

**10. BOARD CONSULTATION WITH COMMUNITY
– RESIDENTS’ GROUPS/CANTERBURY NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT**

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author Tony Gemmill, DDI 941-6701
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The purpose of this report is to submit for record purposes a summary of the Board’s meeting with Residents’ Groups and the Canterbury Neighbourhood Support representative on 21 August 2002. Members will recall that an interim report was submitted to the previous Board meeting and particular action was agreed to on the matters of “trees” and “local planning and development”.

The Canterbury Neighbourhood Support Co-ordinator advised of the strong representation with local support groups with approximately 1,600 of the 2000 in Canterbury residing in Christchurch. Further information was provided on a number of partnerships with organisations in the city and the province and of the concentration of effort toward personal safety. Information was also provided on arrangements which were currently in hand for the upcoming national conference for neighbourhood support groups.

The representatives from the Merivale Precinct Society spoke of current concerns at litter in the community, and also expressed their interest in the provision of a community house which could provide benefit for the Society in its accommodation of records, the provision of a meeting place and related activity.

Also noted by the Merivale Precinct Society was the matter of the ongoing loss of protected trees in the area, and their view that the Council should do more to provide a policy for replacement to cover these situations. Also of interest to the Society was the provision of bus shelters at appropriate locations and a number of areas of concern regarding the outcome from development in the local area. Of particular relevance was the matter of parking and associated development at private schools, and some recent development of accommodation units in Bristol Street.

The representative from the Rastrick Area Association also advised of their concern at litter in their area and expressed interest in a process which would provide additions to the existing protected tree list in order to retain the important tree canopy in this part of the community. While noting the recent development involving the provision of on-site carparking at schools, the Rastrick Area Association commented that this type of accommodation was preferred to that of school parking in adjacent streets. There was also reference to ongoing issues regarding city commuters parking in the streets and walking to town for work purposes.

The Burnside Residents’ Support Group representative advised that there were no particular major issues in their community at present apart from a number of minor maintenance issues. The representative referred to the very well supported concert which had been hosted in the Aurora Centre recently and of their continuing work towards building community spirit in the area, and their plans for again hosting a Christmas Carole event.

The representative from the Plynlimon Residents’ Group spoke of the most satisfactory community outcome over the local cell tower issue originally based in Alpha Avenue. There was also a compliment given for the Council’s recent planting of street trees in the area, but that there were ongoing issues about parking in the streets by church users on Sundays. While the Council’s Parking Unit had responded to a number of complaints, there were still many instances of inconsiderate parking adjacent to driveways.

The Plynlimon representative also referred to some problems associated with crossing Idris Road during peak hours, and referred to a number of best practices noted for handling traffic during a recent visit to Europe. The representative also spoke of an interest in researching boundaries for the established area of Elmwood and for a later production of a history of the area.

A number of miscellaneous matters were raised by the attendees prior to the conclusion of the meeting including an interest in the “adopt-a-park” (as being established with the new Merivale Reserve), and there was also reference to the idea of the promotion of historic walks in suburbs and information to the community in relation to these.

On behalf of the Board, the Chairman thanked the attendees for their input to the discussion and congratulated them on their ongoing work in the community.

Staff

Recommendation: That the information be received.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the foregoing recommendation be adopted.