

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA ON TUESDAY 12 DECEMBER 2023 AT 3PM.

PRESENT

Councillors R Brine (Chairperson), A Blackie, B Cairns, N Mealings, P Redmond and Mayor D Gordon.

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillors T Fulton, J Goldsworthy, and P Williams.

J Millward (Chief Executive), C Brown (General Manager Community and Recreation), G MacLeod (Greenspace Manager), T Sturley (Community Team Manager), M Greenwood (Aquatics Manager), K Howat (Team Leader Parks and Facilities), L Sole (Libraries Content and Discovery Team Leader), M McGregor (Senior Advisor Community and Recreation), J Rae (Greenspace Asset and Capital Project Advisor), B Dollery (Ecologist – Biodiversity), and T Kunkel (Governance Team Leader).

Eleven members of the public were present.

1 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

2 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Councillor T Fulton declared an interest in Item 5.1, 'Oxford Health and Fitness Trust Loan Request,' as he was a member of the trust.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee held on 17 October 2023

Moved: Councillor Blackie Seconded: Mayor Gordon

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Confirms** the circulated Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee, held on 17 October 2023, as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED

3.2 Matters Arising (From Minutes)

There were no matters arising.

4 DEPUTATIONS

4.1 Redevelopment of Rangiora High School – David Lows and Sophia Bidwell

D Lows provided an overview of the Master Plan for the proposed redevelopment of the Rangiora High School (the school) campus. He explained the constraints of the current buildings on the site and the impact that it would have on any potential redevelopment. It was found that the school's buildings were largely not fit for purpose, and it was recommended that some of the buildings, such as the hall and sports centre, should be demolished. The plan was to "open up" the school with a student-focused greenspace in the centre, allowing for community and student access. Currently, one of the most significant issues was that the school campus being divided by the East Belt.

The Master Plan made provision for the redevelopment of all facilities on one main campus with footpaths guiding student flow.

S Bidwell highlighted that the school supported the Arts in general and was committed to the development of the Arts, hence the proposed development of the new Performing Arts Centre at the school. The proposed centre would create a space to stage larger productions and benefit the Waimakariri District and even the entire North Canterbury.

D Lows noted that a feasibility study had been done to establish the cost of developing a Performing Arts Centre, and it was estimated that approximately \$10 million to \$12 million would be needed to build an 800 seats centre, which could meet the needs of the school and the North Canterbury community. The school was keen to work with the Council to ensure that the proposed redevelopment of the school aligned with other proposed developments in the area.

Councillor Brine questioned the proposed funding streams for the Performing Arts Centre. D Lows advised that the Ministry of Education had indicated they would commit approximately \$2 million to \$3 million. The Rangiora High School Board of Trustees had also committed \$2 million to \$3 million. The remainder of the construction cost would need to be raised.

Mayor Gordon enquired if the funding from the Ministry of Education and the Rangiora High School Board of Trustees had been committed. D Lows noted that this was still the initial stage of the project. However, the Ministry and the Board had indicated their support for the project plan. Also, the School had some reserves from the sale of a portion of the school farm, which may be used to fund the school's redevelopment.

Councillor Blackie asked what engagement had been undertaken with local iwi and was advised that local iwi had indicated their support of the project; however, in-depth engagement still needed to be initiated.

Councillor Futon questioned if the Performing Arts Centre would be used to promote the school as a "centre of excellence" for potential art students. S Bidwell advised that the school already had 250 students enrolled in various arts programmes. It was hoped that the centre would promote the school and Canterbury North as an arts destination.

In response to a question from Mayor Gordon, C Brown confirmed that the way forward would be for the school to make a submission to the Council's 2024/34 Draft Long Term Plan on the proposed Performing Arts Centre.

Councillor Brine enquired as to the proposed timeframe for constructing the proposed Performing Arts Centre, and D Lows noted that the school was hoping to commence construction within the next two to three years.

Councillor Brine thanked D Lows and S Bidwell for sharing the Master Plan for the proposed redevelopment of the Rangiora High School campus with the Committee.

4.2 **Rangiora Bowling Club – Norman Hewett**

N Hewett highlighted the challenges that the Rangiora Bowling Club (the Club) was experiencing. The Club appreciated that the Club building was of historical value to the Rangiora community. However, the Club believed that the building, which needed extensive and costly repairs, was not fit for purpose. For insurance purposes, the building had to be revalued every two years, and in 2022, the building was valued at \$3,145,000. The Club's annual insurance cost was \$21,000, which equalled its total annual subscription, and the Club was struggling to afford the insurance cost.

N Hewett noted that the Club believed it should not be responsible for looking after the historical building on behalf of the wider community. If the Council deemed the structure of such historical value that it needed to be retained for the community, then the Council should maintain the building. The Club was requesting that the Club building's heritage

listing be removed so that the building could be removed or demolished to allow the Club to continue with its primary function.

N Hewett advised that members were happy with the club's current location. However, the costs associated with the heritage status of the club building were causing a large amount of angst among the members. Unfortunately, unless some assistance was forthcoming, the building would continue to deteriorate and eventually have to be demolished. The Club wished to invite Councillors to visit the Club to better understand its challenges.

Mayor Gordon noted that the Club had previously shared their concerns with the Council, and staff was requested to assist them. He enquired what assistance was provided. N Hewett commented that staff was working with the Club, however, the Club still needed to undertake a feasibility study.

Mayor Gordon questioned if the Club had discussed the withdrawal of the heritage listing of the Club building with Heritage New Zealand. N Hewett noted the lack of support from Heritage New Zealand.

Councillor Redmond sought clarity on the number of members the Club had and was advised that there were 140 members.

Councillor Redmond enquired if the Club had reserves to fund the maintenance of the Club building. N Hewett explained that the Club's reserves were earmarked to replace the synthetic green at the Club.

Councillor Redmond further enquired if the Club had applied to the Council's Heritage Fund for support, and N Hewett confirmed that the Club had not.

In response to a question for Mayor Gordon, C Brown confirmed that the way forward would be for the Rangiora Bowling Club to make a submission to the Council's 2024/34 Draft Long Term Plan on the retention and maintenance of the Club building.

Mayor Gordon requested that a visit to the Rangiora Bowling Club for Councillors and that representatives from the Greenspace Team be asked to attend to discuss the Club's challenges.

4.3 North Canterbury Sport and Recreation Trust – Don Robertson and Rosie Oliver

D. Robertson thanked Council staff for supporting the North Canterbury Sport and Recreation Trust (NCSRT). He highlighted the various programmes run by the NCSRT in the Waimakariri District. D Robertson noted that stadium users had an interest in the stadium being financially viable to run their activities. The MainPower Stadium not only met the physical activity needs of a wide range of residents and visitors to the district, but it also provided a safe and clean environment for socialising while attending events. A monetary value could not be placed on the benefit of programmes, such as Reactivate North Canterbury being run at the stadium to improve the health, well-being and movement of people struggling with various medical conditions.

In response to a question from Councillor Mealings, R Oliver explained that the Reactivate Programme aimed to find more natural solutions to improving people's overall health to help reduce reliance on medications. Every situation was unique and may include exercise, functional movements, diet, or social activities.

Councillor Redmond enquired if the NCSRT favoured the change from a lease agreement to a management agreement for the operation of the indoor courts, administration area, and function room. D Robertson confirmed that the NCSRT supported the proposed change as it would ensure that the activities would remain affordable to the community.

5 **REPORTS**

At this time, Item 5.5 was taken, however, the Minutes have been recorded in the order of the Agenda.

5.1 **Oxford Health and Fitness Trust Loan Request – K Howat (Team Leader Parks and Facilities)**

Having previously declared a conflict of interest, Councillor Fulton sat back from the meeting table and did not participate in deliberations.

K Howat advised that the Oxford Health and Fitness Centre was built in 2011 in Pearson Park and has been a popular facility for the local community since its opening. The Oxford Health and Fitness Trust (the Trust) owned and rented the facility to the North Canterbury Sport and Recreation Trust (NCSRT), which managed the centre. The Trust had submitted a loan application to the Rata Foundation to build a 153-square-metre extension onto the existing gym facility in Pearson Park, Oxford. However, the Trust was aware that as a contestable fund, there was no guarantee their application would succeed. Hence, they had also approached the Council for a possible \$200,000 loan should their Rata application be declined.

Councillor Mealings questioned if the Trust would be provided with an option to repay the proposed loan faster if they were able. C Brown explained that if the Council approved the loan, the details of the loan repayments would be finalised as part of the Loan Agreement. However, the Council had always been supportive of organisations repaying loans faster in a bid to save money. He noted that the Loan Agreement would be submitted to the Council for approval if the Council approved the loan.

Mayor Gordon enquired if staff had investigated if the Trust would be able to repay a loan if needed. K Howat advised that based on the financial statements provided by the Trust, they were in a position to repay a \$200, 000 loan. C Brown noted that the Trust was in an excellent financial position, which was not expected to change. He further stated that the Council previously acted as a guarantor for a \$150,000 loan, which the Trust paid off in six months.

Councillor Redmond asked if it would not be better if the Council acted as a guarantor for a loan rather than loaning the Trust the money. C Brown acknowledged that the Council would prefer to act as a guarantor for the Rata Foundation loan.

Councillor Redmond further enquired whether there were other financial institutions which the Trust could approach for a loan. C Brown commented that more traditional financial institutions, such as banks, would expect the Trust to pay very high interest rates.

Moved: Councillor Cairns

Seconded: Mayor Gordon

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

(a) **Receives** Report No. 231130192636.

AND

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee recommends:

THAT the Council:

- (b) **Receives** Report No. 231130192636.
- (c) **Approves** in principle a loan of \$200,000 to the Oxford Health and Fitness Trust for the cost of building extensions subject to the outcome of a Rata Foundation community loan application.
- (d) **Notes** that, should the loan be required, a later report would be brought to the Council at the time which would include the specific details around this loan.
- (e) **Notes** that the Pearson Park Advisory Group had been consulted and supported the proposed building extension.

CARRIED

Councillor Futon abstained.

Councillor Cairns supported the motion based on the current popularity of the Oxford Health and Fitness Centre and the projected increase in membership due to the proposed extension.

Mayor Gordon noted that the Oxford community work hard to build and maintain assets such as the Oxford Health and Fitness Centre. The centre was very popular; there was no other gym in Oxford, so he supported the motion. However, he noted that should the loan be required, the report brought to the Council should include specific details about the Trust's ability to afford the loan.

Councillor Remond supported the proposed extension to the existing gym facility and, therefore, also the motion, with the understanding that should the loan be required, a report would be submitted to the Council.

5.2 **Draft Community and Recreation Activity Management Plan 2024 – G MacLeod (Greenspace Manager) and J Rae (Greenspace Asset and Capital Project Advisor)**

G MacLeod, J Rae and M Greenwood were present for the consideration of the report. G MacLeod advised that approval was sought for the Draft Community and Recreation Activity Management Plan 2024 (the Plan). The Plan outlined the significant issues associated with Greenspace and Aquatic activities and assets for the next ten years. The Plan identified future funding requirements and upgrades to maintain service levels, manage growth and renew existing assets. G MacLeod also noted that the Plan was an update rather than a complete refresh from the 2021 Activity Management Plan and was peer-reviewed by Audit New Zealand.

In response to a question by Councillor Mealing, G MacLeod confirmed that biodiversity climate change and sustainability had been considered in the drafting of the Plan and were included as part of 'Future Demand and Growth'. C Brown noted that the Plan also aligned with the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity and the Council's Climate Change Policy.

Furthermore, Councillor Mealing raised a concern that the reference in the Plan to "*in the rural space between urban areas*" could be construed as Council support for urban sprawl. She, therefore, suggested that the wording be amended.

Councillor Blackie recommended that the reference in the Plan to Tangata Whenua of Aotearoa be amended to Mana Whenua, as the definition of Mana Whenua was better known. He also suggested that reference to the 'principles' of Te Tiriti with Ngāi Tūāhuriri be removed as the Plan should refer to "*a meaningful, open and trusting relationship based on Te Tiriti with Ngāi Tūāhuriri.*" G MacLeod confirmed that the proposed amendment would be included in the version of the Plan submitted to Council for approval.

Moved: Mayor Gordon

Seconded: Councillor Blackie

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

(a) **Receives** Report No. 231116185475.

AND

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee recommends:

THAT the Council:

(b) **Receives** Report No. 231116185475.

(c) **Adopts** the Draft Community and Recreation Activity Management Plan for the purposes of Long Term Plan (LTP) consultation (TRIM 231116185502).

(d) **Notes** the Activity Management Plan had been peer-reviewed by a specialist consultant with changes made to reflect this prior to coming to the Community and Recreation Committee for adoption.

(e) **Notes** that the previous score from the consultant for the 2021 Activity Management Plan was 68%. The score for the draft 2024 Activity Management Plan was sitting at 73%, the industry benchmark sits at 70%.

(f) **Notes** that the Council would adopt the final Activity Management Plan in conjunction with the adoption of the final Long Term Plan in June 2024.

CARRIED

Mayor Gordon supported the motion with the proposed amendment to the Plan being made before its submission to the Council for approval.

Councillor Blackie concurred with the comments made by Mayor Gordon and thanked the staff for the work undertaken in preparation of the Plan.

5.3 **Community Facilities Network Plan (Draft 2023) – G MacLeod (Greenspace Manager) and M McGregor (Senior Advisor Community and Recreation)**

G MacLeod and M McGregor were present for the consideration of the report. G MacLeod provided an overview of the draft Community Facilities Network Plan (CFNP) compiled by Recreation Sport and Leisure Consultancy (RSL Consultancy). He explained that the Council owned and operated 27 community facilities, which were utilised in varying degrees depending on location, functionality, and condition. Several independently owned facilities were also available for community use, such as sports clubs, churches, and schools. The CFNP was developed to understand the current capacity vs demand for community spaces and inform the Council's future capital and operational spending in this area.

Councillor Mealings questioned why the ownership of some of the Community Facilities included in the CFNP had not been verified. C Brown confirmed that the Schedule of Community Facilities included in the CFNP would be updated to include the ownership of all facilities.

With regard to proposed facility upgrades, Councillor Mealings advised that the Mandeville Sports Club was already investigating the possible improvement of the clubhouse. G MacLeod noted that RSL Consultancy had liaised with the Mandeville Sports Club regarding their future plans.

Moved: Councillor Cairns

Seconded: Councillor Blackie

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

(a) **Receives** Report No: 231115183576.

AND

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee recommends:

THAT the Council:

(b) **Receives** Report No: 231115183576.

(c) **Receives** the Community Facilities Network Plan as presented by RSL Consulting.

(d) **Considers** the action implementation plan as part of the 2024/34 Long Term Plan (LTP).

(e) **Notes** that staff had not proposed all recommendations for input into the 2024/34 draft Long Term Plan due to limited resources and prioritisation of funding.

(f) **Accepts** the draft as it was presented and approves the Action Implementation Plan as part of the 2024/34 Long Term Plan document.

CARRIED

5.4 **Application to the Biodiversity Contestable Fund – B Dollery (Ecologist – Biodiversity)**

B Dollery explained that an application had been received for an area of bush at 117 Mounseys Road, which was an extension of Taylor's Bush on a neighbouring property. The Significant Natural Area (SNA) was identified in 2018 and was a newly listed area under the proposed District Plan. The SNA had not received any protection, enhancement, or maintenance funding. The SNA housed distinct flora, rare in Canterbury, and provided habitat for several species. The landowners had made a substantial effort to plant native species and carry out pest, predator and weed control across their land.

There were no questions from elected members.

Moved: Councillor Blackie

Seconded: Councillor Mealings

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

(a) **Receives** Report No. 231124189477.

(b) **Approves** a grant of \$8,459 towards the work of James and Angelina Stephens to enhance and protect this newly mapped Significant Natural Area.

(c) **Notes** the amount available in the Biodiversity Contestable Fund totals \$98,370.

(d) **Notes** that successful application would be subject to an Accountability Agreement between the applicants and the Council.

CARRIED

Councillor Blackie supported the motion as the funding was available in the Biodiversity Contestable Fund, and he believed that the project was worthy of support.

Councillor Mealings agreed with the comments made by Councillor Blackie.

5.5 **MainPower Stadium Management Agreement – M McGregor (Senior Advisor Community and Recreation)**

C Brown explained that in terms of the MainPower Stadium Management Agreement, rent had been assessed for each area of the facility and was set at \$116 p/m². However, ongoing discussion had occurred between the North Canterbury Sport and Recreation Trust (NCSRT) and the Council regarding the assessment of rent. In particular, the assessment of the community courts area, the acknowledgement of the financial contribution to the facility by the NCSRT and the recognition of the work they carry out in the community. C Brown advised that indoor sports courts typically ran at a loss, and it had become clear that the revenue being generated by the stadium was not sufficient to meet the operating costs sustainably. Hence, staff worked with the NCSRT to try and establish a rent review process and methodology that would see the NCRST pay the Council a fair lease fee, was viable for the NCRST and recognised the commercial aspects of the venue. It was estimated that an additional \$100,000 in operational funding would be required per year to ensure the operational sustainability and upkeep of the stadium. This would be included in the Greenspace 2024/34 Long-Term Plan budget for the Council's consideration.

Councillor Cairns noted that solar panels would be installed at the stadium, which could save approximately \$42,000 per year. He enquired if the potential saving would reduce the required additional \$100,000 in operational funding. C Brown advised that the Council would be paying a set Management Fee. Thus, additional operational funding would still be required. However, the \$42,000 savings received for installing Solar Panels would be offset against the Management Fee.

In response to a question from Council's Williams, C Brown confirmed that rental was set at \$116 p/m² for all areas at the stadium, including the commercial areas. The rent review conducted by the Council indicated that rentals for commercial health and fitness facilities were between \$180 and \$220 p/m². However, even if the Council increased the rental for the commercial areas, thereby increasing the Council's income, it still was insufficient to cover the fee the Council had to pay to the NCRST for the successful management of the stadium.

Councillor Redmond asked who, under the Management Agreement, would be responsible for promoting the stadium and generating business. C Brown noted that the Management Agreement would detail the NCRST obligations for promoting the stadium and generating income.

Moved: Mayor Gordon

Seconded: Councillor Brine

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** report No: 231107178453.
- (b) **Notes** that staff were recommending a change in agreement for the operation of MainPower Stadium indoor courts, administration area, and the function room from a lease agreement to a management agreement.
- (c) **Notes** the Fitness Centre, Café, and Active Health areas would remain under a commercial lease agreement.
- (d) **Notes** that staff were estimating that an additional \$100,000 would be required per year in operational funding to ensure the operational sustainability and upkeep of the facility, this had been included in the 2024/34 Long-Term Plan budget for the Council consideration.

- (e) **Notes** that there was an opportunity to install solar panels at MainPower Stadium to offset a portion of the power costs associated with the operation of the facility. Once the business case was completed, a full proposal for the installation of solar panels at the stadium would be tabled in a separate report.
- (f) **Notes** should the Council agree to the additional funding, staff would bring a report on the Management Agreement (including relevant performance measures) back for Council approval.

CARRIED

Mayor Gordon acknowledged the success of the Council's longstanding partnership with the NCRST. He noted that the NCRST was running a number of programs and facilities in the Waimakariri District, and any profits made were reinvested in the programmes. He further noted that the NCRST was meeting the physical and social needs of people in the district, and the Council wished the NCRST to remain sustainable. Mayor Gordon did not support retendering the operation contact for the MainPower Stadium as he believed that the NCRST was effectively managing the facility. However, he supported the motion with the understanding that the additional funding would be included in the Draft 2024/34 Long-Term Plan budget for the Council's consideration.

Councillor Redmond concurred with the comments made by Mayor Gordon, and he congratulated the NCRST on the successful running of the MainPower Stadium. He supported the motion with the understanding that the preferred option would be to change the lease agreement to a management agreement for the operation of the indoor courts, administration area, and function room.

5.6 **Waimakariri Sports Facilities Plan Review – G MacLeod (Greenspace Manager) and M McGregor (Senior Advisor Community and Recreation)**

G MacLeod presented the outcomes of the recently completed Sports Facilities Plan (the Plan) review. The review was conducted by RSL Consultants, who completed the previous plan in 2020. Greenspace commissioned this review to inform 2024/34 Long Term Plan budgets and decisions. RSL Consultants conducted interviews with staff officers in the sports and recreation areas and with key organisations operating facilities as part of the review.

G MacLeod elaborated on the recommendations made by RSL Consultants regarding the Southbrook Sports Pavilion rebuild and the second cricket oval at 154 East Belt, which had been included in the 2024/34 Long Term Plan.

C Brown noted several of the outcomes of the Waimakariri Sports Facilities Plan 2020/32 and the vast investment that the Council had made in sports and recreation in the district.

Councillor Mealings advised that the facilities at Ohoka School were also available for community use. G MacLeod undertook to update the Plan accordingly.

Moved: Councillor Brine

Seconded: Councillor Blackie

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 231115183586.
- (b) **Receives** the Waimakariri Sports Facilities Plan Review (Trim: 231130192819).
- (c) **Notes** that staff had reviewed the recommendations in the Sports Facilities Plan Review and included the following for consideration by the Council as part of the draft 2024/34 Long Term Plan:
 - A third part contribution towards the Southbrook Sports Pavilion rebuild (\$1,300,000.00).

- A 50% contribution towards the cost of the second cricket oval at 154 East Belt (\$500,000.00).
- (d) **Notes** that all other funding reflected in this report was included in the 2024/34 Long Term Plan unless otherwise noted.

CARRIED

Councillors Brine, Blackie and Redmond supported the motion, noting that Council would consider the recommendations in the Plan as part of the draft 2024/34 Long Term Plan.

5.7 **Aquatics December Report and Aquatics Plan Updates – M Greenwood (Aquatics Manager)**

M Greenwood provided an overview of the Aquatic Facilities unit's year-to-date progress, as measured against the unit's most significant Key Performance Indicators. He highlighted the following:

- Aquatics customer attendance continued to grow.
- The review of the District Aquatic Plan.
- The need for the development of Hydrotherapy and Leisure facilities.
- The feasibility of developing a hydro-slide in the Waimakariri District.

There were no questions from elected members.

Moved: Councillor Redmond

Seconded: Councillor Cains

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 231004157525.
- (b) **Notes** Aquatic Facilities progress against key performance indicators including facility Attendance and Financial results.
- (c) **Notes** that the development of Hydrotherapy and Leisure facilities would align with current community demand as detailed in the District Aquatic Plan.
- (d) **Notes** integration of the Dudley Pavilion and Dudley Pool facilities would see higher activation and engagement with efficient use of spaces aligning with recommendations in the District Aquatics and Community Facilities Network Plans.
- (e) **Notes** that the development of a hydro-slide would best be considered again in future planning following the construction of Parakiore in Christchurch.
- (f) **Notes** that the Council would consider the development of new services as part of its 2024/34 Long Term Plan process.
- (g) **Circulates** this report to the Community Boards for information.

CARRIED

5.8 Libraries Update to November 15, 2023 – P Eskett (Libraries Manager)

L Sole provided an update on the key activities and customer service innovations undertaken by Waimakariri Libraries in October and November 2023. He emphasized the following:

- Waimakariri Libraries' annual data shows strong performance in lending.
- Space constraints at Rangiora Libraries.
- Engagement of young people

Councillor Redmond questioned the decrease in revenue, and C Brown explained that the Libraries' estimated revenue had been affected by the Council's policy of no fines for extended loans. The revenue was expected to balance by the end of the financial year.

Councillor Cairns enquired if the 60,000 increased loans were inclusive of all Waimakariri Libraries and how many people visited the Kaiapoi and Oxford Libraries annually. L Sole advised that the increase in lending was inclusive of all libraries. The Kaiapo Library averaged approximately 400 visitors per day, and the Oxford Library approximately 400 visitors per day. The hosting of events at the libraries, such as story time and craft groups, encouraged visitors.

C Brown noted that the Council had reduced the number of books in the Waimakariri collection, and the team had therefore been able to concentrate and showcase the books popular with the community, thus the increase in lending.

Moved: Councillor Cains

Seconded: Councillor Mealings

THAT the Community and Recreation Committee:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 231123188350.
- (b) **Notes** a significant increase in total physical (book) loans with an additional 60,000 loans over the previous year. This included an increase of 27,328 issues in children and young adults and 33,618 in adults. The total number of issues for the previous year was 638,477 items, a record for Waimakariri Libraries.
- (c) **Notes** Growth of Instagram and Facebook to engage with hapori (community), particularly Rangatahi (youth) which had resulted in increased engagement around library services in our physical spaces.
- (d) **Circulate** the report to the Community Boards for information.

CARRIED

Councillors Cairns and Mealing commended the library staff for their excellent work in supporting the Waimakariri community.

Mayor Gordon acknowledged the volunteers who assisted in the libraries and created a space of community engagement.

6 CORRESPONDENCE

Nil.

7 PORTFOLIO UPDATES

7.1 Greenspace (Parks, Reserves and Sports Grounds) – Councillor Al Blackie.

- Silverstream Reserve – Hosted function for volunteers, who detected 2,900 hours during the year.

- Kaiapoi River – The three new five-knot buoys would be installed by Environment Canterbury this week. The acting Harbour Master was trying to secure funding to address the problems with speeding.
- Te Kohaka o Tuhaitara Trust – The Mahinga Kai contract for the entrance and the fences was out for tender. The Kairaki sections were on the market.

7.2 **Community Facilities (including Aquatic Centres, Multi-use Sports Stadium, Libraries/Service Centres, Town Halls and Museums) – Councillor Robbie Brine.**

- Tennis courts on Coldstream Road – Commended the staff and the developers for the excellent development.
- Maria Andrews – the carpark upgrade was proceeding.

7.3 **Community Development and Wellbeing – Councillor Brent Cairns.**

- Road Safety Working Group meeting - Previously, the ratio of drivers over the breath alcohol limit was 1/100, and in Christchurch City, the ratio was 1/25. New Zealand Police were conducting more breath testing stops.
- Beach matting trial at Waikuku Beach - Organised by the Ocean Access Advocates Roopu. They had 10 meters of matting on loan and aspired to make the ocean increasingly accessible. Information was available at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61552398036357>.
- The Community Wellbeing Forum - The new strategy would essentially aim to build on existing resources, with an emphasis on advocacy, empowering people out of adversity, inclusion and activating our communities, places, and spaces. Two of the biggest challenges that we currently face were mental health and access to health service providers (essentially GPs and mental health support). Housing, of course, was a continuing priority. However, there was a fair bit happening in that space. Additional navigators were needed who could assist individuals and whanau who have complex needs and help them to navigate a range of supports to affect positive outcomes.
- Christmas Carnivals – The carnivals were well attended, and the various promotions associations should be commended for their work. All have reported they were able to keep to budget, and some reported surpluses relating to generous support from businesses or charging for some of the activities.
- Many businesses report that in these tough times, discretionary spending was down, with an increase in staff costs along with interest and rental costs.
- Toot for Tucker - The amount donated increased by approximately 40%.
- Strawberry Fair – The fair would be hosted at the Kaiapoi Food Forest from 11am to 3pm on Saturday 17 December 2023

7.4 **Waimakariri Arts and Culture – Councillor Al Blackie.**

- Waimakariri Public Arts Trust – the Branded Exhibition was fairly successful, although the Trust did not sell as many paintings as hoped, the exhibition raised the Trust's profile. The Trust was thankful that the Council approved the exemption for the Trust from reporting on performance requirements under the Local Government Act 2002.
- Waimakariri Arts Collection Trust – Seven paintings had been identified for exhibition in the Council Chamber

8 QUESTIONS

Nil.

9 URGENT GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Community and Recreation Committee would be held on Tuesday 20 February 2024 at 3.30pm.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 4.55pm.

CONFIRMED



Chairperson

20 February 2024

Date