

#### **4. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT**

##### **Casino Overbridge**

Messrs Arthur Pitcher and Barry Blair representing the Christchurch Casino together with Barry Dacombe, project architect, were present to outline the reasons for the Casino wishing to extend its premises over Peterborough Street to the adjoining northern side of the street.

Barry Dacombe related the background to the proposed extensions, which had arisen through past discussions with Council officers as to the need for further off street car parking requirements to the north of the Square. The proposed building extension would provide the car parking capacity for 260 cars.

In addition to the car park the new building would contain increased function and restaurant facilities, which was principally needed to cater for increased local demand. No extension to the gaming room was proposed, but for the space to be workable it had to be contiguous with the main floor of the casino.

Arthur Pitcher, Casino General Manager, advised that constant requests for functions to be held in the Casino Restaurant had to be turned down due to the effect on the restaurant's normal customer trade. Currently 550 staff were employed by the Casino and the extensions would mean employment for a further 30-50.

The new car park would cater for casino customers, as other car parks in the area were under pressure when there were functions on at the Town Hall or Convention Centre.

A model of the proposed building showing its impact on the site and surrounding streets was displayed by Janet Reeves, Planner, who reminded members of the recent policy passed by the Council in respect of overbridges and overbuildings.