

3. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT

(c) Guardians of the Styx

The Chairman of the Guardians of the Styx, John Knox, outlined the progress made by the group since its formation late in 1999. Its aims were to protect, conserve and restore the river and its environs and halt the decline of its natural bio-diversity.

The group had worked to develop short, medium and long-term aims. Some of these were to address water quality issues, develop a reserve area, a public awareness campaign, development of a web site and the possibility of forming sister-relationships with *Styx Rivers* in other countries. Longer-term goals included the formulation of a strategic management plan and the suggestion to create an urban national park centred on the Styx River, in partnership with various groups. The formation of a park-like setting would enhance the northern entry to the city. Consultation had been carried out with professionals in the field and a recommendation was that a paid position should be created for a university graduate.

The Board **decided:**

1. That the Water Services Unit be asked to consider the concept of an urban national park for the Styx River and its environs and report back.
2. That staff discuss the employment of a suitable person to further the aims of the Guardians of the Styx.