



### **3. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT**

#### **THOMSON PARK - CONSULTATION ON PLANTING PLAN**

Irinka Britnell was in attendance to address the Board on the consultation process that led to the Parks and Recreation Committee's decision to fell trees in Thomson Park. Ms Britnell advised that the community did not initially understand the function of the Board and believed that there had not been adequate consultation on the proposed tree felling. She also advised that the five-point process presented to the Board for endorsement in April 1999 had not been initiated. Ms Britnell questioned whether the Council's Seeking Community Views Policy had been followed in this instance, as a compromise had been reached at the Board level but not endorsed by the Parks and Recreation Committee. She also questioned why the decision to fell trees in Thomson Park had not been endorsed by the full Council; and was concerned that many Councillors were prepared to vote in favour of the compromise position at a full Council meeting.

Ms Britnell concluded that an injustice had been done against the New Brighton community and requested a forum for grievances to be aired with an independent adjudicator. Ms Britnell believed that it would be important for the decision on tree felling to go to the full Council with residents having the opportunity to voice their opinions prior to a full Council vote.