

4. CORRESPONDENCE: SUMNER RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC – MEMORIAL TO BERNARD HANSEN

The following letter has been received from Brian Swale, Honorary Secretary, on behalf of the Sumner Residents' Association Inc:

Some two months ago, the Board invited applications for worthy projects that some discretionary funding could be allocated to.

The Sumner Residents Association Inc responded that it wished to erect a stone cairn with inscriptions and maybe a bas-relief, and place it in a specific spot at the east end of the Sumner beach promenade. The person we wish to so honour is Mr Bernard Hansen who for about 50 years until his passing about a year ago, was a very effective champion and worker for the Sumner community, and who will be well known to the Board.

The text which follows was written by Mr Gerald Lascelles who knew Mr Hansen very well.

"In both memory and appreciation of his years of dedication to the preservation of Sumner's character, the Sumner Residents' Association wishes to erect a stone cairn with an appropriate tablet as a tribute to Bernard Hansen whose work will be well known to the Board.

It is proposed that it be placed at the Eastern end of the Esplanade walkway, an area where Mr Hansen regularly spent time before swimming. The cairn would be readily visible, would not obstruct pedestrians nor would be unduly obtrusive. At the proposed site, pedestrians walk down to the pool area to the right, and on to left continue towards Scarborough Road because of the configuration of the area.

A sketch by Mr van Uden whom we approached will be tabled at the meeting. We have received a quotation of \$950.00 plus GST for his labour and materials. A quotation for the tablet from Decra Art Ltd is \$350.00.

We ask the Board to consider agreement to both the siting and the funding of the memorial which has the unanimous support of this Association's executive. We believe also that such a memorial would be strongly supported by the Sumner community. It is, we think, unnecessary to state here Mr Hansen's contribution to this area and to many other local worthwhile causes but no doubt you will advise us should you require further information.

This Association can think of few residents who for so long, so unremittingly and with no thought – or receipt – of reward have given such valuable service to the local and the wider community."

The Parks and Waterways Area Advocate comments: The dedication of Mr Hansen to working for the Sumner community is well known and already an area of land at the junction of Heberden Avenue and Wiggins Street has been named the Bernie Hansen Memorial Reserve in his honour. This reserve is in recognition of his community work, but in particular, for the work which he did in planting and nurturing plants on this reserve land during his latter 25 years.

The proposed siting for the stone cairn on the Esplanade promenade is a position which should not cause any disruption for pedestrians in the area and in fact would be a focal point as one leads in an easterly direction along the promenade.

An important consideration is the type of stone proposed. Within the immediate vicinity is the stone of the clock tower, summerhill stone of the changing facilities, concrete in the protective walls and the rock of the foreshore. Rather than introduce another type of stone in the construction, the use of the same natural stone as within the clock tower would help create a sense of unity.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: For discussion.