

12. 12. 2002

## REPORT OF THE BURWOOD/PEGASUS RECESS COMMITTEE

### 1. BOARDROOM PROVISION

<b>Officer responsible</b> Community Advocate, Burwood/Pegasus	<b>Author</b> Dennis Morgan - Community Advocate, Burwood/Pegasus, DDI 941-5309
---	--

The purpose of this report is to submit to the Council a proposal from the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board that a boardroom be provided at New Brighton.

#### BACKGROUND

The Burwood/Pegasus Community Board has been seeking a site for a boardroom within the Burwood/Pegasus wards for the past year.

In August 2001 the Board agreed to hold meetings at the Ascot Community Centre as an interim measure whilst other sites in the Burwood/Pegasus area were investigated, the Board having previously agreed to vacate its boardroom in the Shirley Library and Service Centre to provide for staff accommodation.

However, at the preparation of the Annual Plan for 2002/03 the Council decided that funding for the accommodation needs of the service centre/Community Board be reconsidered following the 2003 review of the electoral system.

The Community Board has found the temporary meeting accommodation at the Ascot Community Centre to be unsatisfactory, in that the community centre has not always been available at times convenient to Board members; the room has to be set up as a meeting room on each occasion, and much staff time is involved in preparing and restoring the community centre after meetings. The Board is now meeting at the Linwood Service Centre boardroom but if this is not available, it has to meet at other sites within the Burwood/Pegasus wards.

Board members have requested further investigation of possible sites for a boardroom within New Brighton, this being the preferred area. New Brighton was nominated as being central to the Burwood/Pegasus area (seaside) and also to give support to the Council's moves to assist and encourage the revitalisation of New Brighton.

The New Brighton Residents' Association, the Pier and Foreshore Promotion Society Inc, the New Brighton Commercial Ratepayers and Retailers Association, the New Brighton Project (Community Arts Programme), and the New Brighton Taskforce have all approached the Council with the aim of finding a common meeting room to meet their respective needs, ancillary to community board needs. The Residents' Association has been meeting and providing programmes at Collingwood House, New Brighton but this building has now been sold.

#### UNION STREET/BERESFORD STREET SITE

Board members and staff have inspected some buildings available for lease in New Brighton but on each occasion have decided not to proceed further owing to the condition of the building, access, space available, and/or requirements of resource consent issues.

However, a building which is currently available for lease and supported by the majority of Board members has been located; being the old Post Office at the corner of Union and Beresford Streets.

The Property Manager reports that a lease of the building could be negotiated with the following conditions:

1. A two-year lease.
2. Rental \$20,000 pa (incl GST), plus shared outgoings estimated at \$2,000 pa.
3. The landlord will provide an additional toilet, a Zip hot water system in the kitchen and a stove.
4. The Council will be responsible for carpet, additional heating if needed (we suggested panel heaters on the wall). It is estimated that we allow \$5,000 to cover these.

12. 12. 2002

**Report Of The Burwood/Pegasus Recess Committee**

- 2 -

**1 Cont'd**

5. Any other alterations considered necessary would be at the Council's cost.

The issues surrounding resource consents for parking have been discussed at a preliminary level with Council staff . There is ample parking available in the area and it is envisaged that we would not have any difficulty gaining consent.

Funding is available for the lease rental from within the current budgets of the Community Relations Unit and Property Unit. The cost of the capital work as assessed could be met from the Community Relation Unit's budget for 2002/03.

However it will be recalled that at the preparation of this year's Annual Plan and Budget the Council decided that further consideration of the request to provide accommodation for the Board and staff be deferred until the Council and Community Board structure is reviewed.

The Chairman of the Strategy and Finance Committee, Councillor Alister James, advised that should Board members wish to proceed with the proposal that a boardroom be provided at the old Post Office building in New Brighton that a recommendation to that effect would have to be submitted to the 12 December 2002 Council meeting.

The Board's recess committee Don Rowlands, Caroline Kellaway and Chrissie Williams has therefore met and submits the following recommendation on behalf of the Board.

**Committee**

**Recommendation:** That the Council support the provision of a boardroom at New Brighton for the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board subject to:

1. The negotiation of a two-year lease as set out in the report.
2. The funding being met from the current budget provisions and appropriate allocation being provided by the Community Relations Unit in the 2003/04 budget.

**CONSIDERED THIS 12TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2002**

**MAYOR**