

ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY
**JOINT CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL/
ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY COMMITTEE**

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE JOINT CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL/
ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 18 OCTOBER
2000 IN COMMITTEE ROOM 3 OF THE CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL, TUAM
STREET, CHRISTCHURCH FROM 4.00 P.M.

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PRESENT

Christchurch City Council

Crs A Houghton, D Close (from 4.30 p.m.), P Harrow, C Manning.

Environment Canterbury

Crs V Campbell (Chairperson), K Burke, D Shand (until 5.00 p.m.), J Waters and R Johnson (until 4.30 p.m.)

IN ATTENDANCE

Cr I Ganda (CCC), Press Reporter.

STAFF PRESENT

Christchurch City Council

J Dryden, W Brixton and for part meeting T Moody.

Environment Canterbury

J Talbot, M Freeman, E Brussovs and for part meeting, P Kingsbury and R Maw.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and sustained for Crs Evans, Wright and Wells (Christchurch City Council) and for Crs Hay and Yeoman (Environment Canterbury). Cr Johnson apologised for early departure.

2. MINUTES OF 19 JULY 2000

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 19 July 2000, as circulated, were taken as read and confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Campbell/Harrow

3. MATTERS ARISING

Cr Harrow asked for an update on the encouragement to new technology initiatives such as hybrid buses in the passenger transport contract process. Several examples of current initiatives were given, e.g. St Albans LPG trial, Euro III emission standards Super Low Floor's and Red Bus Shuttle – Papanui. It was agreed that a report on this matter, together with an explanation of the contract process should be prepared for a future meeting.

4. DEPUTATIONS AND PETITIONS

Nil.

5. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Nil.

5a. ADDITION TO AGENDA

The Chairperson sought the Committee's agreement to adding the item – Proposed Regional Pest Management Strategy – Consultation Document, to the agenda. The Committee agreed.

6. CHRISTCHURCH LIQUEFACTION STUDY (This item was considered after Item 7)

Peter Kingsbury (Environment Canterbury) provided an overhead presentation in support of the agenda report. Overheads were displayed of:

- The location and interaction of the Australian and Pacific Plates.
- Location of faults relating to the Southern Alps and Canterbury region.
- Epicentres of shallow (less than 40 km) earthquakes over the last 50 years.

- Magnitudes of earthquakes from 1860 to present.
- A map showing sources and probabilities of earthquakes was circulated.

Overall the study process included Hazard, Risk and Economic Impact Assessments. In relation to the joint study done with Waimakariri District this was based on some scenarios developed by Civil Defence, historical earthquakes and liquefaction evidence in the district. Hurunui and Timaru were also doing studies as part of the Engineering Lifelines project. A map showing the liquefaction potential which could be utilised for LIMs, PIMs, plans, subdivisions and resource consents was presented.

It was noted that development was not precluded even on risky sites. However, the additional cost of mitigation measures needed to be taken on board. The risk of liquefaction did not relate so much to the source of the event, rather the distance from the epicentre and its depth.

The benefits of the study for the Christchurch area were outlined as being:

- A basis for future assessment.
- Information for Engineering Lifelines and asset vulnerability.
- Information for plan reviews, subdivision applications and resource consents.
- Public awareness and understanding.
- Recognition that economics of mitigating residential was marginal.

The first stage of the Christchurch study would involve a literature search including use of work done by the City Council along waterways and establishing knowledge gaps. Staff co-operation between Christchurch City Council and Environment Canterbury had been positive.

Following discussion the Committee agreed that a joint study approach be undertaken from Stage II.

7. RESPONSE FROM CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY'S SUBMISSION TO CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL'S DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2000/2001

Mike Freeman spoke to the report and tabular information covering Environment Canterbury's submission, Christchurch City Council's response and the resulting situation under a number of output and topic headings. Environment Canterbury wished to confine discussion to three broad areas, namely issues around Central City development, co-ordination and integration, which included public transport, Interchange, roading impact and air quality matters, car parking and infrastructure in support of passenger transport.

Cr Manning asked if this Committee was the appropriate forum for discussing these matters. The Committee felt that it was appropriate to have feedback and exchange of information on the current year's annual plan.

In relation to Central City issues it was noted that Mayor Moore and Dr Bachels were scheduled to brief Environment Canterbury on Central City development proposals in November.

There was some discussion about the City Council's extension to the Helping Hands programme and also the recognition that the current trend of solid fuel appliance installation needed to be discouraged in favour of electricity, gas or diesel if PM₁₀ reduction targets were to be met. Home insulation measures also needed to be encouraged.

There was some discussion about the City Council's housing stock and its conversion to cleaner heating. It was noted that a large percentage of this housing had been converted. It was agreed that the City Council Property Manager be asked to provide a report on this matter to the next meeting.

City Councillors updated the situation in regard to provision of bus shelters.

The new policy proposed that shelters be provided on every second in-bound stop. It was also recognised that a better balance between Adshel's need for prominence for advertising and where the shelter was needed for public transport purposes, was needed. Shelters currently in areas that Adshel wished to develop would be transferred to other areas of need. An update on the overall situation would be provided by the City Council at the next meeting.

Discussion on car parking included a proposal for one hour's free car parking in the Central City to be funded by businesses. This proposal was not expected to find favour. Some felt that the petrol price rises would aid bus patronage without any other measures.

It was noted that the success of the Interchange depended on ease of passage in the Central City area as well as complementary efficiency from electronic ticketing and shelters on route.

8. REGIONAL PEST MANAGEMENT STRATEGY – CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Ray Maw (Environment Canterbury) provided an overhead presentation on the consultation document having previously provided one to the City Council's Environment Committee.

Key points made in the presentation were:

- This Strategy did not replace the 1998 Regional Pest Management Strategy but they could eventually come together since the former had a ten-year life while the latter was for five years.
- The Strategy covered new plants namely:
 - Phragmites – a tall reed up to two metres tall, with twitch-like spread. It was currently under control in the Botanic Gardens and being used for a sewage treatment trial in Bromley.
 - Boneseed – containment in core area (Port Hills), eradicated elsewhere.
 - Egeria – containment in core area (Kerrs Reach), eradicated elsewhere. NIWA was not positive about the prospect of eradicating Egeria.

Key stakeholders (including Christchurch City Council staff and Councillors) would be consulted from early November, which would be followed by a proposed Strategy at the end of November, subject to submission and appeal to the Environment Court.

In subsequent discussion it was revealed that none of the 110 unwanted plants (in the National Surveillance Plant Pests List) were natives.

Some Councillors felt that noxious plants was an easier term to understand than unwanted organisms.

The Committee then discussed a number of issues to be dealt with in future; they were:

- (a) Owaka Pit – future uses – a seminar with Riccarton Wigram Community Board suggested.
- (b) An update on progress for developing a gravel extraction strategy.
- (c) Discussion on priority wetlands to be restored in the Avon Heathcote Styx areas so that the City Council can target its purchasing programme to the greatest environmental good. It was noted that this also linked in to the Sustainable Living Strategy.

The three items were agreed by the Committee.

The Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 5.50 p.m.