

## 6. HEDGE TRIMMER FOR FORMER GOVERNORS BAY SCHOOL GROUND

<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager Regulation and Democracy Services, DDI 941-8549
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	Community Board Principal Adviser
<b>Author:</b>	Jeanne Pearce, Acting Community Secretary

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to request the Board to consider an application from the trustees of the Governors Bay Heritage Trust for funding to be used towards the purchase of an electric hedge trimmer that will be used by volunteers in maintaining the landscaping on the former Governors Bay School grounds.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. An historic school and a residential dwelling are located on reserve land in Governors Bay (Part of Reserve 5222 Blk III Halswell Survey District). The house is tenanted (currently through City Housing).
3. David Bundy and Lachie Griffen, Trustees of the Governors Bay Heritage Trust, are responsible for maintenance of the land and the historic school building. The Trust has a lease commencing 1 March 1998 for a twenty-year term.
4. The grounds are very well kept by the Trust, which relies on volunteers to perform the maintenance. The volunteers have been having difficulty hand trimming large hedge areas. The Trust wishes to purchase an electric hedge trimmer and an appropriate length extension cord, which could be plugged into an existing power plug.
5. The Trust does not have access to funds to purchase equipment to assist with maintenance of the property.
6. There is no local equipment pool from which the Trust could borrow equipment.

### FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

7. The Trust has requested funding up to a maximum amount of \$300.00.
8. The Board may wish to consider either utilising 2006/07 discretionary funds to grant this application or deferring a funding decision at this time and instead recommending that the Trust apply for Community Development Scheme funding in September 2006.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board defer a funding decision and refer the Trust to apply for Community Development Scheme funding in September 2006.

## **OPTIONS**

9. The Board may wish to consider the options and implications for funding or not funding this project.

### **Option 1**

Defer a decision and recommend the Trust apply for funding under the Community Development scheme later this year.

The Community Development Scheme fund amounts to \$13,470 and applications will be accepted in September 2006.

The purchase of an electric hedge trimmer and extension cord for use by volunteers to maintain leased-reserve property meets the criteria for Community Development Scheme funding.

Deferral of a decision for several months will not significantly impact the ability of the Trust to perform its required maintenance during the remainder of the winter season.

### **Option 2**

The Board declines the funding request.

The Trust may find it difficult to source alternate funding and without proper equipment the current excellent maintenance of these historic grounds on reserve property may decline.

### **Option 3**

Grant the funding request from 2006 discretionary funds.

Long-term 2006 plans for the total 2006/07 discretionary funding amount (\$15,000) should be carefully considered before granting funding for additional projects out of the discretionary fund. In particular the Board should consider the implications for approving the use of discretionary funding in instances where applications otherwise qualify for alternate funding schemes. In this case the purchase of an electric hedge trimmer and extension cord for use by volunteers to maintain leased-reserve property fully meets the criteria for Community Development Scheme funding.

## **PREFERRED OPTION**

10. The preferred option is Option 1.