

**10. RICCARTON/WIGRAM ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE  
REPORT OF 22 JUNE 2004 MEETING**

<b>Officer responsible</b> Martin Maguire, Community Advocate	<b>Author</b> Janice Huddy, Assistant Community Adviser, DDI 941 6532
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The purpose of this report is to submit the outcomes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Tuesday 22 June 2004.

The meeting was attended by Neville Bennett (Chairperson), Lesley Keast, Mike Mora and Ken Cummings. Bob Shearing and Peter Laloli were also present.

An apology was received and accepted from Paddy Austin.

**1. TREE NUISANCE/HAZARD, TOORAK RESERVE**

An on-site inspection was held with Mr and Mrs L Fraser (whose property adjoins Toorak Reserve), Walter Fielding-Cotterill (City Arborist), Lesley Keast, Mike Mora, Ken Cummings and Peter Laloli.

Mr and Mrs Fraser had requested that consideration be given to the removal of three trees (two Silver Birch trees and a Chinese Poplar) in Toorak Reserve that were situated near their boundary and were causing difficulties in regard to tree litter, the glue-like staining effect of the Chinese Poplar "corms", root damage to the tar sealed driveway and concerns that the trees could be blown onto their house.

The City Arborist, Walter Fielding-Cotterill, reported that while it was desirable for the overall amenity values of the park to retain all three trees, the two Birches, due to their close proximity, would be the ones most difficult to retain from a legal point of view and that of preventing further damage to the Fraser's' driveway. Removal and replacement with new trees (of a different species) and positioning further from the park boundary needed to be considered.

The Committee's recommendation is recorded under Clause 10 of this report.

**2. KEEP CHRISTCHURCH BEAUTIFUL**

Mr Tom Baker (Keep Christchurch Beautiful) presented the latest "Litter Count" carried out in the Riccarton/Wigram wards. These surveys have been carried out since 1978/79 with 86 sites being covered city-wide. Fourteen sites are covered in the Riccarton/Wigram wards. The location of these sites are kept confidential to maintain accuracy of the counts. The litter count for Riccarton/Wigram was down 14% on the last survey carried out.

The Committee **received** the information from Keep Christchurch Beautiful.

A discussion ensued on the difficulties associated with the issue of reduction of litter city-wide and the enforcement of the Council By-law regarding littering.

It was agreed that Eric Park, Sustainable Christchurch Leader, be invited to the next meeting to discuss sustainability, in particular packaging of fast foods.

The Committee's recommendation is recorded under Clause 10 of this report.

**3. PROTECTED TREES – KAURI STREET**

The Secretariat Manager had reported that the matter of the protected trees removed from number 1 Kauri Street had been dealt with by staff under 'delegated authority' and that the developer would be replacing the trees.

**4. STORMWATER DISCHARGE AND RETENTION IN NEW SUBDIVISIONS**

It was decided to hold this item over until a later meeting to enable Richard Holland, Planning and Investigations Team Manager, to be invited to give a presentation on this subject.

**5. DOG PARKS IN RICCARTON/WIGRAM**

It was reported that concerns had been raised regarding dogs not being kept on leads in Council parks and reserves. It was felt that this was an education issue as dogs were permitted in parks without leads as long as they were kept "under control". It was noted that present signage at parks indicated a person with a dog and lead which gave the impression that dogs had to be on leads.

It was decided to pass this information on to residents associations for inclusion in their newsletters etc.

**6. OWAKA PIT, OPERATION**

It was noted by the Committee that there had been an improvement in the tidiness of the site in general.

The Council Solicitor had reported that the owners of this pit had applied for a Resource Consent, therefore Council would be reluctant to go to the Environment Court at this stage.

**7. HERITAGE WEEK 2004, UPDATE**

The Committee's recommendation is recorded under Clause 10 of this report.

**8. PROJECT FUND APPROVALS**

It was agreed that the remaining unspent funding (\$2,669) be used to purchase picnic tables and seats for placement in local community parks.

**9. NEXT MEETING DATE**

Tuesday 20 July 2004 at 4.15pm

**10. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board -
  - (i) Approve the removal of the two Birch trees on Toorak Reserve;
  - (ii) Decline the removal of the Chinese Poplar subject to the tree receiving remedial branch and root pruning treatment;
  - (iii) Approve new tree plantings, not considered of Birch or Poplar species, to be carried out well clear of the boundary at the southern end of the Park.
2. That the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board:
  - (i) Request that the Council review its policies and by-laws regarding litter enforcement;
  - (ii) Raise the litter infringement penalty to \$500;
  - (iii) Fund an effective enforcement process.
3. That the Environment Committee nominate the Paparua RSA (Templeton) for a Riccarton/Wigram Community Board Heritage Award for their military collection.

**Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** That the report be received and that the recommendations contained in Clause 10 above be adopted.