

15. PARKHAM RESERVE - EUCALYPTUS TREES

The Committee gave consideration to a request from the owner of 22 Parkham Drive seeking the removal of four eucalyptus trees from Parkham Reserve.

In his report to the Committee, the Parks Manager advised that since 22 Parkham Drive had been developed residents of that property had complained regularly about litter from the eucalyptus being deposited on their land and buildings. Of particular concern were the seasonal deposits of flower parts which drift onto the property during the mid summer months. Although the trees had been pruned on several occasions this had not alleviated the problem. It was advised that as further pruning would spoil the form and character of the trees there was no further action the Parks Unit could take.

Complaints of this type are not uncommon and generally it is the Parks Unit's policy to alleviate the problem as far as practicable without compromising the health and appearance of the trees.

The Committee was advised that the Park Unit was prepared to regularly remove recurring shoot growth from the lower portion of the trees and to install a plastic protective mesh over the spouting on the resident's house to prevent leaves and flower parts blocking the drain.

The Parks Manager's report was before the Fendalton/Waimairi Community Board at its meeting on 30 May 2000. At that meeting, the Board endorsed the course of action recommended by the Parks Manager.

As the trees in question are in sound and healthy condition and make a significant contribution to the landscape of the reserve and the neighbourhood the Committee unanimously agreed that they should be retained. The Committee considered that the offer made by the Parks Unit represented a reasonable compromise.

Accordingly, the Committee **resolved**:

1. That the existing eucalyptus trees in Parkham Reserve be retained while they remain in a healthy and stable condition.
2. That protective mesh be installed on the resident's spouting at the Council's cost if the resident wishes to take up the offer.

(Councillor Ganda requested that his vote against part 2 of the resolution be recorded.)