement.
- 28 Officers are progressing the work required and will keep Council briefed as it proceeds.

Milford Opportunities Project

- 29 As part of the SoRDS project Central Government announced the allocation of \$250,000 towards the first phase of the Milford Opportunities Project.
- 30 Officers have been working with the Department of Conservation to develop revised terms of reference for the project. These are being discussed with the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE) which is the government agency that will manage the funding arrangements with Council. Work is also underway to identify members that might be suitable for the proposed project governance group.

Customer Support

- 31 Customer Support is currently preparing for the annual dog registrations over June and July. With the introduction of online payments over the last two years, there has been an increase in payments received online and forms received via email. The Environmental Health Team will send out approximately 6,500 letters to our customers for dog registration.
- 32 The Nightcaps Community Library has now moved to a Book Bus service with the first stop being planned for late June 2017. We will monitor use of the service over the next six months and also work closely with regular customers to meet their library needs.

Services and Assets

Public Conveniences

- 33 This is predominantly business as usual when it comes to operations, however the budgets clearly show an increase in costs for those toilets situated on the main tourist routes. The upgrade project at Colac Bay has been deferred until the Foreshore Road access issues have been resolved.
- 34 The Lions Park usage counts show similar seasonal trends to previous years, the year-end totals however are likely to be slightly down on last year given the low numbers early in the season. The reason for this is unknown, however it did coincide with the significant upgrade work on the building next door by Real Journeys which may have affected their bus parking locations.

Water Structures

- 35 Consultation on Stewart Island jetties is ongoing, with Southport now also wanting to divest its ownership of the Golden Bay wharf. Plans are also underway to do some initial investigations of the Waiau River boat ramps to identify any urgent issues to be included in the 2018 Long Term Plan. A more detailed inspection will be undertaken prior to the next Long Term Plan.
- 36 Licence Agreements with private berth owners at Riverton is progressing with a majority signed and returned. The outstanding ones will be followed up.

Curio Bay Project

- 37 Ongoing with Council's waste water project and Department of Conservation's carpark completed. The South Catlins Trust has the new camping amenities building operational as well as commencing construction on the new heritage building. An ancillary project has resulted from all this development and the three parties in conjunction with other interest groups, are involved in a planting programme on the reserve to increase the habitat for the Yellow Eyed Penguins.

Te Anau Airport - Manapouri

- 38 The summer season has concluded with the last flight in early May. The statistics should be out by next report to compare past year's performance. Winter period is about maintenance of ground handling equipment and general terminal tidy up, ready for the up and coming summer season which will start in the middle of August.
- 39 A very positive letter of appreciation from Alliance Airlines with the way we handle our ground handling system; we achieved a best on time performance in the country with an on time performance factor of 95%, with one aircraft defect delaying departure.
- 40 The Air Force display went well and one aircraft remained at the airport overnight due to a defect. The airport staff provided security for the night.

Alternative Coastal Route Improvement

- 41 The Roding Company have capitalised on recent weather patterns and have made good progress in a relatively short timeframe on this project.

Alliance Maintenance Contract Renewal

- 42 Following the decisions made by Council at its 27 April meeting to approve the proposed new road maintenance contracts officers have been working with the contractors to finalise the contract arrangements.

- 43 The discussions have been very positive with a good level of buy-in to implementation of the 80:20 principle and agreement to explore a number of other new initiatives during the next contract term.

Community and Futures

Stewart Island Wharf Engagement

- 44 The Stewart Island wharf engagement process is now well advanced. A survey has been established and been widely distributed to residents on the Island, key stakeholders on and off the Island, and a selected number of ratepayers.
- 45 The survey and consultation process has been publicised through the local Stewart Island News, Southland Times and the Advocate, with posters distributed throughout the Island, Riverton and Te Anau Area Offices. The consultant was on the Island in May and conducted a number of one-on-one interviews, public drop-in sessions and an evening public conversation café. From here, information will be collated and the consultant will go back to those who have taken part with a summary and any recommendations being made to Council. The final report is expected at the end of June and will go to Council July/August 2017.

Milford Opportunities

- 46 Discussions with MBIE are ongoing although we are getting closer to having a contract for the government funding that was announced at the SoRDS launch. It is likely that the project will tie in well with some work that MBIE is looking at in relation to the tourism pressures and issues that are being faced in Queenstown.

District Facilities Project

- 47 Venture Southland are undertaking this project on our behalf and are currently in the process of surveying both the operators and a representative sample of users. The project will assist Council in understanding the type, range, and location of facilities in the District as well as the level of use they get.

Te Anau Community Consultation

- 48 The public feedback part of the process has closed and the comments collated. The next step is for the Te Anau Community Board to go through the comments and identify the projects that they see as the priorities for the Board to invest in on behalf of the community, what they might advocate for on behalf of the community, and what they cannot or do not wish to pursue.

Community Governance Project and Representation Review Project Update

- 49 The Community Governance Project and Representation Review Projects are aimed at enhancing community involvement so that future governance structures in Southland work best for the people of Southland to assist strong district decisionmaking while empowering local communities to participate in processes that reflect the needs and requirements of the district.
- 50 The Elected Member Working Group will provide feedback on the development of issues and option and assist the stakeholder and community engagement process. It will meet over the course of the projects.
- 51 The Representation Review is a formal statutory process that will be informed by the feedback from the Community Governance Review. Staff from across the Council will be involved in the project as there will be operational issues to plan for with any changes to the

current representation arrangements. The Electoral Officer Dale Ofsoske will be assisting the Council to fulfil its statutory obligations.

2017/2018 Annual Plan

- 52 Council made decisions on the feedback received from individuals and organisations on the Annual Plan Update 2017 on 6 April 2017.
- 53 The key financial changes included providing a one-off grant in 2017/18 for the Hollyford Conservation Trust (\$10,000 GST exclusive) and increase in the Regional Heritage Rate (\$5 per rating unit GST inclusive), both to be funded from reserves/existing budgets. The Council also approved a number of changes to project timing, including projects to be carried forward from 2016/17 into 2017/18 and corrections to fees and charges and grants. The rate increase is for the final plan has dropped slightly to 3.63% from 3.64% signalled in the Annual Plan Update 2017.
- 54 Council staff have incorporated the changes from the deliberations into the final draft and presented the final draft annual plan to councillors for feedback at a workshop on 17 May. The Annual Plan will be adopted at the Council meeting on 7 June 2017. At this meeting, Council will also be asked to set the rates for the 2017/18 financial year.
- 55 Once the plan is adopted, reply letters will be sent to all people who provided feedback, a copy of the Annual Plan will be available to view on the council website and hard copies will be printed and distributed the Area Offices.
- 56 Strategy and Policy staff will then move their attention the Annual Report and LTP.

Community Leadership Plan Workshop Update

- 57 Eight Community Leadership Plan Workshops were held across the District in April bringing together Councillors, Community Board and CDA members along with Community Partnership Leaders and Venture Southland Community Development staff. Feedback from attendees has been positive and our Elected Members were challenged to look towards the future and identify opportunities, they were also asked what their township will look like in the next 3, 10 and 30 years, who will be living there and who their communities of interest will be.
- 58 The Community Partnership Leaders are now working to collate the results before embarking on stage two of the consultation process with key community stakeholders.

Service Delivery Scoping Project

- 59 Council has engaged Rebecca McElrea to undertake the above project. The purpose is to consider future Council service delivery options for communities in the Southland District with demand from residents, ratepayers and visitors being the primary focus. The consultant has been requested to investigate and consider the types and levels of service demanded from customers and consumers, how services could be delivered and where from. At present we are working to develop the surveys before commencing the community engagement aspect of the process.

Environmental Services

Resource Management Act Amendments

- 60 Now that the Resource Management Act amendments have been enacted, staff are working through the implications of these and will be presenting a report on this to Council at its meeting in 21 June 2017.

- 61 One of the major components of the amendments in the introduction of a more 'template' approach to planning at a national level aimed at driving more national consistency. This is likely to have significant implications for the shape of future planning documents.
- 62 The Ministry for the Environment is bringing a road show to Invercargill on this topic on the afternoon of 21 June, which staff will be attending.

Earthquake Prone Amendments to the Building Act 2004

- 63 As previously advised these take effect on 1 July 2017.
- 64 Council has received correspondence from MBIE on various arrangements which all councils need to make in advance of the amendments and the Team Leader of Building Solutions is working through these now. The Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment held a briefing session for relevant Council staff in Dunedin on 23 and 24 May 2017.
- 65 Councillors will recall that key elements of this can be briefly summarised as setting timeframes for assessing buildings identified as potentially earthquake prone, and timeframes for strengthening such identified buildings based on the risk zone which they are located within (Southland District Council contains High, Medium and Low zone), and based on the use of the buildings and their potential for collapse on key thoroughfares.

Building Control

- 66 The issued consents are down by 44% on April last year and these numbers were down 11% (March) and 23% (February) relative to their respective months in 2016. This reduction is primarily due to a drop off in consent applications for fires, dwelling alterations and farm buildings. There were the same number of new dwellings consented and an increase in the number of new dairy sheds being consented when compared to the same period as last year. The value of the consented work is up by \$1 Million, with three dairy sheds adding \$1.2 Million or 25% to the value of work consented.
- 67 The distribution of work seems to remain primarily in the larger urban areas such as Winton, Te Anau and Riverton. The average price per consented dwelling has risen by more than \$70,000 from the same period last year, reflecting the greater complexity in design. The consents issued this month will require 225 inspections before the work is completed. We continue to receive consent applications at a steady rate and have a number of consents to process.

Dog Registrations

- 68 Dog registration forms are going out in the post in early June. The new dog registration discounts are being introduced this year that recognise responsible ownership, neutering and containment.

Freedom Camping Bylaw

- 69 Local discussions are continuing concerning possibly amending the freedom camping bylaw rules for Lumsden, Waikawa and Weirs Beach.

Rakiura Heritage Centre

- 70 Resource consent was lodged on 1 March to construct a heritage centre at 6 Argyle Street, Oban. This application is currently on hold and once all of the necessary information is received, it will be limited notified to the property owners and occupiers within close proximity to the site.

Notice of Requirement (Edendale)

- 71 The submission on the proposal to realign State Highway 1 closed on 11 May. A total of 18 submissions were received and an indicative timeframe for holding a hearing will be late July or early August. An Independent Commissioner will hold the hearing and make a decision on the application.

District Plan Appeals

- 72 Council has just received indicative mediation dates for the remaining Proposed District Plan appeals. The Environment Court mediation is pencilled in between 8-11 August which will be confirmed once all the parties are satisfied with the dates.

Water and Land Plan Evidence

- 73 Council has submitted five briefs of evidence in relation to Environment Southland's Water and Land Plan hearings which started on 22 May. Council submitted primarily in relation to the organisation's core business (infrastructure affordability, equitable requirements across different activities, timing of rules having effect etc). Council is going to speak to its evidence in mid-September.

Resource Consents

- 74 Resource consent application numbers remain at relatively subdued levels, with limited large scale development currently occurring in the District. Most consents are being processed within the statutory processing timeframes.

Information Management

Digitisation Project

- 75 The final main shipment of paper has been sent from Council at the end of May. This particular shipment will be the single largest being the total boxes sent to over 1,000.

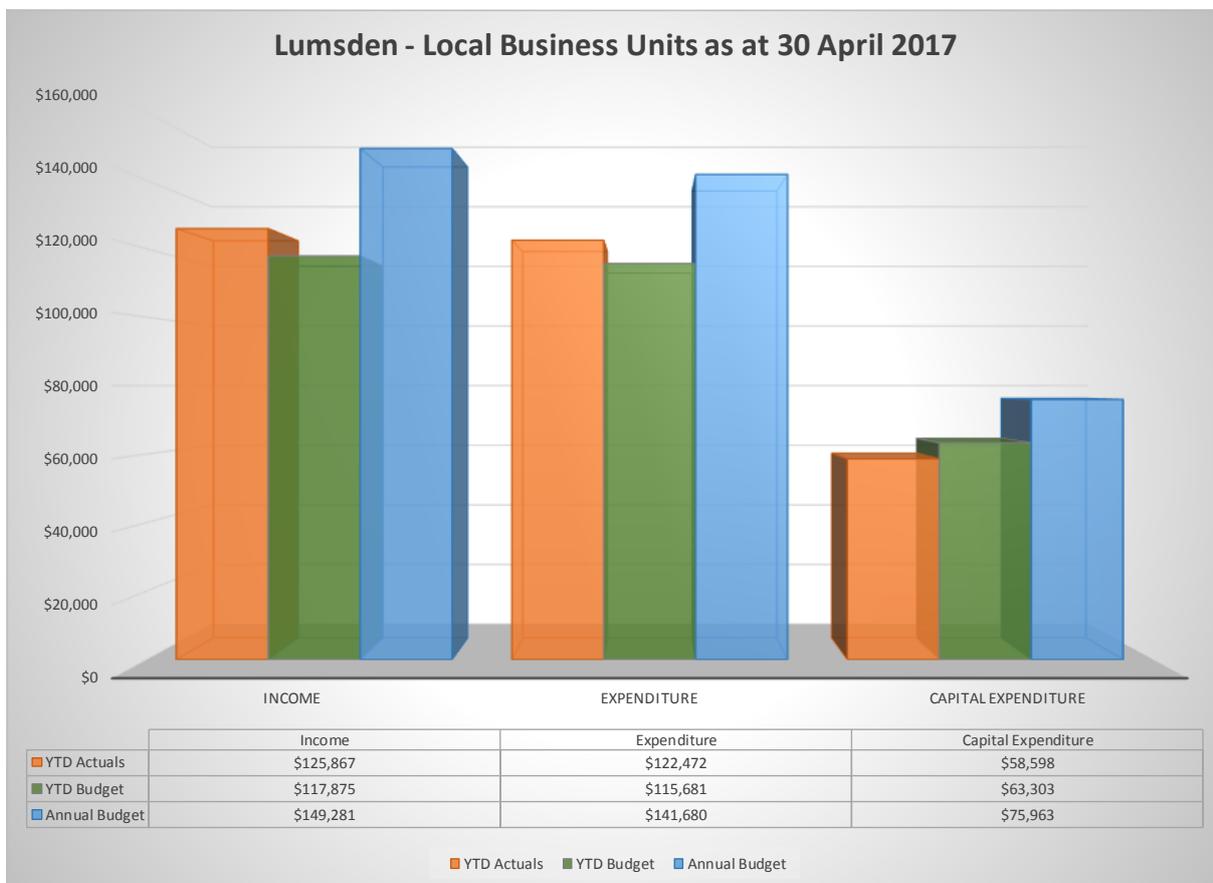
People and Capability

- 76 In February 2017, Council contracted Simpson Grierson to undertake a Health and Safety Gap Analysis. The gap analysis included a review of Southland District Councils Health and Safety Management System, discussions with key operational leaders and visits to operational locations and discussions with workers and key contractors. The intent of the exercise was to compare our current practices with good practice so that we could identify areas for improvement. The report identifies a number of opportunities for improving our current Health and Safety practices. An Action Plan including a draft commitment, objectives and targets has been developed and will be presented to the Finance and Audit Committee in June 2017 for their approval and subsequent monitoring of progress.

Finance

- 77 Year to date income remains slightly ahead of budget year to date due to the increase in hall hire income and a grant of \$3,000 from Meridian Energy for the upgrade of the Lumsden Hall. Interment income is also ahead of budget year to date.
- 78 The income business unit "Operating Costs" shows a debit, this is due to rates adjustments having been completed.
- 79 Overall year to date expenditure is approximately \$7,000 over budget year to date. This can be explained as follows;

- Refuse collection – over budget due to extra refuse collections over the holiday period. The Engineer recommends reviewing this annual budget going forward.
- Cemetery Lumsden – spent \$12,046 year to date, annual budget of \$11,175. This overspend is due to part to higher than anticipated interments and additional mowing costs. Income for this business unit is also above budget year to date.
- Playground Lumsden – approximately \$1,300 over budget against the full year budget due to playground repairs.
- Capital expenditure is tracking on budget.



**Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee
12 June 2017**

Item 7.1

Lumsden - Business Units as at 30 April 2017									
Business Unit	Income			Expenses			Capital		
	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Full Year	Expenses YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Full Year	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Full Year
Administration - Lumsden			\$4,973						
Library - Lumsden	\$19,949	\$19,857	\$23,828	\$16,584	\$16,242	\$19,609	\$1,410	\$3,615	\$4,338
Operating Costs - Lumsden	-\$603	-\$1,739	-\$2,087	\$1,972	\$5,707	\$6,553			
Street Works - Lumsden	\$10,178	\$10,084	\$12,324		\$3,418	\$4,101			
Refuse Collection - Lumsden	\$13,878	\$13,750	\$16,500	\$27,113	\$13,750	\$16,500			
Stormwater Drainage - Lumsden	\$11,662	\$11,554	\$16,456	\$5,221	\$11,574	\$13,865			
Cemetery - Lumsden	\$11,080	\$9,312	\$11,175	\$12,046	\$9,313	\$11,175	\$42,927	\$38,333	\$46,000
Beautification - Lumsden	\$35,371	\$35,125	\$42,150	\$39,492	\$35,125	\$42,701			
Recreation Reserve - Lumsden	\$2,319	\$2,288	\$2,746	\$2,147	\$2,609	\$2,746			
Playground - Lumsden	\$1,854	\$1,846	\$2,215	\$4,742	\$1,846	\$3,452	\$14,261	\$21,354	\$25,625
Camping Ground - Lumsden	\$900	\$1,000	\$1,200						
Hall - Lumsden	\$16,719	\$12,225	\$14,714	\$11,361	\$13,216	\$16,511			
Information - Centre	\$2,560	\$2,573	\$3,087	\$1,793	\$2,882	\$4,467			
Total	\$125,867	\$117,875	\$149,281	\$122,472	\$115,681	\$141,680	\$58,598	\$63,303	\$75,963

Reserve Balances - Annual Plan

Lumsden	Opening Balance	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
Comm Centres Lumsden - OPR	\$2,220	\$2,264	\$2,310	\$2,356	\$2,406	\$2,458	\$2,512	\$2,568	\$2,626	\$2,687	\$2,687	\$2,687
Lumsden Cemetery - CFD	\$61	\$61	\$61	\$61	\$61	\$61	\$61	\$61	\$61	\$61	\$61	\$61
Lumsden Footpaths - RES	\$39,999	\$48,222	\$56,790	\$65,717	\$75,018	\$84,708	\$94,804	\$105,324	\$116,284	\$127,704	\$127,704	\$127,704
Lumsden General - RES	\$115,969	\$87,655	\$85,119	\$90,512	\$87,053	\$92,527	\$98,230	\$104,172	\$110,363	\$116,813	\$118,013	\$118,013
Lumsden Property Sales - RES	\$5,347	\$5,569	\$5,800	\$6,041	\$6,292	\$6,553	\$6,825	\$7,109	\$7,404	\$7,712	\$7,712	\$7,712
Lumsden Stormwater - RES	\$93,434	\$50,025	\$52,725	\$55,538	(\$1,719)	(\$1,187)	(\$633)	(\$56)	\$545	\$1,171	\$1,171	\$1,171
Total Reserves	\$257,030	\$193,796	\$202,805	\$220,225	\$169,111	\$185,120	\$201,799	\$219,178	\$237,283	\$256,148	\$257,348	\$257,348

Recommendation

That the Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee:

- a) Receives the report titled "Council Report" dated 7 June 2017.

Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

Freedom Camping

Record No: R/17/5/11363
Author: Michael Sarfaiti, Environmental Health Manager
Approved by: Bruce Halligan, Group Manager Environmental Services

Decision Recommendation Information

Purpose

- 1 To make a recommendation to Council concerning local freedom camping rules.

Executive Summary

- 2 Lumsden has trialled a non-self-contained freedom camping area at the Railway Station. It has proven to be very popular, however it has caused some division among locals. This report provides an opportunity for the Subcommittee to decide whether it wishes to continue to provide non-self-contained freedom camping in Lumsden, and if so to resolve to make a recommendation to Council to amend the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2015 to ensure that the bylaw reflects projected camping arrangements.

Recommendation

That the Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee:

- a) **Receives the report titled “Freedom Camping” dated 7 June 2017.**
- b) **Determines that this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of Section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002.**
- c) **Determines that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with Section 79 of the Act determines that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.**
- d) **Determines whether it wishes to continue to provide for non-self-contained freedom camping in Lumsden.**
- e) **[If the answer to (d) above is Yes] Resolves to make a recommendation to Council to amend the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2015 in time for the next summer season, by deleting the current map “L2 Lumsden” in Schedule 2 and replacing it with the map in Attachment A; subject to the map being amended to incorporate Tenting Option 1 and deleting Tenting Option 2, with Tenting Option 1 being delineated on an aerial photo to be provided to the Subcommittee on the day of the meeting. Should the NZTA decline to give approval for Tenting Option 1, then Tenting Option 2 is to be adopted.**
- f) **Subject to appropriate funding being confirmed, undertakes to complete the following works:**
 - (i) **Installation of bollards to prevent vehicle accessing the proposed area for tents; and**
 - (ii) **Installation of visual screening at the proposed area for tents; and**
 - (iii) **Sealing of the vehicle parking area; and**
 - (iv) **Marking of camping sites.**

Content

Abbreviations and definitions:

Act: Freedom Camping Act 2011

Freedom camp means to camp (other than at a camping ground) within 200 m of a motor vehicle accessible area or the mean low-water springs line of any sea or harbour, or on or within 200 m of a formed road or a Great Walks Track, using one or more of the following:

- (a) A tent or other temporary structure
- (b) A caravan
- (c) A car, campervan, house-truck, or other motor vehicle.

Self-contained vehicle is a vehicle that is designed to completely meet the ablutionary and sanitary needs of the occupants (including water for drinking and cooking) for a minimum of three days without requiring any external services or discharging any waste. They have the following:

- 1. Fresh water supply
- 2. A sink
- 3. Toilet
- 4. Holding tank
- 5. An evacuation hose
- 6. A sealable refuse container (with lid).

Background

- 3 Council adopted the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2015 (the Bylaw), and it came into force on 12 December 2015.
- 4 Council accepted the recommendations from the local Community Boards and Community Development Area Subcommittees. Most submitters agreed with the recommendations of their local Board/Subcommittee.
- 5 The Bylaw created a designated area for non-self-contained camping at the Railway Station. The site quickly proved popular with freedom campers, and Council's Community Engineer has organised works to manage the demand in conjunction with the Subcommittee. The local freedom camping rules for Lumsden are in **Attachment B**.
- 6 Possible future improvement works may include more toilets, wash basins, potable water and so on. Consideration is also being given to the possibility of more clearly delineated freedom camping sites by sealing the car park area and marking out overnight areas.
- 7 The Lumsden CDA Subcommittee published a newsletter about Freedom Camping in December 2016, it is in **Attachment C**.
- 8 The newsletter advised:
"This is the final year of trial arrangements in response to the site's unexpected popularity. Council wants to ensure the bylaw accurately reflects the community's wishes from the 2017/2018 summer season onwards."

“Thanks to everybody who took part in the Lumsden Community Development Area Subcommittee’s recent freedom camping survey. Lots of helpful information and points came out of it. The CDA received 46 responses: 32 were for freedom camping, 4 were undecided and 10 were against.”

- 9 The Subcommittee held a workshop on freedom camping on 26 April 2017. The Subcommittee indicated at this workshop that it wished to progress an amendment to the Bylaw to reflect current practice and advised staff accordingly.
- 10 On 25 May 2017 Council carried out a community conversation session at Lumsden. Freedom camping dominated the meeting with a small number of locals expressing concerns.
- 11 The Committee discussed the proposed amendments at an informal meeting on 31 May 2017. During the meeting the attendees agreed that the Railway Station area was tidier and safer as a result of the presence of freedom campers – with the elimination of litter, vandalism, and intentional damage. The toilet facilities are now able to be open 24/7 due to this increased security. The attendees felt that the town was now safer than it was.

Issues

Continuation of non-self-contained camping

- 12 The Subcommittee should first decide if it wishes to continue to permit non-self-contained freedom camping in the town boundary. This is important in light of concerns raised by locals, such as in the community conversation on 26 April 2017.
- 13 Freedom camping has caused both benefits and challenges. The Subcommittee has expressed a view that freedom camping has resulted in benefits including increased vibrancy and spending; and also has acknowledged that there have been some problems.
- 14 The Subcommittee should be mindful of the following before making a decision:
- (1) are changes necessary to protect the area; or
 - (2) are changes necessary to protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area; or
 - (3) are changes necessary to protect access to the area; or
 - (4) are changes the most appropriate and proportionate way of addressing the perceived problem.

Self-contained camping

- 15 The current rules permit self-contained camping anywhere within the town boundary (on Council controlled land), for a maximum of three days in any 30 day period.
- 16 The draft in **Attachment A** does not make any changes with respect to self-contained camping. If it wishes, the Subcommittee would be able to encourage self-contained campers to park in certain designated areas by on-site signage.

Non-self-contained camping

- 17 The current Lumsden rules permit both self-contained and non-self-contained camping, and they do not differentiate between vehicles and tents.

- 18 The Subcommittee has informally advised of a preference for the area beside the toilets (Corner Highway 94 and Hero Street) to be utilised for tents only (**Tenting Option 1**). Part of this land is under the jurisdiction of the New Zealand Transport Agency, and so Council would have to go through an approval process with the NZTA before designating the area for tents. Unfortunately this was not able to have been arranged prior to the drafting of this report.
- 19 The draft rules in **Attachment A** propose to create a defined new area for tents in another location, on Hero Street (**Tenting Option 2**), and prohibits tents in the other designated areas for non-self-contained camping.
- 20 At this meeting, should the Subcommittee resolve formally that **Tenting Option 1** is the preferred option, it could so with a condition that this is subject to NZTA approval, and should NZTA approval not be received, then **Tenting Option 2** may be adopted.
- 21 The current area for non-self-contained camping is proposed to be increased in size to be able to cater for peak periods. This increase in capacity will need to be managed to mitigate any adverse effects, discussed in "**Works to mitigate adverse effects of freedom camping**" below.

Camping rules

- 22 The Committee has suggested that the following rules are appropriate for the site:

Freedom camping rules

1. No washing hung on trains, playground, fences or trees
2. Tents only between hours of 5.00 pm and 10.00 am
3. Clean teeth in bathroom
4. Wash dishes at provided sink
5. Vehicles off grassed areas
6. Dogs must be on a leash

- 23 Council's legal advisor recommends that these rules do not form part of the Bylaw, however they can still be informal rules displayed on signage.

Tourist destination work / tourism growth

- 24 Informal discussions are occurring within Council concerning a broader tourism strategy, that includes increasing tourism to certain destinations in the District. Freedom camping is a component of this work.
- 25 Tourism is forecasted to grow over the next few years.
- 26 For these reasons it may be necessary to make further changes to the freedom camping rules in Lumsden in future. For example the Community may wish to increase the capacity for freedom campers, or to change rules to permit destination promotional site works.

Government work programme

- 27 The Minister of Local Government approved a programme of work to address some freedom camping issues identified and to enable a more coordinated response to freedom camping management. They can be summarised as work relating to infringements, information, and infrastructure.

- 28 This programme of work includes establishing an online tool called the Freedom Camping Hub (the Hub), which enables the co-development of freedom camping guidance material for local government.

Works to mitigate adverse effects of freedom camping

- 29 The Committee informally advised the author during a meeting held on 31 May 2017 of its intention to complete works to mitigate any adverse effects from freedom camping, these are listed in recommendation (g) in the resolutions above. These may be amended on the day of the meeting if necessary.

- 30 Any such undertakings would not form part of the bylaw.

- 31 Further, the Committee wishes for Council to make an application to the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment for a grant towards tourism facilities in Lumsden, at the next opportunity to do so. Briefly, the Committee is seeking an upgrade to the toilet block facilities and carpark. This has been included in recommendation (f) in the resolutions above.

Factors to Consider

Legal and Statutory Requirements

The Freedom Camping Act 2011 permits freedom camping in New Zealand. Under that Act Councils may make bylaws to both restrict and prohibit freedom camping in some locations. Section 12 of that Act provides *“A local authority may not make bylaws under Section 11 that have the effect of prohibiting freedom camping in all the local authority areas in its district.”*

- 32 Council’s legal advisor has reviewed this report and advised of no concerns.

Community Views

- 33 The Subcommittee survey mentioned above advised of overall support for freedom camping in the town.

- 34 Should the Subcommittee resolve to amend the bylaw, then the local community will have opportunity to submit on the proposal and to be heard by Council.

Costs and Funding

- 35 The costs relating to sanitary supplies such as toilet paper is funded by the District.

- 36 There will be costs relating to the work summarised under the heading **“Works to mitigate adverse effects of freedom camping”** above. I understand that the Subcommittee will be investigating funding options such as a grant from Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment, local reserves, and the availability of any funding from the Waimea Mararoa Ward.

Policy Implications

- 37 There are no policy implications.

Analysis

Options Considered

- 38 The options are the (1) status quo, (2) discontinuing or increasing restrictions on self-contained-camping, and (3) amend the bylaw to reflect projected usage.

Analysis of Options

Option 1 - Status quo

<i>Advantages</i>	<i>Disadvantages</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No advantages. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The current rules do not reflect current usage. The author is not aware that this option has been advocated by any locals.

Option 2 – Discontinuing, or increasing restrictions, on self-contained-camping

<i>Advantages</i>	<i>Disadvantages</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decreasing or largely eliminating the problems associated with freedom camping Some support from locals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decreasing or largely eliminating the benefits associated with freedom camping. Some locals would oppose this option. Contrary to the direction decided upon by the Subcommittee during the making of the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2015, and lawfully made by Council with little opposition from locals at that time.

Option 3 - Amend the bylaw to reflect current and projected usage. Tenting Option 1 is preferred subject to NZTA approval. Tenting Option 2 to be adopted should NZTA decline to give approval.

<i>Advantages</i>	<i>Disadvantages</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optimisation of the benefits associated with freedom camping. Some support from locals. Consistent with the expressed view of the Subcommittee during the freedom camping workshop on 26 April 2017; and consistent with the direction decided upon by the Subcommittee during the making of the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2015, and lawfully made by Council with little opposition from locals. Will continue the benefits of improved amenity and safety as described in paragraph 11 of this report. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some locals would oppose this option. An increase in the number of campers may cause problems from freedom campers, unless effective mitigation measures are put in place.

Recommended Option

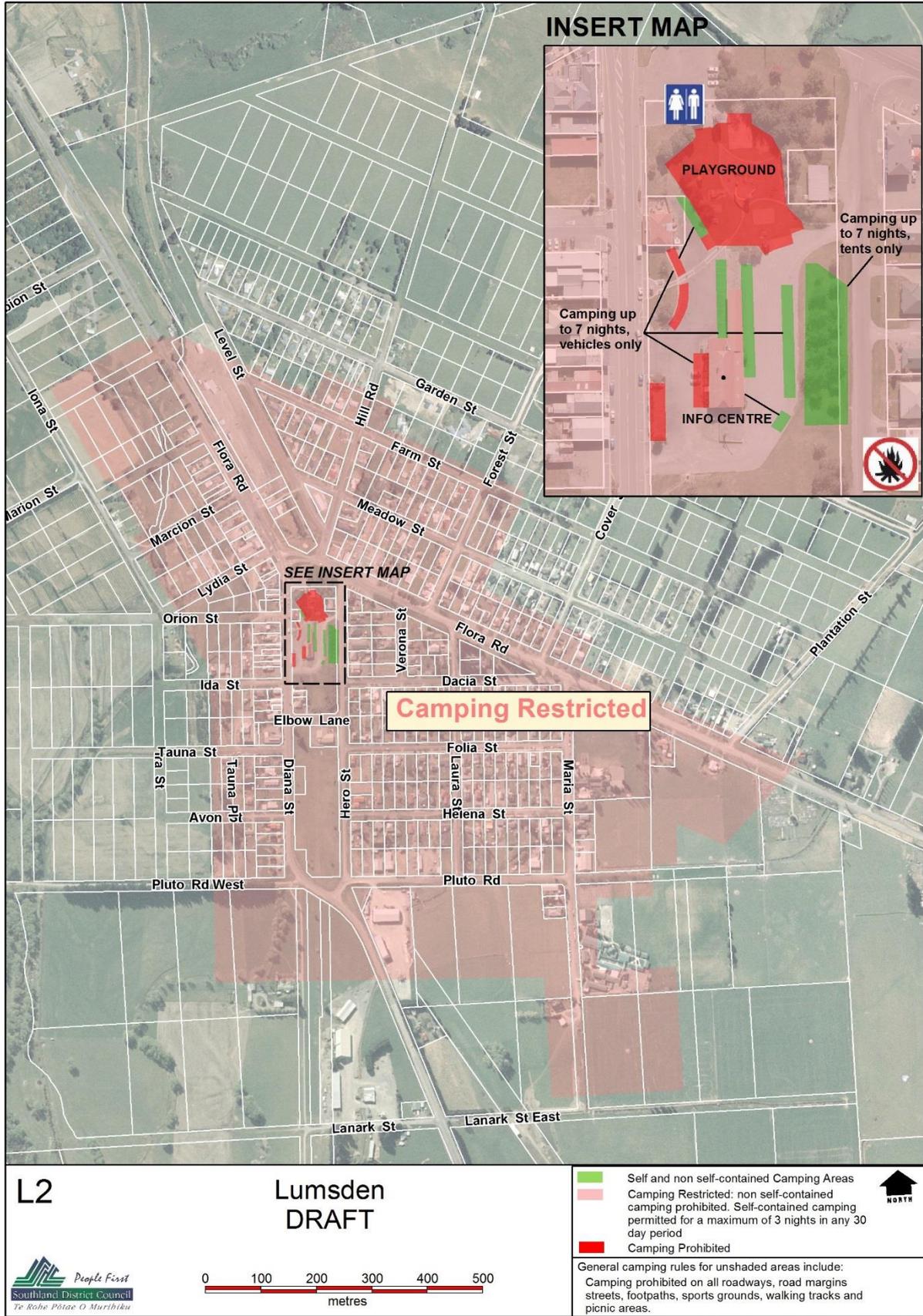
- 39 Option 3. This conforms with the expressed views of the Subcommittee at the recent workshop, and has support from townsfolk, and has benefits for the local community. If this option is chosen the local community would have opportunity to have their views considered by Council during the amendment process.

Next Steps

- 40 Staff will prepare a report to the Council's Regulatory and Consents Committee which reflects any amendments to the current Bylaw needed following the CDA decision. The Committee would then make a decision whether to amend the Bylaw, and start the amendment process. This process involves a public consultation process, the hearing of submitters, followed by a resolution by Council to amend the Bylaw.

Attachments

- A Draft Map L2 - Lumsden Freedom Camping Rules [↓](#)
- B Current Map L2 - Lumsden Freedom Camping Rules [↓](#)
- C Lumsden Freedom Camping Newsletter [↓](#)



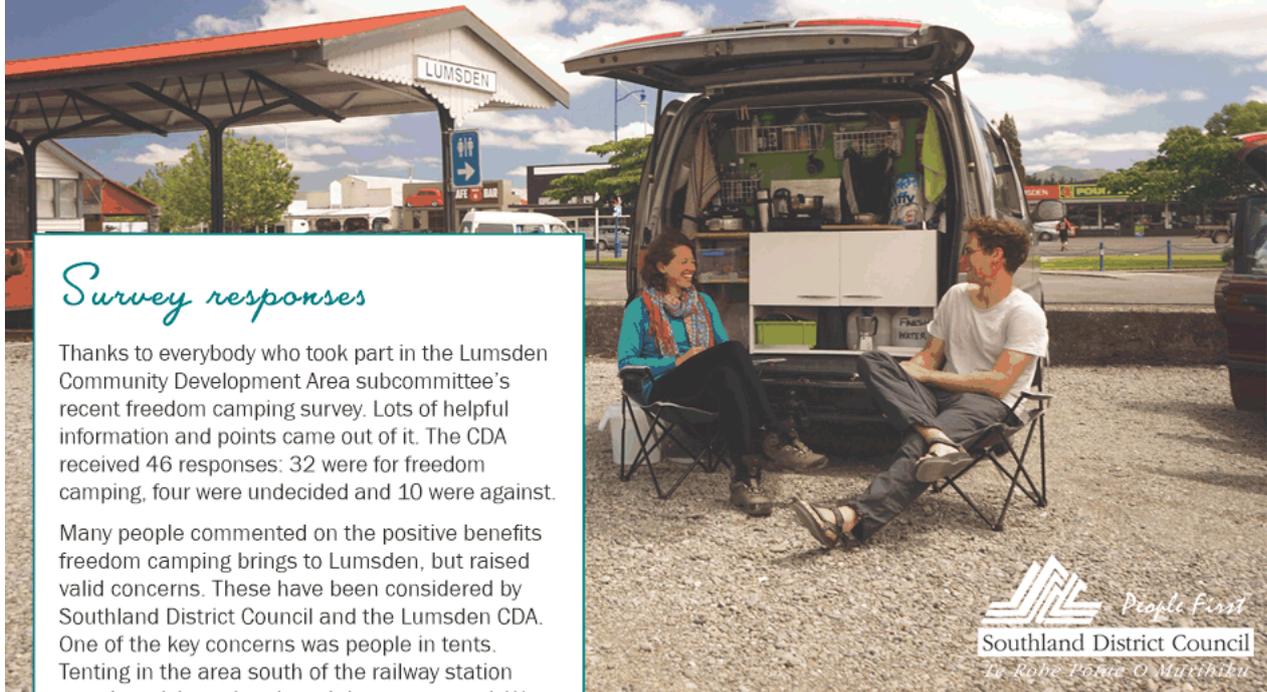
ITEM 7.2 ATTACHMENT A

Item 7.2 Attachment B



Lumsden Freedom Camping Newsletter

December 2016



Survey responses

Thanks to everybody who took part in the Lumsden Community Development Area subcommittee's recent freedom camping survey. Lots of helpful information and points came out of it. The CDA received 46 responses: 32 were for freedom camping, four were undecided and 10 were against.

Many people commented on the positive benefits freedom camping brings to Lumsden, but raised valid concerns. These have been considered by Southland District Council and the Lumsden CDA. One of the key concerns was people in tents. Tenting in the area south of the railway station wasn't anticipated and won't be encouraged. We will continue to keep an eye on this, to see if it warrants changes to the Freedom Camping Bylaw.



Item 7.2 Attachment C

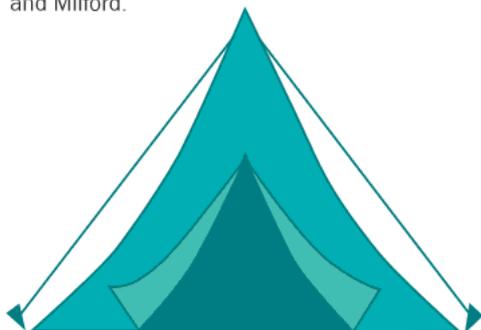
Conflict of Interest

The CDA is made up of seven members, elected to represent the Lumsden community. Some survey respondents perceived CDA members would benefit from increased freedom camping. However, members of the CDA offer a diverse representation of people and perspectives: they range from a school teacher to retirees. Two members have businesses in the centre of the town; only one was present when the CDA voted on freedom camping. Council has 27 Community Boards and Community Development Area subcommittees throughout Southland. Many representatives elected to these are local business owners.

Background

In 2011, the government passed a law allowing freedom camping throughout New Zealand, subject to local rules set by councils. Freedom camping in Lumsden was introduced as part of a change to Southland District Council's Freedom Camping Bylaw last year, following public consultation.

The Lumsden CDA decided to allow freedom camping at the railway station because it has a large carparking area and is close to facilities including public toilets. Since then there's been a surge in visitor numbers. Before, most travellers bypassed Lumsden on their way to Te Anau and Milford.



Relocating Lumsden's freedom camping area

Some people suggested relocating freedom camping to the southern end of Lumsden's emergency services facilities. However, there is a lack of facilities (including public toilets) available nearby. The area is all grass and could be damaged by freedom campers' vehicles. It would also be hard to mow.



Where to from here?

The CDA and Council staff held a workshop to discuss freedom camping in November. We acknowledge there are still some things to be worked on.

This is the final year of trial arrangements in response to the site's unexpected popularity. Council wants to ensure the bylaw accurately reflects the community's wishes from the 2017/2018 summer season onwards.

Proposed actions for the upcoming 2016/2017 summer season are:

- More signage to direct people seeking other facilities to the camping ground, and discouraging activities such as putting up washing lines.
- A local resident is to be formally warranted as a warden to encourage people to ensure they're complying with the bylaw.
- Two extra rubbish bins are being put in at the railway station area. This comes at no additional cost to the community as it is covered by the ward maintenance contract.
- We will talk with the Campermate app developers in an effort to make it clearer that the site has limited capacity and that tenting is discouraged.

Camp Ground

Council owns the land the camping ground is on, but doesn't run the business – it's run under a commercial lease. Council and the CDA are working to ensure the lessee can also benefit from this new market of visitors who might not otherwise come to Lumsden. Signage advertising the camping ground is in place at the railway station, and soon there will be new signage directing people to the camping ground for facilities like washing machines and showers.

Drying Clothes

A lot of you don't like the makeshift washing lines hung up around the railway station area. We don't either, so we're putting signage up to discourage this. Signage will be placed around the water facilities to stop freedom campers from washing their clothes there too. Those seen hanging washing have been spoken to by the CDA chair or warden and have happily taken it down.

User-pays facilities

We've had a lot of suggestions to provide some user-pays facilities such as showers and laundry. Many of you also said you don't want to see ratepayers funding these. Council and the CDA don't propose spending ratepayer money to do this, and people wanting to use these types of facilities will be encouraged to go to the camping ground. Alternatively, this may be seen as a business development opportunity.

Extra life in Lumsden

There has been a lot of positive feedback about the buzz visitors have brought to the town. People have commented on how friendly these people are and how appreciative they are of Lumsden's hospitality and services. They will leave with fond memories of the town. Maybe if they return to New Zealand one day they will come back to Lumsden.

Managing the numbers

This is being discussed by Council and the CDA. We have been researching some effective ways of limiting numbers, again with the intention of directing overflow to the camping ground.

A further CDA workshop is planned for mid-February. If the CDA wants changes made to the bylaw, Council would consult on these once formal changes were drafted – around mid-April. Everybody would have an opportunity to make a submission and be heard by Council. If you require any additional information, please contact our Environmental Health Section on 0800 732 732 or info@southlanddc.govt.nz