

Sanson Community Committee Meeting Minutes
held in the Sanson Community Hall
On Thursday 8th February 2024

Opening: 7.08pm

Committee Present: Grant McGaughey (Chairperson), Chris Smith (Secretary/Treasurer), Steve Smith, Jen Berquist, Del Parker, Alan Peck, Stephen Gill.

Manawatu District Council: Alison Short.

Public: Karen MacDonald

Apologies: Negin Nema, Alicea Brosnan

Guest Speakers: Grayson Marsh, Principal – Sanson School. Grayson introduced himself to SCC and gave a short speech and welcome to Sanson School Grayson.

Previous Minutes: December 2023 Minutes: Moved: Stephen Gill. Seconded: Jen Berquist. Were read and confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Inwards Correspondence: From Alison Short advising SCC of a major milestone reached on Pukenui Road roundabout & shared user path project on State Highway 1/3 between Bulls & Sanson. The roundabout outside RNZAF Base Ohakea is set to open this month (February) to all day-time users.

ANZAC day is under way with Ross and Chris is starting to make contact with the band etc with first contact.

Correspondence Out: Nil.

Matters Arising: Emergency Responce – Vicki has gone onto Horizons and is still a work in progress. Stephen Gill still active in his Role.

Councillor's Report: Alison Short.

Developing the draft Long Term Plan, covering the next ten years, has been our main focus the past few months. More crunching of numbers and prioritising of projects has occurred. Councils everywhere are facing increased costs of service delivery and increased central government compliance. The draft Long Term Plan will go out for public consultation in March/April and submissions will be invited. Our proposed rate increase for the district is just over 7%.

MDC's Road Maintenance Contract. As mentioned last year, this was up for a renewal and tenders were called for. The successful company for the next contract is Fulton Hogan. This will take effect on 1st July 2024. Higgins will work through to the end of June.

The first 100 days of the new government has councils paused in many areas waiting to see what is being kept and what is being over turned from the previous government. This covers many areas eg. 3 Waters, speed management review rules, district planning etc

Construction season. Summer sees many projects underway across the district with both infrastructure and roading.

General Business:

Mowing of service lanes. Sanson residents are not happy that the service lanes are not being mowed now by Rec Services as money is needed for this to be done. This simply isn't enough. Grass is long and dry. Fire risk is a concern. It has been mown more frequently in the past, why the change? Cost cutting?

Open drains/stormwater. Very overgrown in places. Can they be inspected and cleared please. Also causing pest issues, like rats.

Cnr Fagan and Hedges St.'s has an infestation of nutgrass, 1 metre high in places. Could it be sprayed. A resident (hearsay) tipped up his ride-on mower trying to tidy this up.

Hall carpark. A number of growing potholes. Some in the middle, some in the entrance way. Whose responsibility are these please? Also, some of the line markings in the carpark are very faded and in need of renewal.

Del Parker very concerned about state of walkway. Needs re-liming in places and the level of mowing has reduced. Why don't villages get the same level of service as Feilding?

Del Parker mentioned about the Xmas lights/banners, MDC or the contactor was going to put up and take down but these have not been put up for the last 1 or 2 years. Alf Downs was not contracted to do this and the contract went to someone else.

Potholes at the Sanson Community. A number of potholes have appeared on the market carpark again from the trucks and Chris will have a talk to the Motel Owners.

Stephen Gill will talk to Corrections to see if they would be able to do lime spreading if the materials were supplied and will report back to the Committee at the March meeting.

Fire Hydrants for Sanson. Alison Short to follow up with a time frame for these to be installed.

Committee member Stephen Gill is attending the ANZAC service at Gallipoli this year and asked if Sanson or MDC would like him to take something to represent them that he could photograph there. It couldn't be anything permanent, but a little flag with a logo or something. He would take photos and then have to remove the item but would be happy to share the photos with those back here.

Market & Hall Financial Reports: These reports were presented at this month's meeting and the reports will not be made public and will be available to see at the monthly meetings.

Meeting Closed: 8.43pm

Next Meeting is on: **Thursday 14th March 2024**