

Pool Rebuild Project-Community Update June/July

Over the past 6 months the Committee has been working hard to collect all the information that we require to make decisions to move forward with this project. We have engaged an independent company to assist, review and make recommendations through a Feasibility Study. This study is funded by a Lotteries Grant as it is also a requirement of an application to their Community Facilities Fund. The Study is now complete and has been reviewed by both the Committee and BOT. An electronic copy of the complete study is available by emailing eastmond@clear.net.nz and we hope to have it available for download directly from the school web site early next term.

Submissions, feedback and comment on the findings of the study for consideration by the committee are welcomed and can be emailed to the secretary Caroline Eastmond at the same email address or dropped into Forbes Hardware for us to collect. A date for a public meeting to discuss the study will be set for Term 3 once everyone has had a chance to read and consider the information available.

The conclusions and recommendations of the study are:

The feasibility study demonstrates the need for a replacement pool that is fit for purpose for the Waiau community. A preferred site has been identified as have the preferred pool spaces.

The operating model is predicated on the Waiau School Board of Trustees overseeing this asset and equally importantly; the pool is operated under a voluntary structure, similar to the previous Waiau pool.

The feasibility study concluded that:

- A replacement of the Waiau Pool is feasible, provided the ongoing operational costs can be minimised through continued volunteer input.
- The preferred site for the new pool is on the existing school grounds. This site was regarded as meeting all usage criteria.
- The preferred pool option consists of a main pool and water areas for both Learn-to-Swim and Toddlers water play. The configuration of these areas will be determined with the preferred contractor.
- Any specialist swimming needs can be accessed in the wider network (e.g. competition and hot water pools at Hanmer Springs)
- The preferred pool option is most likely to be in the capital cost range of circa \$1 – 1.2 million excluding site infrastructure and a potential solar heating system
- Should the funds not be available to develop the preferred option a value engineering exercise can occur to reduce the scope of the development to give the best opportunity for a pool will be built in Waiau. This will likely involve developing a smaller single tank (rather than a main pool and learn to swim pool).

The feasibility study recommends that:

1. A pool complex is developed which is appropriate for the size of the Waiau community.
2. Seek independent legal and project management advice in developing a detailed tender brief that can be released to a selected number of Design & Build companies to confirm total project costs (including an undisclosed contingency).
3. A skilled, experienced Aquatics Project Manager is engaged as the client representative for this development, from tender brief to construction and commissioning.

4. Once the procurement process has been undertaken and a selected contractor identified the obligations of each party should be clearly agreed in a contract.
5. Operational costs continue to be minimised through the voluntary effort of the wider Waiau community.
6. The client seeks third party capital funding support for the facility.

The next step:

The MOE and BOT will now review the figures in terms of operation and management for the future and the pool committee will continue to work through the design, planning and costing process to decrease the total overall capital cost of the project as much as possible whilst still achieving a good outcome for the project. We will also be continuing work to increase our available funds as, 1/3 of the total project cost will be required as partnership funds by Lotteries at the time we submit an application.

The Lottery Community Facilities Fund opens on the 5/7/2017 and closes on the 30/8/2017 – for a meeting decision date in December 2017. The next round after that is 17/1/2017 to 14/3/2018 with a *meeting date of 22/6/2018*

An application to the Rata Foundation Building Fund has been submitted.

At this time there is no indication that additional capital will be available from government despite the best efforts of both the HDC and ourselves to lobby for funding to aid in the repair and rebuild of community facilities in our area.

Recent donations have included:

Meg & Tom MacFarlane, Suzanne & Hamish MacFarlane - landholder contributions from the Waiau School Trailride, \$360 Challenge Mocketts Motors, \$10 000 Gina Satterthwaite, \$15 000 Mike Greer Homes Canterbury, \$5000 Bishopdale Burnside Rotary Club , \$11 000 the Nape Nape Trail Ride , \$1000 Hazlett Rural, and \$900 that was raised by the committee and friends catering at the recent trail ride and clearing sale. A HUGE thank you to everyone who has contributed-your generosity and support is very much appreciated.

This project will take time to complete, our aim is to have a pool available in time for summer 2018/19 however we are realistic that it may take longer than this to achieve.

We are very grateful that the temporary pool will still be available for school and community use in the coming summer season.

Thank you for your interest and continuing support in the pool rebuild project.