11. TEMPLETON ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR STORMWATER DRAINAGE SYSTEM

The Water Services Unit, represented by Messrs Alan Watson and Maruf Hossain, were in attendance to discuss the acquisition of approximately 6,835m² of land in Templeton to provide a sustainable stormwater drainage system for the township.

The report was also being referred to the Parks and Recreation Committee for recommendation to the Council.

Currently stormwater discharges via a combination of private roof water-to-ground soakage with remaining water-to-ground or surface discharge. Existing ground soakage systems experience reduced capacities due to siltation and creates localised flooding within the township. Furthermore, the current system does not have authorisation with regards to resource consent.

A detailed investigation has been carried out with regard to possible stormwater disposal options and their suitability. It became evident that disposal through a soil absorption basin would be the most appropriate option for Templeton. The proposed soil absorption basin along Railway Terrace would cover approximately 70% of the (residential) catchment. The land concerned is former railway land which has been declared surplus to its requirements and was offered to Ngai Tahu properties Limited.

Members were very supportive of the proposal as stormwater disposal continues to be of concern to residents in Templeton. An opportunity also existed for possible realignment of the Jones Road/Railway Terrace road.

Helen Broughton expressed concerns that the report, being of major local significance, had come to the Community Board via a supplementary request. Her concern was that the process appeared to have been hurried. The Board supported the purchase of the land in Railway Terrace. Also, the Board sought an assurance that it, and the Templeton Residents Association, be invited to discuss the landscape/concept plans when available.

(Helen Broughton asked that her concerns with respect to the "process" be recorded.)

The public excluded portion of the report was received by the Board.