

## **Report from Transport & Wellbeing sub-committee to MDCA monthly meeting December 2023 from Elena Meredith**

*(noted that there have been no changes in either NTCTT services or the development of the community hub in “the new church” so this is a repeat of the November report )*

### **Transport –**

1 two of the 3 transport services run by Nelson Tasman Community Transport Trust continue to service passengers in Māpua and Districts:

A Māpua Willing Wheels offers rides to passengers in the drivers’ own cars - including rides to access the – NCC/TDC e-Bus

B Motueka Coastal Bus – which continues to provide a Saturday trip through Māpua with volunteer drivers often collecting local residents en route to Richmond and return – especially popular with young residents offering the chance for a visit to the pool. With the intention of complementing the e-bus services from Motueka, this bus now offers a twice-weekly route from Motueka to the Richmond Aquatic Centre through the Moutere Valley Route

C The Wakefield Bus Route is no longer operating as the e-bus now offers that service. Negotiations are underway ( see below) re using the ex- Wakefield Bus to provide a regular service from Tapawera ( see below)

### **. Current options for the future with e-bus services now in operation**

1 Provide “ shuttle service” for those unable to get to E-bus –stops by themselves ; (using Willing Wheels drivers)

2 1 continue to provide Saturday service Motueka – Richmond . Aquatic Centre (popular with teens)

3 Establish routes not currently planned for /provided by E-bus ;

- Inland Highway Motueka to Richmond – this route is already in operation
- Tapawera – the Trust is now in active negotiation with Tapawera residents to provide a regular route to Motueka /Nelson using the previously named – Wakefield Bus
- Riwaka/Golden Bay
- Hira/the Glen

4 Set up the required processes for both vehicles to be available for community groups to hire at affordable rates – we are already in active negotiations relating to several such arrangements

It was encouraging and affirming to receive the following comment from Lotteries Commission on their fully approving our recent grant application :

*“...it was noted that your request aligns with this committee’s priorities and demonstrates community benefit ...”*

### **Wellbeing**

Noted that negotiations are continuing between members of the Māpua Community Wellbeing Trust and the governance team of Hills Community Church exploring possible options to establish the Community Hub using “ spare spaces” within the current church building. This could

significantly benefit both organizations and leave the “old church” available for other uses such as a Youth Hub

The recent community plant sale to support this project raised \$3402.66!!!!- shows what green fingers and strong community spirits can provide