

## 6. HALSWELL DOMAIN WAR MEMORIAL – FLAGPOLE INSTALLATION

<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager, City Environment Group
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	Michael Aitken, Greenspace Unit Manager
<b>Author:</b>	Rod Whearty, Parks and Waterways Area Advocate, DDI 941-6510

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to outline a community initiative promoting the installation of a flagpole adjacent to the War Memorial on Halswell Domain. The report also contains a recommendation seeking Board funding for the proposal.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Board members will recall a deputation from Ron Fensom (Halswell Residents Association) to the Board on 12 July 2005, where he outlined a proposal to install a flagpole adjacent to the war memorial on Halswell Domain. In response to that deputation the Board resolved to “*Support, in principle, the proposal for a flagpole and associated enhancement works at the Halswell War Memorial site, and requested staff to provide a report to the Environment Committee on the proposal*”.
3. A number of years ago the Paparua Returned Services Association approached the Halswell Residents Association seeking support and assistance with holding an annual Memorial Ceremony at the Halswell War Memorial on ANZAC Day. The Halswell Residents Association through Ron Fensom took up the opportunity, and have organised and coordinated the ceremony at the Halswell War Memorial for the last 5 years.
4. The ceremony is a joint community project involving other community service organisations, community leaders and local churches. There are specific Transit NZ traffic management requirements due to the location of the War Memorial, being adjacent to a State Highway. The Residents Association receives assistance from the local Lions Club for Traffic/Crowd management on the day, while the Council has previously assisted with developing and submitting the Traffic Management Plan to Transit NZ for approval.
5. The raising of the New Zealand flag is a traditional and standard feature at ANZAC Memorial Services and is considered to be an important part of the proceedings. Unfortunately the absence of a flagpole at the Halswell War Memorial has prevented this from occurring. Nationally, the numbers of people attending ANZAC services has been increasing over the last few years. The current situation is far from ideal, due to the inability to carry out this important and symbolic part of the ceremony.
6. The current proposal is to install the flagpole within a small paved area adjacent to the War Memorial. The paved asphalt area will be in the shape of a Poppy and coloured accordingly, to further symbolise and strengthen the ANZAC connection.
7. The proposal requires the removal of a small oak tree and an existing Hawthorn along with some other smaller and undesirable self sown shrubs. These removals are not considered significant due to the presence of other existing and more desirable trees adjacent to the site. Some thinning of the self sown species has already taken place as part of our routine park maintenance operations.
8. The Greenspace Unit is supportive of the proposal and believe it will be a worthwhile and valued addition to the existing War Memorial. Accordingly, staff will be recommending that the Board approve this proposal and funding application.

### FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

9. The proposed plan has been seen by representatives of the Paparua Returned Services Association and staff have received written confirmation that they are comfortable with and supportive of the proposal.
10. The Greenspace Unit has the responsibility for the day to day maintenance of the Halswell War Memorial. Funding for this is provided within the Greenspace Unit's operational maintenance budget. Funding for the removal of the three trees is also provided for, and will be undertaken within the Unit's operational maintenance budget.

11. However, the installation of the new flagpole and paving etc is a capital item and there is currently no budget provision for this work within the Greenspace Unit's 5 year Capital Works Programme.
12. The Halswell Residents Association has obtained a quote for the supply of the flagpole. The Greenspace Unit has met the design costs of preparing the plan and obtained a quotation for the implementation of the plan. The quotation covers installation of the flagpole, paving and associated minor landscaping. The costs are shown below and all prices are exclusive of GST.

<b>Supply Flagpole</b>	
- 7.5 metres high, powder coated white with internal halyard.	\$ 866.00
<b>Construction/Installation</b>	
- Paving, installation of flagpole and associated landscaping.	<u>\$3,415.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$4,281.00</u>

13. The Board has \$25,000 within its 2005/06 Environment Committee Fund which is currently unallocated to any specific projects. Funding for this proposal could be allocated from that budget if the Board Members wished to support this community initiative.
14. All work will be carried out by a Council approved contractor with the appropriate health and safety and work site management controls in place.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board:

- (a) Approve the Halswell Residents Associations application to install a flagpole adjacent to the War Memorial in Halswell Domain as shown in the attached plan.
- (b) Allocate \$4,281 from their 2005/06 Environment Committee Fund to cover the cost of the installation.

#### **CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION**

That the staff recommendation be adopted.