



# GREYTOWN COMMUNITY BOARD

*Kia Reretahi Tātau*

## **Greytown Community Board Submission to the South Wairarapa District Council Annual Plan 2020/21**

This submission is a result of discussions with Senior students at Kuranui College, an open meeting with Greytown residents and private correspondence.

### **Local Greytown issues**

#### **1. Footpath funding**

Greytown, through its Community Board (GCB), has requested funding for new footpaths in the town in the last 4 annual/long term plan processes. This work remains to be completed.

The following areas are close to schools and preschools, have traffic at speed, lots of walkers, and broken footpaths.

Should funding be available we support the following:-

- a) Continue footpath from Greytown School gates to the end of Reading Street and then to the road junction on East Street.
- b) North Street (southern side) footpath between West and East Street
- c) Footpaths, curb and channelling to be completed along East Street, North of the school
- d) Provide a safe zone from Tararua Junction to the cemetery for walkers and cyclists.
- e) Footpaths needed on the Western side of Udy Street
- f) Wood Street, curbing on the corner of Kempton and Wood Street, and footpath (from Kempton Street to the new development on 33-44 Wood Street)
- g) Continue the footpaths from Humphries Street to Garrity and Elmstead lanes
- h) Repair of broken footpaths

## **2. Annual Maintenance**

There is a general belief amongst ratepayers that little has been spent on amenities in Greytown. We urgently require:-

- a) The repair and replacement where necessary of the spectator stands at Greytown pool.
- b) The repair and painting of both male and female changing rooms at the swimming pool.
- c) If feasible, GCB also supports extending the fence on the eastern boundary in long run and replacing the old wooden fence.
- d) A continued annual maintenance programme for our key assets (buildings, parks, cemetery, reserves) and regular maintenance of our trees and parks.

## **3. Water Races**

- a) To continue and increase checks on water races in public places and parks.
- b) To provide information/printed brochure about water races and the responsibilities of new owners. To also consider a reminder in upcoming rates newsletter regarding water race responsibilities.
- c) To consider working with estate companies for the distribution of any brochures

## **4. Recreational Initiatives**

Greytown has many attributes but for teenagers there is a lack of amenities. The town is growing and with a larger teenage population we have to plan for their needs. Teenagers need more out of school activities. There is a general belief that Greytown has been funded significantly less than other Wards for clubs and leisure activities, and that at present young people have to be bussed to other Wards for sports. The town needs capital expenditure to be used for youth activities. Such facilities need to be easily accessed by all and centrally located. In this context:

- a) Greytown supports the development of a Sports Hub involving the Rugby Club grounds and Kuranui College. At present Greytown has only an outdoor pool and outdoor sports facilities. There is a need for indoor facilities.

- b) Strong support exists to include a wheels park as a component of this sports development.
- c) Are all developers adequately supporting recreational costs?
- d) Young people wish to be consulted in any future developments, to avoid Council spending in areas that they do not value or wish to use. They would like more social activities to make the town more inclusive, and more places to congregate and have fun.
- e) Greytown is perceived as a town for retired people, but there has been a growth in families moving to Greytown and facilities for families are lacking.

## **5. Community Based Emergency Response/WREMO-CD**

- a) Greytown is growing and the risk types and probability levels are also increasing, e.g. serious fire, drought, flood and earthquake. Resources to enable continuing and adequate public outreach and awareness building need to be ensured. Information about the Community Emergency Hub and its function needs to be clarified across the wider community.
- b) As part of the community response preparation, Greytown must be assured of a fully functioning Neighbourhood Support capability, with adequate resources to fulfil an important brief, which supports cohesion, information collection and information dissemination. This also links into Community connectedness and identification of issues.

## **6. Strengthening Ties with Maori**

We support all initiatives to strengthen our relationship with the Maori Standing Committee and our local iwi.

We would like funding to develop a Papawai Marae website as this is one of the most historical Maori sites in New Zealand and this links well with the LTP of supporting tourism in the Wairarapa.

## **The following areas are pertinent to our district:-**

### **7. Housing**

- a) Young people support the building of a tiny house village, with a community garden. This would give them better opportunity to enter the housing market.
- b) People believe that housing subdivisions need to be more communal in their construction and planning, with public green spaces and public use areas. They are interested in more community gardens, and a better use of food production areas.
- c) There are general concerns about protecting greenspace.
- d) People support the building of smaller housing and like the concept of a mixed housing village.
- e) Public submissions favour fewer lifestyle properties and the building of smaller family residences. The public want increased consultation on future housing developments and wish to be informed of all developments regarding future building zones and green sites within Greytown.
- f) There is also support for additional Council housing on the site where the six West-Haven flats have been built.
- g) We need to acknowledge climate change and build sustainable housing. All plans should insist on tanking and the use of grey water, and there should be rate rebate incentives for existing homes to install tanks (10,000 litre tanks where possible).

### **8. Transport**

Young people have stated a genuine need for a shuttle between Greytown, Featherston and Bidwells' Cutting and then on to Martinborough. Transport needs to be available after 6 pm, as currently they are reliant on parents or their own cars to get them home (Not all young people own their own cars, or have parents with cars, and many older people do not have transport and are isolated).

- a) A shuttle would help change behaviour of young people away from private car in favour of public transport.
- b) Better transport means more work opportunities.
- c) More information is requested on bus and rail services.

- d) Rail service frequency needs to be increased.
- e) We need to foster relationships with the Regional Council about these issues.

## **9. Environment**

- a) Ratepayers are conscious of the need to reduce waste, recycle and reuse but there is an enormous task ahead for the waste minimisation officer. This needs to be a priority. Waste management means the reduction of waste not just recycling. The Council's goal should be to eliminate single use plastics from our district.
- b) Young people feel that supermarkets should be packing in paper, not plastic. We should discuss with supermarkets and encourage them to minimise packaging waste and move to eliminate single use plastics from the district.
- c) Supermarkets to stop double packaging.
- d) Better e-waste logistics.
- e) SWDC also needs to accept e-waste at all three transfer stations.
- f) The SWDC website requires better information on all aspects of waste, including hazardous waste.
- g) Papawai sewerage ponds require attention, as the smell is becoming an issue. The Marae is a heritage building but visitors to the Marae are accosted by the smell from the sewerage ponds.
- h) Do we need to consider small sewerage ponds (management systems) as new developments are planned?

## **10. Water Supply**

Rate payers seek assurance about our water supply. Our existing population already faces significant water restrictions. There is concern that increasing subdivisions/developments will erode our ability to meet household needs. Some suggestions in this context:

- a) Do we need further storage ponds?
- b) Do we need a moratorium on further subdivisions, unless, and until we can make more water available?
- c) Should we be allocated charge neutral smart meters?

d) Agreement that we should be focusing on water conservation and reduction in usage.

e) General agreement that water and sewerage are two of our biggest issues.

## **11. Community Cohesiveness**

a) Isolation of seniors and people in rural and urban areas needs to be better understood. We need plans around mental wellbeing for all.

b) The young are isolated and isolation causes depression, and a council wellbeing policy is needed.

c) We need indoor facilities to bring communities together, and to become more inclusive.

## **12. Speed Limits and Safety**

We support SWDC ongoing review of speed limits across the district.

## **13. IT Networks**

We would support cooperation between SWDC and Carterton to develop a business hub.

## **14. Spatial and Long-Term Planning**

The areas Greytown would like SWDC to consider are:-

a) Residents' seriously held concerns over water supply.

b) Balance of housing, agricultural and green space needs in planning future developments.

c) Smaller housing developments with green space.

d) Review of the contributions by developers when housing developments occur.

e) Consistent street lighting standards for all new developments.

f) Provision of the recreational needs of Greytown.

g) Ongoing resources to facilitate awareness of Community Emergency preparedness; Neighbourhood Support coordination and Community Hub operation.

h) Review of the ratio of land versus building on proposed building sites.

i) Continued assessment of the infrastructure that we currently have, including assets under the ground. Leak detection and asset renewal to

be planned i.e. what needs immediate upgrading and what needs to be done in the future. Planning also needs to include waste water needs.

- j) Revision of the current policy of overloading the sewerage ponds at Papawai Marae, and look for additional ponds.
- k) Balance the needs for farming and housing development.
- l) Improve consultation with the Greytown public over any long term plans for a by-pass around Greytown.
- m) Consider the provision of a round- about at the top of Humphries Street and Papawai Road at the junction with Main Street, given increased hazards e.g. building.
- n) Increase employment opportunities for people in Greytown.
- o) Improve rail and road transport.
- p) Get serious about waste minimisation and environmental issues.
- q) Review speed limits to improve safety.