

2. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT

Mr Robin McCarthy, Aviation Activities Ltd, was in attendance to address the Board on his proposal for a helicopter service off the Pier. Mr McCarthy noted that he was well aware of the need to be flexible in the helicopter's operations, and to take into account the passive recreation activities currently undertaken on the Pier. To this end Mr McCarthy noted that the times of operation could be made as flexible as commercially viable. As far as noise problems were concerned he also believed that because the operation was offshore, on the end of the Pier, it should mitigate any noise nuisance factor to residents in the area.

Mr McCarthy noted that the helicopter had operated from Caroline Bay in Timaru seven years ago, and there were no noise problems. In addition, a Fairchild helicopter would be used, the Board was assured that this make of helicopter was one of the quietest. In response to questions Mr McCarthy did not believe that the proposal would be viable in the Bottle Lake Reserve, or would it be anywhere else other than the Pier as this had a novelty appeal. This matter was considered under clause 3.4 of this report "New Brighton Pier - Proposed Helicopter Operation".

Mr Kieran O'Hagan, Chairman of the Parklands Christian Activities Trust Management Team, was in attendance to address the Board on the establishment of a daycare centre in the Parklands area. Mr O'Hagan noted that a Management Committee had spent a considerable amount of time investigating the financial viability of a daycare proposal, and currently had a brief that would serve 46 children per day and 100 families per week. Mr O'Hagan gave a brief outline of the Management Committee's progress to date and concluded that the daycare proposal had the competent people, a long-term vision and a clear need for its services. What it did not have was land, a building or financial resources.

Mr O'Hagan requested Board support for funding in the vicinity of \$400,000, or some other such support to establish the daycare centre. Mr O'Hagan concluded by noting that the recently released review of early childhood education facilities had shown that the Burwood Ward had the highest concentration of children under 5, and Parklands the third lowest concentration of facilities. Mr O'Hagan believed that these results emphasised the need for Council support in establishing a daycare centre in the Parklands area. This matter was considered under clause 3.5 of this report "Daycare Centre - Parklands Community".

Mrs Heather Hodgkinson, a resident of Banks Avenue, was in attendance to express the concern of residents about work currently being undertaken on Dudley Stream. Mrs Hodgkinson noted that work was currently being undertaken to remove certain species of exotic vegetation in the area and replace them with native trees and shrubs. Mrs Hodgkinson noted that residents felt the native plantings were unattractive, and wanted to retain as many old exotic plantings as possible. In addition, people in the area had not been consulted and this was something that they felt should have been done well in advance of any plantings being undertaken. There was also a concern that the influx of shrubs and small trees was also making the area less open, and therefore less safe.

The Board **decided** to advise the Water Services Manager that the process undertaken on the banks of the Dudley Stream was not within the Council's consultation policy statement "Seeking Community Views", and that in the future the appropriate consultation measures be undertaken.

Delis Aston, Passenger Transport Planner, Canterbury Regional Council, was in attendance to seek Board input into the Mall Link bus service. Ms Aston explained that this was a trial service that had been operating since May last year, between New Brighton Mall and The Palms via Bexley. Delis explained that she was at the Board meeting to get feedback from members and to give the results of a survey undertaken to gauge the viability of the service.

The survey had indicated that the service had a low average patronage, but that at peak times it was well used. This was especially for school children early in the morning and in the late afternoon. Ms Aston concluded by noting that a report would be forwarded and further consultation would be undertaken to assess the viability of the service. Finally, a request was made that the service also includes part of Aranui.