

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- **Reserves, Parks and Environment Sub Group**

Previously the Hokitika Reserves and Environs Group.

This Sub Group will now extend their brief to: Open spaces in the public realm: Parks, Reserves, Gardens, Cemeteries, Memorials, Statues and Public Art.

This new group will be comprised of interested community members, an Expression of Interest will be requested, the Reserves, Parks and Environment Sub Group can incorporate and support South Westland membership with ZOOM available for meetings for more distant township participation. A Report to the Community Development Committee will be presented for confirmation of members.

Draft a new Terms of Reference between Council and this Sub Group.

- **Safe Community “Safer Westland”**

“Safer Westland” the Westland Safe Community Coalition received accreditation 23 February 2017 with the Safe Communities Foundation New Zealand.

This group report on projects and initiatives in the focus and priority areas of: Providing Support for Social Connectedness and Well-being, Supporting Youth, Reducing Social Isolation, Reducing Harm, and Reducing Crime

This group comprise of a Governance Group and Coalition Partners Group.

Chair: Cr Jane Neale

Coordinator: Sarah Brown CDA

Westland Safe Community Coalition revised Terms of Reference to include Chair position – Councillor and part of reporting to is update Community Development Committee.

Projects

- **Hokitika Community Patrol**

Currently 12 volunteers. One volunteer has resigned due to work commitments and a new volunteer is in the process of joining.

- **Community Champions** – within this support for It’s Not Okay Hokitika, Safe Man - Safe Family, White Ribbon Riders & Campaign.

- **Big Brothers, Big Sisters**

Hoping to recommence school-based mentoring in 2020 and also to focus on mentoring among the iwi in the Arahura area.

- **CACTUS** (Combined Adolescent Challenge Training Unit Support)

CACTUS is delivered by WestREAP and is ready to begin again at Westland High School with four classes running: one class Year 7&8, two classes Year 9&10, and one senior class. This will run for two terms, and then another intake of CACTUS students who choose this as a subject will begin. Matapopore – our Hokitika Primary School class will also begin in the new term. We will endeavour to use High School students as mentors in the primary school, as this was a valuable part of CACTUS last year.

Funding for CACTUS, this is partially funded by Westland District Council who adopted a Youth Strategy and have granted \$20,000 per annum. WestREAP has expressed an interest to present to the Community Development Committee.

- **Hokitika Half Price Taxi Chit Scheme** – We currently have 28 seniors using the Half-Price Taxi Scheme. The scheme has been advertised in the Westland Community Notices to bring this scheme to the notice of seniors and kaumatua in the Hokitika area. The budget for this \$3000 per annum and comes from donations and locally sourced funds.
- **Drive West** - In response to Police Statistics and Community surveys a proposal was put forward to assist Young Drivers through the graduated licencing system. The first Learner Licence course was run in 2019 with 14 enrolled participants' age ranging from 16 to 60 years. Building on the success of the first Drive West programme, Drive West is about to start a Learner programme in South Westland
- **Clued –Up Kids** - A working group has been formed to prepare for Clued Up Kids 2020, this is a collaborative and interactive safety programme where Year 5 and 6 students (8 -10 years old) in Westland schools will be invited to experience real life scenarios. A date has been set and put out to Schools for 2nd to 4th November 2020. The programme is adaptable and reactive to safety issues and trends in Westland. It caters for all eligible students irrespective of their disability, behavioural and/or learning issues. It supports curriculum levels around Health and Safety and delivers key messages aligned with national safety programmes.
- **West Coast Road Safety Campaigns**

INITIATIVES supported by Safer Westland – New Coasters, Westland District Library, Grey Power, FENZ, NZ Police, the Salvation Army, Civil Defence, National campaigns, Local initiatives, and Community events.

- **Tohu Whenua**

Tohu Whenua: Landmarks that tell our stories ('Tohu Whenua') promotes significant heritage by developing a network of places that have shaped our nation. It connects heritage places in a region that are central to that region's story, and which offer a high quality visitor experience. The Tohu Whenua Pou will be located

at the Tancred Street Viewing Platform site to signify that Hokitika Port and Commercial Area is a Tohu Whenua site. This Tohu Whenua launch is to take place Friday 14 February at 10.30am. Considerable local interest and support has come from Heritage Hokitika and Westland Industrial heritage Park.

Hokitika Port and Commercial Area was selected because it meets Tohu Whenua's criteria, which are as follows:

- Significance – special significance to New Zealand and strong storytelling potential
- Iwi and community – demonstration of iwi and community benefits and stories that matter to people
- Visitor experience – accessibility, family friendly, potential to grow
- Suitability – willing owner, presentation

The summary report on the selection of Hokitika Port and Commercial Area said:

- Hokitika Town, and the majority of the individual buildings all scored very highly in the Assessment Matrix.
- The workshop attendees noted that Hokitika provided a comprehensive visitor experience, with existing interpretation.
- Hokitika is known as the “Goldfields Capital” and tells stories related to pounamu, timber and gold.
- The Port is the reason for the existence and growth of the town. It enabled immigration from Australia and allowed exports. The Customhouse and Quay house could provide a focus for a Hokitika Port experience.

- **Heritage Hokitika**

Mission - To restore, maintain and promote the use and enjoyment of items of cultural interest in Hokitika and districts: this includes any building, structure, or artefact. Record of item which depicts the cultural heritage of the area and its people.

Heritage Hokitika is an incorporated society dedicated to restoring and preserving the historical identity of Hokitika. Since its inception in 1988 the completed projects of Heritage Hokitika have drawn enthusiastic responses from locals and visitors' alike with raised awareness and pride in the community.

Past Projects: Gibson Quay Interpretation area, Relocated and restored Customhouse building, New and improved Heritage Walk brochures, supported creation of the Westland Industrial Heritage Park, ongoing placement of plaques in conjunction with NZ Historic Places Trust, “Countess” restoration, Mural depicting 56 Ships at the Hokitika Port, with many more Heritage Hokitika projects having preserved the cultural heritage of Westland. This group have made a large contribution to the community, and continue to do so. Kw Madgwick suggested that Heritage Hokitika be asked to oversee the maintenance of the Rimu Heritage Project. Currently Heritage Hokitika is supporting the Tohu Whenua Launch.

Heritage Hokitika projects will be reported to the Culture and Heritage Committee.

- **Community Projects and Township Development Fund**

All townships have returned accountability returns and invoiced to pick up the current township development funding for 2019-2020.

All our townships have commented on how the December Rain Event has affected their communities.

- Kokatahi-Kowhitirangi is completing application for Incorporated Society.
- Kumara is working on Chinese Gardens
- Kumara Junction is working on roundabout beautification
- Ross has Chinese Gardens project, and Playground Review to digest and decide on.
- Waitaha are working on the Hall Roof project.
- Hari Hari has ongoing Playground and Park Development, they have bought a ride-on mower to make mowing more manageable.
- Whataroa completing Hall upgrade with the last of the kitchen installs.
- Whataroa also has a Playground Review and have a working group looking at this.
- Whataroa has A&P Show later this month.
- Okarito has had some repairs to Donovan's Store, comments they feel well supported by Civil Defence, are looking at more planting at the Campground.
- Franz Josef and Fox Glacier have been quiet on projects but have had many activities to boost morale after the December Rain Event and during recovery.
- Haast has several projects they are working on, Marks Road Beautification, Dennis Road Track, and the Pauareka Road Reserve. Currently there is Public Consultation for the Sale of a Portion of the Marks Road Reserve for a new Fire Station

Community Projects

WCRDA – Arena project

Hokitika Lions – Lazar Park Playground

Westland Industrial Heritage Park – Big Engine Shed Vehicle Display and Education Building, and Mudfish Railway.

Westland High School – Westland Sports Hub

Hokitika Museum – Carnegie Building, strengthening and reopening

- **Creative Communities Scheme**

Each year Creative New Zealand provides funding for local arts to Westland district council for distribution in our area. To meet criteria projects must involve one of the following: participation, young people, or diversity while all projects must take place in and benefit local communities.

Creative New Zealand had a national review and from this smaller districts benefitted by increased funds in 2019-2020 financial year to enable bigger

projects or more projects in their area. Westland funding increased to \$20,334 this is divided into two portions of \$10,167 usually available in March and August.

As part of this increase Creative New Zealand asked for some conditions to be met. We have approached both of our local Runanga for representatives. A request was made to review the composition the Westland Creative Community Committee to ensure it reflected our growing and changing Westland community. Current committee members will be contacted and the community will be asked to submit an Expressions of Interest for the Westland Creative Community Committee.

A Report to the Community Development Committee will be written to confirm new representatives on the Westland Creative Community Committee.

The Westland Creative Community committee will report on allocations and projects to the Community Development Committee.