

Community Funding Sub-Committee

Creating the ultimate
living environment



WHANGAREI
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Notice of Meeting

A meeting of the Community Funding Sub-Committee will be held
in the Council Chamber, Forum North, Whangarei on:

**Wednesday
14 April 2010
8.30 am**

Sub-committee of Finance and
Support Committee

Committee

Cr W L Syers (Chairperson)
Cr S J Deeming
Cr G M Martin
Cr M R Williams

Vision Statement

To be a vibrant, attractive and thriving District
by developing sustainable lifestyles based around
our unique environment; the envy of New Zealand
and recognised world wide.

1. Community Halls Fund 2009-2010

Reporting Officer: Owen Thomas (Senior Community Services Advisor)
Date: 29 March 2010

Vision, Mission and Values

Operating in effective partnerships with voluntary community hall committees ensures the sustainable provision of community facilities throughout the district, helping to create the ultimate living environment.

Local Government Act 2002 – The Four Well-Beings

- Cultural:*** Community halls are frequently significant to local history and contribute to a community's cultural identity.
- Economic:*** Community halls provide venues for a range of purposes, including community based economic activities.
- Environmental:*** Community halls increase the amenity value of open spaces in the district and, if required, are a valuable resource in the event of a natural disaster
- Social:*** Community halls support and strengthen sustainable community activities and contribute to social cohesion through volunteerism

Background

In September 2007 Council adopted the Community Halls Strategy. The purpose of the strategy was to define a community hall, clarify the roles and responsibilities of the Whangarei District Council with regard to community halls and their respective committees, develop a prioritisation framework for the administration of the Community Halls funding and create a database of the community halls in the Whangarei District.

The strategy provides guidelines and boundaries around the level of support from Council to the community halls, within the Whangarei District.

The Community Halls Maintenance Fund

The Community Halls Maintenance Fund uses set criteria based on outstanding maintenance and usage of the community facility to compare all applicants and administer the community halls fund based on priorities of need identified from this process.

The maintenance needs were identified in a building review completed in late 2007 and the usage of the halls is identified by the hall committees annually through the application process. These variables are then allocated a numerical score to assist in the allocation process. This allows all applications to be treated equally and the comparison of applications to identify where assistance is most needed.

Applicants with above average maintenance needs and above average usage are prioritised as the high priority group to allocate resources to.

Fund Effectiveness

In the 2007 - 2008 funding round Council received 18 applications and administered grants to 17 hall committees.

In the 2008 – 2009 Council received 16 applications. Three of these were from first time applicants and one was from the declined application from the 2007 - 2008 funding round. The Council also received 5 letters from hall committees acknowledging the Council's support but declining the opportunity to apply.

In the 2009 – 2010 funding round, 15 community halls have applied for support and one grant was administered early to Whareora Hall.

From the 16 applications received in the 2008 - 2009 funding round the median level of maintenance decreased by nearly 70% while the median level of usage remained static. In the 2009 – 2010 funding round both the usage and maintenance medians have remained static.

The primary reason for this is that work by staff and ward Councillors has encouraged a number of first time applications from community halls – 20% of all applicants. These community hall committees are, Glenbervie, Pakotai and Maungatapere.

The Glenbervie committee have a well utilised facility. Their application included a number of jobs not identified in the 2007 maintenance review but does address their most significant maintenance issue from the review – repairing the roof.

Staff were unable to contact the Pakotai hall committee during the time of the 2007 building review but from the hall committee minutes it is understood that the hall was in need of significant repairs. This committee has become very active over the last year. Staff and the Ward Councillor have met with the committee and conducted an on-site review of maintenance work recently completed. In parallel to this progress the committee are seeking legal status to formalise the structure of their community hall committee.

Maungatapere hall also have a revitalised committee and completed a number of outstanding maintenance jobs.

It is recommended that all of these applications are supported in light of the ongoing voluntary works of the respective committees.

Whareora Hall

On 9 September 2009, the Community Funding Sub-Committee approved a grant of \$5000 for Whareora Community Hall Committee from the Community Halls Fund, in light of special circumstances.

At the time the Community Funding Sub Committee did not approve the recommendation that the request be considered as the Whareora Hall's annual application to the Community Hall Fund.

The Whareora Community Hall Committee has applied for expenses towards the replacement of cupboards, benches and the servery surface in the kitchen. The Community Halls Maintenance Fund is primarily for external maintenance issues and Internal Health and Safety issues. In light of this it is recommended a lesser grant of \$1,000 be made to support the work of a well attended and maintained community hall.

Approval for Funding

This financial year there have been 16 applications to the Whangarei District Council's Community Hall Maintenance Fund – including two from Whareora hall. All of these applications were eligible to apply and all have fully participated in the funding process by attending and participating in workshops, communicating with staff, returning project reports and completing application forms.

From the applications in the 2009 – 2010 community halls funding round \$108,334 was requested to assist with maintenance. The recommendations for this fund are to administer \$45,000 to the 15 community hall committees that applied. The Community Halls maintenance fund is a \$50,000 fund but \$5,000 of this fund was administered in September 2009.

This makes the average grant to each committee \$3,000.

Recommendations

1. That this report be received.
2. That the above applications be approved financial support from the Community Halls Fund and letters sent out notifying applicants of the value and purpose of grant support as listed below:

The Hall	Recommended Grant	Purpose of grant
Glenbervie	\$ 2,000	- Repair and repaint roof
Kaurihohore	\$ 3,000	- New water tank - Security of pump
Kara/Kokopu	\$ 5,000	- Ramp access to hall - Paint exterior - Upgrade ladies' toilets
McLeod Bay	\$ 3,000	- Re-cladding the eastern wall
Marua	\$ 1,000	- Wash-down and paint exterior
Matapouri	\$ 3,000	- Concrete ramp area into hall - Entrance to kitchen through back door & steps
Maungakaramea	\$ 3,000	- Painting exterior walls & gable ends
Maungatapere	\$ 5,000	- Repair main hall roof - Fit new spouting across front entrance
Oakura	\$ 3,000	- Sewage plumbing, drain laying and septic tank
Opuawhanga	\$ 3,000	- Replace windows and doors
Pakotai	\$ 5,000	- Replace hot water cylinder & plumbing - Lining of toilet facilities - Paint roof & walls
Parua Bay	\$ 2,000	- Kitchen flooring
Ruatangata	\$ 3,000	- Paint exterior
Taurikura	\$ 3,000	- Replace ceiling
Whareora	\$ 1,000	- Kitchen flooring

3. That the successful applicants acknowledge the support of Council.
4. That the applicants complete a project report within three months of the completion of their projects or the completion of the 09/10 financial year whichever is the earlier.