

9 **RICCARTON/WIGRAM ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
REPORT OF 17 AUGUST 2004 MEETING**

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author Roger Cave, Community Secretary, DDI 941-6502
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The purpose of this report is to submit the outcomes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Tuesday 17 August 2004.

The meeting was attended by Neville Bennett (Chairperson), Lesley Keast, Ken Cummings and Mike Mora.

Peter Laloli and Bob Shearing were also in attendance.

An apology was received and accepted from Paddy Austin.

1 HALSWELL QUARRY

Speaking rights had been granted to representatives of the Kennedys Bush Road Neighbourhood Association to address the Committee on the recommendations made by the Parks, Gardens and Waterways Committee on the Halswell Quarry.

At its 11 August meeting, the Parks, Gardens and Waterways Committee received a report from the Greenspace Manager, which:

- presented options for the future management of Halswell Quarry Park
- sought approval to consult the community on the installation of two structures within the park
- sought approval to consult the community on the proposal to install a Gansu Gate, flight of stairs and "flying horse" sculpture in the park.

On behalf of the Association, Andrew Crossland and Sylvia Lukey were in attendance.

In a tabled submission Andrew noted the recommendation of the Parks, Gardens and Waterways Committee to approve the installation of the structures subject to various conditions. He considered that this was contrary to the current management plan and sought the Committee's approval to have this recommendation defeated.

The majority of members present were supportive of the request and expressed similar concerns.

A contrary view was offered by Lesley Keast, who suggested that these various sculptures/icons had received necessary consent approvals, also noting that these would not be placed within the Quarry Park area.

Members noted that the Parks, Gardens and Waterways Committee recommendations would be considered by Council at its meeting on Thursday 26 August 2004, being prior to the next Community Board meeting.

Accordingly, the Committee **agreed** (by majority, with Lesley Keast voting against) to circulate the following statement to the Mayor and Councillors for their consideration at the Council meeting:

"The members of the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board Environment Committee support the integrity of the 1998 Management Plan and believe that the Parks, Gardens and Waterways Committee recommendation Number 1 is contrary to the Management Plan.

We urge Councillors to remember the status and commitment made to the 1998 Management Plan when this Parks, Gardens and Waterways Committee recommendation is debated at full Council on Thursday 26 August."

2 GREENSPACE UNIT CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2003/04

The Committee was in receipt of an extensive report which gave the status of a Greenspace Capital Projects within the Board area during the 2003/04 financial year.

The information was **received**

3 PARKS AND WATERWAYS CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME 2004/05 TO 2008/09

The Greenspace Manager provided the five-year capital works programme which showed all the works programmed to be undertaken within the Board area.

In **receiving** the information, the Committee expressed their appreciation for the commitment made by the Unit to the wide variety of capital works scheduled to be undertaken.

4 DRAFT BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY

Following the presentation made at the July meeting, the draft strategy was given further consideration at today's meeting. Rather than make a specific submission on aspects of the strategy, the Committee has recommended a statement, and this is recorded clause 6 of this report.

In discussing the draft strategy, it was generally accepted that while the protection of New Zealand's endemic species is an important consideration, the biodiversity strategy should also recognise we have a wider global responsibility in the role of protecting biodiversity.

Given New Zealand's unique geographical location we already have exotic species that are threatened within their home range and we have a pivotal role in preventing the extinction of core threatened species; the biodiversity strategy needs to recognise these situations.

Also, the strategy should be compatible with the Council's Citywide Planting Strategy.

5 ONGOING ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION BY THIS COMMITTEE

The Committee **received** a schedule of ongoing matters which will carry forward to the incoming Board.

6 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Community Board adopt the following statement in respect to the Draft Biodiversity Strategy:

"The Community Board appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the draft strategy and it has deliberated with care and supports the general thrust of the strategy. It notes that more resources will be required to meet the objectives and it is also assumed that the strategy will be compatible with the Council's planting strategy."

Chairman's

Recommendation:

That the information be received and the Committee's recommendation be adopted.