

**14. RICCARTON/WIGRAM COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
REPORT OF 12 FEBRUARY 2003**

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author Janice Huddy, Assistant Community Adviser DDI 941-6532
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The purpose of this report is to submit the outcomes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on Wednesday 12 February 2003.

The meeting was attended by Bob Shearing (Acting Chairperson), Ishwar Ganda, Lesley Keast and Mike Mora.

An apology was received from Peter Laloli.

1. MOBILE KIDS PROGRAMME

A request for funding was received from Puppet World and the Christchurch West Baptist Church for funding to operate a values based pilot programme in the Hei Hei/Broomfield area for children aged 7 – 12 years.

Peter Hay and Louise Weller were present with the Mobile Kids Programme Bus.

A fully fitted, purpose built Leyland bus was recently purchased by the church, which will accommodate 15 children daily (60 kids per week) for an hour long interactive programme during each school term. Prior to the first week of the term the Co-ordinator, Louise Weller of Puppet World and members of the church will knock on the doors of every home in neighbouring streets in Hei Hei/Broomfield and leave a flyer inviting 7-12 year old children to come on board their "Kids Bus" over the following nine weeks. On the 10th week a party will be held for the children's families to celebrate and share what the children have learned and to also encourage the families and children to be involved in other organisations in the area. Materials related to "Parenting with Confidence" and programmes such as Focus on the Family (TV and radio) will also be mentioned.

The purpose of the programme is "to help and empower local kids to balanced living through a life-changing values programme using puppetry, music and drama".

The original request for funding from the Board was \$10,398 to enable the project to go ahead for the 1st Term. It was reported that this amount had been reduced to \$6,000 because of success from other funding sources.

This request meets the Council's Community Policy – "Supplement the capabilities and resources of community groups and structures" and Riccarton/Wigram Community Board Objective 2.1 "Work with local communities and community organisations to increase the capacity of communities".

The Committee recommendation is listed under clause 9 of this report.

2. HORNBY YOUTH WORK PROJECT – EVALUATION REPORT

Phillipa Aimer, Researcher, Lael Schwartzfeger, Hornby Youth Worker, Adrienne Malcolm, Community Development Network Trust were present for this item.

The Hornby Youth Work Project was established from funding from the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board. The Project was the outcome of research undertaken by the Health Research Service on the need for youth services in the Riccarton/Wigram wards.

In 1997 the Community Development Network Trust was contracted to manage this Project. The prime objective of the Project was to facilitate and promote positive opportunities for young people in the Hornby area.

In 2002 the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board decided it was time to do an evaluation of the Project, which had been running for four years. Independent researcher, Phillipa Aimer, was contracted to undertake the evaluation, which was completed in November 2002.

The following is a brief summary of report.

The strengths and weaknesses of the Hornby Youth Work Project are as follows:

1. Strengths

- The Youth Worker, particularly his community networking skills; his value and commitment to young people; his ability to identify and address the needs of the Project and the young people in the Hornby area
- The relationships between young people and the Project Leaders (including volunteer leaders and Youth Workers)
- The recreational opportunities and activities provided by the Project
- The support and funding from the Christchurch City Council and the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board
- The support from CDN Trust
- The Female Assistant Youth Worker position
- The Project is open to everyone

2. Weaknesses

- Access to volunteer leaders
- Funding
- Loss of the Female Assistant Youth Worker position

The evaluation concluded that "the Hornby Youth Work Project is able to provide local, low cost recreational programmes that also cater for the social, emotional, and physical needs of the local young people. It is a programme that fulfils the goals and outcomes of both central and local government youth strategies. The Project is also meeting its own aims, goals, and objectives. The benefits as observed by all of the stakeholders interviewed, and the participating young people and their families were regarded as extremely positive to the young people, their families, and the community as a whole".

One of the strengths of the Project identified in the evaluation report was the position of the female Youth Worker. The presence of a female Assistant Youth Worker has meant that the Project is able to offer help with dealing with female issues presented by female youth as well as organise and run specific programmes, activities and camps for this group. The loss of this position would remove these benefits from the Project and leave a huge gap that the Youth Worker could not appropriately address himself. The Community Board granted top-up funding towards this position last year when it was under Task Force Green. The Community Development Network Trust would be willing to administer and supervise the position, as part of the Hornby Youth Project, if funding to cover all the associated costs was made available.

It has been made clearly evident from the report that the Hornby Youth Project needs to continue and maintain the programmes and activities that have been established.

The Committee recommendation is listed under clause 9 of this report.

The Board Chairperson to pursue other funding options for the female assistant worker.

3. WIGRAM GYMNASIUM AND HARVARD LOUNGE NEEDS ANALYSIS RESEARCH

Jacqui Leask, Community Recreation Adviser, Bill Morgan, Property Unit and Rod Whearty, Parks and Waterways Area Advocate, presented the findings of the Wigram Gymnasium and Harvard Lounge needs analysis to the Committee.

The Wigram Gymnasium and the Harvard Lounge are assets of the Parks and Waterways Unit, which have received the rentals from the facilities for the past two years. The lease of the Gymnasium and Harvard Lounge to the Southern Institute of Technology expired on 31 December 2002. The Gymnasium and Harvard Lounge is currently let to the South West Ministry Trust for their services on Sundays, on a month-to-month basis. The Ministry are currently seeking alternative premises.

In September 2002 the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board agreed to finance a needs analysis of community recreation facilities in the Riccarton/Wigram wards to assess a current and future need for such a facility within this area to satisfy the recreational and leisure needs of Riccarton/Wigram which are not being met.

Wigram Gymnasium

In summary, the research findings present evidence of a current adequate amount of 'gymnasium type' facilities at High Schools situated within the Riccarton/Wigram wards to meet the existing needs of sport club users. "Clubs indicate significant price sensitivity that would make transfer of use to the Council operated facility at Wigram unlikely unless charges were competitive and floor upgraded to wooden sprung floor".

"The location of the Wigram Gym was perceived as inconvenient for all but the immediate Wigram catchment around the facility". "Those residents living nearer to or the other side of the Hornby Mall in Hornby, Hei Hei and Broomfield indicated that they clearly preferred a recreation facility closer to the hub of the wider catchment area ie nearer to Hornby Mall".

Feedback from the Leisure Parks and Waterways plans indicated "a high need for casual recreation options particularly for youth in the Riccarton/Wigram ward, however that these services need to be located in their immediate vicinity (ie within easy walking or bicycle distance) close to and where the facility is located close to other commercial or retail outlets".

Comments from the research focus groups suggests that "the facility is poorly located for a casual recreation purpose but will be acceptable for an organised activity where the participants are motivated and conditional to commute to the facility, such as club sport participants".

Several large organisations or sports clubs had been identified as prospective major users of the facility, and the report outlines the needs of each of these groups. The most favourable of these is Gymsport Canterbury.

Gymsport Canterbury's proposal is to develop Wigram Gymnasium into a dedicated gymnastics and trampoline facility, which would cater for recreation and competitive gymnasts on the Westside of Christchurch. .

Staff recommended that Gymsport Canterbury is offered a lease option of 5 years (with right of renewal after the first five years) with condition to provide open entry community recreational programmes which will be negotiated between Gymsport Canterbury and Christchurch City Council Leisure.

The Harvard Lounge

The demand for small meeting room facilities for the new Wigram subdivision and surrounding areas is high, therefore the Harvard Lounge is seen as an ideal community venue which could meet the needs of the local community for meeting rooms.

Staff recommended that the preferred management option for the facility be that it is Council owned and operated.

Conclusion

Staff believe that local demand for both of these facilities will increase as the area develops over the next few years. This is one of the prime reasons staff are recommending that any lease option for the Wigram Gymnasium does not extend beyond 10 years at this stage. The preferred option for the Harvard Lounge is to retain the building as a Council owned and operated facility. This would be similar to many other Council owned community facilities that can be booked or hired through the current booking system.

Staff are conscious of the need to ensure that we retain the ability to respond to community needs for access to the gymnasium and facilities under any proposed lease option. There are a number of ways this could be achieved ranging from Council managed and operated programmes through to Council funding some external provider or the lessee to deliver desired programmes.

It was noted that if the Board adopts the staff recommendation to lease the gymnasium to Gymsport Canterbury then a more detailed lease report would come back to the Board for consideration.

The Committee **received** the Wigram Gymnasium and Harvard Lounge Needs Analysis.

The Committee recommendation is listed under clause 9 of this report.

4. PROJECTS FOR COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

The progress of the schedule of "wish list" projects which was compiled as part of the 2003/04 Annual Plan process was discussed.

It was **agreed** that "community swimming pool" be added to the schedule. The Board Chairperson to have informal discussions with the Property Unit regarding the need to identify suitable sites in the area.

5. NEIGHBOURHOOD WEEK FUNDING

It was reported that "Neighbourhood Week" events had proved to be very successful with positive feedback from those who attended.

Events sponsored by the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board were:

Fletcher Place Committee	Barbecue Entertainment Afternoon for tenants of 68 City Council flats (includes Weaver Place, Wycola and Templeton complexes)	\$300
Toorak Avenue Neighbourhood Support Groups	Dinner for 73 residents to introduce new residents	\$226
Dickson Crescent Neighbourhood Support Groups	Barbecue for newly formed groups (100 people)	\$200
Vanderbilt Place Neighbours	Afternoon gathering to discuss forming a Neighbourhood Support Group	\$30
Templeton Residents Association	Contribution to cost of band for Barn Dance for Community	\$300
Kintyre Drive Neighbourhood Support Groups	Street Barbecue for 24 people	\$50
Islington Residents Association	Barbecue at official opening of Springmead Reserve	\$180
Wigram Park Community Association	Neighbourhood get-together to landscape an area on the corner of Harvard Avenue and Henry Wigram Drive	\$300
Hei Hei Broomfield Community	Community Christmas Luncheon at St Aidans Church	\$300

The information was **received**.

6. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

It was noted that four grants had been approved since the November meeting. They were -

- Avonhead Baptist Church, \$430 to send 6 young people to an Inner City Mission Week Camp
- Christchurch Children's Holiday Camps Trust, \$500 to send four local children to Holiday Camps
- Jennette Holland, \$300 for her grandson to attend a NZ Academy Soccer Coaching School
- Antony Stuart, \$100 towards trip as a member of the Canterbury U15 Boys Softball Team to travel to Wellington to compete

The Committee considered the following two applications and the recommendations are listed under clause 9 of this report.

1. Ingrid Komen, 102 Yaldhurst Road – seeking assistance with the cost of training to achieve a "Certificate in Youth Work" through the Praxis Youth Work and Mission Course. It is a one year, full time course that costs \$2,550.
2. Barrett Hocking, 57 Yaldhurst Road – seeking assistance with the cost of attending as a member of the National Youth Brass Band of New Zealand's 2003 tour to Los Angeles and the United Kingdom. Barrett has raised \$1,800 of the required \$3,000 towards this tour.

7. DISPOSAL OF CANTERBURY DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD SURPLUS LAND AT TEMPLETON

It was noted that the CDHB proposes to sell land and buildings currently on site at Templeton, which were no longer being used. Community Groups and other interested parties are invited to make submissions by 5.00pm on 28 February 2003.

It was **agreed** that Board members meet to discuss this issue and prepare a submission.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE

Wednesday 19 March 2003

9. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

- (a) That the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board make a grant of \$6,000 to Puppet World/Christchurch West Baptist Church towards the pilot "mobile kids programme" from the current 2002/03 Community Initiatives Fund.
- (b) That the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board and the Sockburn Service Centre staff continue to support the ongoing development of the Hornby Youth Worker Project.
- (c) That the Community Board approve a two year funding commitment to allow for the planning and continuity of programme associated with the Hornby Youth Worker Project.
 - Funding for the 2003/04 financial year to be allocated from the 2002/03 Youth Initiatives Fund (\$16,500) and Community Initiatives Fund (\$3,500), giving a required total of \$20,000.
 - Funding for the 2004/05 financial year (\$20,000) to be considered by the Board's Finance and Policy Committee as part of its deliberations on allocating the 2003/04 Project Funds.
- (d) That the Community Board approve in principle the funding for a part-time position, for two years, for a female assistant.
 - Funding for the current financial year to be allocated from the 2002/03 Youth Initiatives Fund in the sum of \$7,250.
 - Funding for the 2003/04 year financial year to be allocated from the 2002/03 Youth Initiatives Fund in the sum of \$15,500.
 - Funding for the 2004/05 financial year (\$15,500) to be considered by the Board's Finance and Policy Committee as part of its deliberations on allocating the 2003/04 Project Funds.
- (e) That the preferred management option for the Harvard Lounge is for the facility to be Council owned and operated.
- (f) That Gymsport Canterbury is offered a lease option of 5 years (with right of renewal after the first five years) for the Wigram Gymnasium, with condition to provide open entry community recreational programmes which will be negotiated between Gymsport Canterbury and Christchurch City Council Leisure.
- (g) That the existing tenancies of the Wigram Gymnasium and Harvard Lounge to South West Ministry Trust be allowed to run on a month to month basis until 30 June 2003.
- (h) That Board approve the following grants made from the Youth Development Fund:
 - Ingrid Komen \$350
 - Barrett Hocking \$350

Chairperson's

Recommendation: That the report be received and the recommendations contained in Clause 9 be adopted.