

10. NEW BRIGHTON PIER LIAISON

Officer responsible Community Advocate, Burwood/Pegasus	Author Dennis Morgan - Community Advocate, DDI 941-5309
---	---

The purpose of this report is to advise the Board of matters which have been brought to the attention of the New Brighton Pier Liaison Team over the past year.

INTRODUCTION

The New Brighton Pier Liaison Team was established in 1998 to coordinate information about the pier and monitor its use.

The Liaison Team is chaired by the Community Advocate, Burwood/Pegasus and includes representatives of the Pier and Foreshore Society, Honorary Wardens, the New Brighton Library, Property Unit, Parks and Waterways Unit, New Brighton Residents' Association, and the Community Board representative Bob Andrews.

The Liaison Team meets at approximately six weekly intervals.

MONITORING

The Liaison Team has generally focussed on maintenance and enforcement issues.

The interest of the Liaison Team was extended as the need arose to include access to and parking around the Library. A representative of the City Streets Unit joined the Liaison Team during this time.

The main issue which has continued to raise concerns over the past year is the control of fishing from the pier. The Honorary Wardens and Coastal Area Parks Rangers have made regular patrols and have confirmed that in recent weeks problems are still occurring. There are a relatively high number of people, keen to experience fishing from the pier, both adult and children.

Banning fishing from the pier is not seen as a solution. Encouraging the fishermen to give greater respect to all who wish to experience the visit to the pier has been the prime objective.

The Meridian Energy Fireworks Extravaganza on 5 November is now an annual event based at the pier. The siting of the fireworks on the pier has provided a number of vantage points along the foreshore to watch the display.

Regular maintenance issues have been the replacement of the glass panels on the pier ramps and the replacement of lifebuoys which have been found as far a field as Kaikoura and the Botanic Gardens. The pier is hosed down and cleaned daily. The cost of maintenance and cleaning the pier and terminus building for 2002 was \$96,000.

It is current policy that there be no commercial activity on the pier. Applications have been declined to sell ice creams, fishing rods, and photography, and to close it off at times as a wedding venue.

Thanks are due to the Volunteer Wardens who have been maintaining some order to the issues around fishing, the Pier and Foreshore Society for the continuing interest in the promotion of the pier (donations are still being received from visitors and residents), and the Coastal Area Parks Rangers who have taken some ownership of the pier in ensuring it is regularly monitored and available for all visitors.

A further request has been made to Telecom for a public pay phone in the vicinity of the Pier and Library building.

The pier continues to be a major attraction for visitors to Christchurch.

Staff

Recommendation: That the information be received.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received.