

Franz Josef Glacier Community Council
Annual General Meeting Minutes
Tuesday 17th March 2009, 7:30pm @ Community Hall

Meeting Opened: 7:35pm

Present: Bruce Gilkinson, Gerard Oudemans, Reiner Oehmig, Marcel Fekkes, Cushla Jones, Sammi Hodge, Rachel Hopgood, John Deane, Jackie Cooper, Anna Green, Kate Duthie & Clare Standing, Mel Dawson, Jackie (from the supermarket).

Apologies: Sue & Bruce Millin, James Blacklaws, John Birchfield, Cindy Oehmig, Paul Gurney, Wayne Costello

Previous minutes read and declared: Move by: Marcel Second by: Cushla

Inward Correspondence:

Save the Children's Smal Grant Fund – upto \$10,000
Appearing at a resource consent hearing
Mazda Foundation Grant Guidelines
DRAFT Destination Management Plan for Glacier Country
Police Opening Invitation
Big Day Out Fox Glacier

Outward Correspondence:

HEHA Breastfeeding Grant
Proposal regarding Traffic warden
Proposed Fulton Hogan Industrial Site
Acceptance letter for heliport site

Treasurers Report :

INCOME:

Redbox
FJ Playgroup Rent
WCDHB Rent
West Coast Regional Council
WDC Phone Reimbursement (Was paid twice will credit for future)
Cheque of Balance for Rental Increase

EXPENDITURE

Fern Grove Food Centre
Telecom
Trustpower
WDC Rates
SFE
Comm Rentals Gym HP
Glacier Motors

CHEQUES NOT CLEARED

Rentons Hardware
FJCC Medical Centre fundraising cheque from Ice Festival

Opening Bank Balance as at 01/02/09	\$4792.66
Closing Bank Balance as at 01/03/09	\$7233.94

Health Report

Nurses:

It is fairly well public knowledge now that we are taking a year of unpaid leave in order to do some traveling. Our last working day will be July 6th. We have given the WCDHB 4 months notice in order to sort out our replacement.

We have expressed the view that our replacement should be through a single appointment rather than through multiple relief nurses. We will bring more details to the Community Council as we hear them.

Health Centre:

We have had a meeting today with representatives from the WCDHB & St John. It is anticipated that building will commence at the end of June. Before then a project manager will be appointed. Estimated build time will be approximately 7 months.

Jackie and I have been asked to start developing the user guide; including issues like security, cleaning, refuse disposal, booking and other such arrangements. As is our style, we will consult widely throughout the community and look forward to working closely with our colleagues in the Franz Josef St John Ambulance.

2009 Influenza Vaccines:

These are now available. We have scheduled the first 2 extra clinics for flu vaccination in April. Letters have been sent to those eligible for free vaccination. Those include anybody over 65, people with diabetes and respiratory illness and some others. The vaccination is available for anybody else at a cost of \$25.00. Please ring 03 752 0700 for an appointment.

DOC Update

- Upgrading and sealing of the Franz Josef and Fox Glacier roads will get under way almost immediately. A fact sheet is available and will be distributed at the AGM.
- We have made good progress with weed control in the surrounding area in recent months. Gorse and willow control was undertaken in parts of Okarito Forest, and tradescantia work was done near the wharf at Okarito. The Biodiversity team is working on large scale willow control at Lake Rotokino, a site with high conservation areas ideal for rich species diversity. Control work on broom, spiraea and Himalayan honeysuckle has been done at the Watangitaona River.
- Our Summer Concessions Monitoring project is continuing, conducted jointly with South Westland *Weheka* Area office. This project is producing good results, both affirming compliant behaviour in the majority of cases, and identifying some cases of non-compliant activities which are now being addressed.
- Visitor numbers in the Franz Josef Glacier valley in the year to date (July to February) were down about 5% on the corresponding period for the previous year. (This was an improvement on the July to January period due to higher visitor numbers in February.) Camp sites at Lake Ianthe and Mapourika have been 'busy to steady' over the past few months.
- The rowi breeding season has continued to be an excellent one, with 46 eggs now hatched in Willowbank and most of the chicks now on Motuara Island, in preparation for their return to the South Okarito Forest. The first of these should be returned in late March.
- Sample groups of 60 kea are being fitted with transmitters, for monitoring breeding and chick survival success rates.
- Work on a new Glacier region brochure, an amalgamation of existing publications, is going well and should be finalised shortly.
- Westland *Tai Poutini* National Park 50 year anniversary dates are now confirmed. Activities will take place mainly in the weekend of 26 - 28 March 2010 (the weekend before Easter). More details will be available over the next few months.

Police Report:

To the community members of Franz Josef,

The new Police station will be officially opened at 12pm this Thursday.

That's the 19th of March.

Persons of note who will be attending are the Minister of Justice and Police Judith COLLINS. The Police Commissioner Howard BROAD and the new Tasman Police District Commander amongst numerous others.

There will be a short ceremony at 12pm outside the Station where a plaque will be unveiled and then a bite to eat in the hall. Thank-you in advance to Sammi for helping to organise chairs and tables for us.

Be aware that there may be a reasonably sized media contingent with this group, especially if there is a major national headline at the time involving Police or Justice departments. Going by what's happened in the last few months, there may be a high chance of that happening.

I will be conducting a spot inspection of the hall on Wednesday morning at the crack of dawn with white gloves. Please be aware (<: But then again, I may need to get a key.

Work wise, I've actually had it reasonably easy with the work load being no where near January proportions.

The second Policemen for Franz Josef has been appointed and will hopefully be here in the next month. He and family will be here on Thursday if you want to meet them. He will be wearing blue.

Unfortunately, as some of you will be aware, the process of buying a house for the new Police family (especially when the Police finance squad are involved) has been lengthy and I only hope it doesn't effect his start date. This is totally out of my control.

The station phone number will most likely be changed in the next few weeks. Telecom in their wisdom never told us about the toll call issue that would arise.

Tatare Bridge

I am currently writing a report on the Tatare bridge, focusing on the northern approach and pedestrian access. The skid marks on the road are self explanatory and only with sheer luck, have we not had a fatality there recently.

I am hoping transit will put in more signage further away from the bridge and maybe some form of other 'stimuli' to alert drivers to the approaching one lane bridge around the corner.

Security cameras

I am all for having CCTV cameras in Franz Josef. I do not think though we can justify the huge cost as detailed by Council.

For the cameras to be effective, they must take high quality pictures and be reasonably close to the 'action'. A single camera positioned up high would be good as a web cam for the internet but no good for identifying the person who stole your pot plants or broke your windows.

Other CCTV set up's in other towns I've seen have all been different. They each have their pro's and con's and cost of set up.

Parking

I have started handing out parking tickets to the buses and cars on Cron Street by the Rainforest Retreat and further down. The monetary fine seems to have worked. There will be no more warnings in that area. They have been fairly

warned before.

I am not sure where we are with having our own parking warden.

I hand out my share of parking tickets to vehicles parked the wrong way or on dotted yellow lines in central Franz. A lot of tourists do not know our parking rules so if you are dealing with them, please ask them how they are parked and tell them to change their ways before they are caught out.

That's it from me. I hope to see some of you on Thursday for the feed in the hall.

Matters arising from previous meeting:

- Monthly Catch up with WDC
Marcel, Cushla, Sammi, Rachel & Anna to attend the public meeting
All aspects included in the LTCCP & Annual Draft Plan wishlist were discussed.
2009/2010 Financial Year:

1. Covered Walkway to be constructed from the riverbed carpark up to and along the main road.
2. That a contract be put in place by Council for regular maintenance in the township including sweeping gutters, streets and footpaths, maintaining gardens and walkways and general tidying up duties. It is envisaged that a contract could be let to a local contractor for 1 or 2 days per week.
3. **Freedom Camping**
That signage be erected in the carpark and other hot spots to inform travellers that it is not allowed within the town boundaries etc.

4. Community Recreation Park

That a facility be investigated including a rugby field, a dog walking park, a bmx/skate park, changing facilities, showers and toilets. Possible locations suggested were the old Black Sheep Camp Park site south of the township or on Council land north of the township.

5. New Playgroup/Childcare Facility

A Committee has been established to investigate and encourage the provision of a facility within the township.

2009/2019 LTCCP PROJECTS

The Community wish list includes:

1. Two lane bridges on the State Highway to the North at the Tataré River and South at the Waiho River.
2. Raised footpath and street lights from Franz Josef North (Franz Josef Resort) to the South of the Waiho River.
3. Public Swimming Pool
4. A Community Library located more centrally. It is currently located at the school but it is felt it would get more adult use if located in the township.
5. Upgrade of Community Hall, when the Medical Centre is completed, to accommodate Community Development Officer, Library, and upgrade of gymnasium to encourage and foster more use by the Community.

- Glacier Early Childhood Centre Progress

Needs a business plan

Needs to work out appropriate name

Anna to hand in invoice for the boxes to Cushla

Playgroup Committee already have a bank account. The details of this account will be shown at each meeting by the treasurer of this committee or a representative if they are unable to make it.

Anna will attend meeting with Council on Thursday

- Ice Festival

The following are Ideas that people have come up with:

Happy Feet

Ice Age

Prom

Masquerade

Black & White

Will send an email out to survey the community

- Fundraising idea – envelopes in all motel rooms for guests to leave donations??

New matters arising:

- Funding CDO Position

Sammi to write letter on behalf of the Community to Robin Reeves informing that the Community wishes to continue the rate strike to fund the CDO position for the next ten years.

Moved by: Marcel

Second by John

- Welcome Rachel

Election of Chairperson, Treasurer & Secretary and acceptance of financial statements:

Financials for 2008 have been distributed to the quorum (15 people) and have been accepted as true and correct subject to correction of the rental income for WCDHB and the net surplus.

Moved by: Marcel

Second by: Anna

Financials for 2005 have been distributed to the quorum (15 people) and have been accepted as true and correct.

Moved by: Marcel

Second by: Gerard

Election of following positions:

Chairperson – Marcel Fekkes

Unanimous vote - all in favour

Treasurer - Clare Standing

Unanimous vote - all in favour

Secretary – Rachel Hopgood

Unanimous vote - all in favour

Meeting closed : 10:05pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday 21st April