

3. HORNBY MULTI-CULTURAL CENTRE

The Board received an extensive report from the Community Development Adviser (Denise Galloway) on this project.

Representatives from the Broomfield area and members of the project working party were also in attendance at the Board meeting.

As the result of a needs analysis in the Broomfield area two community development workers were employed to follow up the identified outcomes and recommendations. These positions were accountable to the Family and Community Division of Anglican Care who had been contacted to provide this service by the Christchurch City Council and the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board.

Due to the gap in information from the Broomfield research related to the needs of Maori, it was decided that one of the community development workers roles would be firstly to identify the needs of Maori in the area and then work alongside them towards meeting those needs.

According to the Maori Community Development Worker the vision identified is a communal place where Maori and other cultures feel free to congregate with a sense of belonging or turangawaewae.

A multi cultural centre based in the Hornby area would embrace people of all tribal affiliations and cultures with Maori as the hosts.

This concept has been based on a model used by the Te Aitarakihī Multi Cultural Centre in Timaru. They have found this works well and many diverse groups/cultures use the venue for their activities. In fact the first group to use the facility was disabled and attending a sports related event in Timaru.

The existing Hei Hei Community Centre, due to its size and current usage by 'regular' groups, would not meet the identified needs. The closest marae is Rehua, twelve kilometres away and Nga Hau E Wha at Aranui. There is an issue of transport as well as the cost of hiring these marae. They are not multicultural and therefore would not be in line with the proposed concept.

The two community development workers have been based for the last twelve months at St Aidan's Anglican Church Hall on the corner of Hei Hei Road and Buchanans Road.

The multi-cultural centre would complement what is already happening at St Aidan's by providing an alternative venue with a multi-cultural purpose.

At this point in time several options are being explored in terms of their potential availability and suitability as a multi-cultural centre. It is clear that the site needs to be in Hornby and ideally near or close to a reserve for recreational activities.

The Board was very supportive of the proposal; it **decided** to appoint Alison Wilkie, Ishwar Ganda, and Bob Shearing as its representatives on the Project Working Party.