

9. AKAROA DESIGN AND APPEARANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE – 1 APRIL 2010

General Manager responsible:	General Manager, Regulation & Democracy Services DDI 941-8462
Officer responsible:	Planner, Environmental Policy and Approvals Unit
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to submit the outcomes of the Akaroa Design and Appearance Advisory Committee meeting held on Monday 1 April 2010.

The meeting was attended by Committee members Stewart Miller (Chairman, Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board), Victoria Andrews, John Davey and Lynda Wallace.

Also in attendance was Rod Armstrong (Planner).

1. APOLOGIES

An apology was received and accepted from David Margetts (Historic Places Trust).

2. REPORT OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 Ordinary Meeting – 1 February 2010

The Committee **received** the minutes of the Akaroa Design and Appearance Advisory Committee meeting held on 1 February 2010.

3. PLANS TO CONSIDER

3.1 Bank of New Zealand, Akaroa – ATM Ramp

Ms Debbie Langley, on behalf of the Bank of New Zealand (BNZ) informed members of the proposed design for a ramp to be installed at the bank, to provide wheelchair access to the Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) situated on the side of the building. The ATM is currently accessible only via two concrete steps with no other means of support or access.

Ms Langley reported that the BNZ had received numerous complaints from disabled and less mobile customers regarding the steps to the ATM, and she described one incident where it was reported that a man had needed to get out of his wheelchair and crawl up the steps to access the machine. She indicated that the ramp could be constructed of timber, although it would have to be slip proof.

Mr Margetts from the New Zealand Historic Places Trust, had sent some written comments to the Committee regarding this proposal. His comments concerned the compliance of the ramp and handrail, measures that should be taken for a concrete ramp to be installed, lack of support from the Trust for the removal of the current steps and the possible relocation of the ATM.

The Committee discussed the proposal and noted the following points:

- concern regarding the overall location of the handrail.
- noted that the steps that lead up to side entrance (where the ATM is located) are part of the fabric of the original building.
- a timber ramp would allow the steps to be retained.
- no obvious alternative site on the bank building that would be suitable for the ATM, or where it would be any less obtrusive.
- a desire for low key colours so that the ramp did not become a feature of the building.

- a neutral handrail, similar to what is presently on the entrance ramp.
- a definite preference for a timber ramp as it was felt that this would cause the least possible disturbance to the heritage fabric of the building. (Timber over the existing steps).
- a suggestion that the garden in front of the ramp could have some height, possibly a clipped hedge up to handrail height.

The Committee **resolved** to recommend the following comments to the BNZ to consider when finalising plans for the proposed ramp for the ATM in Akaroa:

- the ramp should be constructed of timber and erected over the existing steps
- colours should be low key
- colour of the handrail should be neutral and similar to the existing handrail
- the garden in front of the ramp could be designed to shield the structure

4. COMMUNITY BOARD ADVISER'S UPDATE

4.1 Joint Workshop – 6 May 2010

Members were informed that it was proposed to convene a joint workshop of the Committee and the Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board following the meeting on 6 May 2010.

5. COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

5.1 Alteration to Dwelling – 70 Rue Balguerie, Akaroa

It was noted by the Committee that a member of the public had raised an enquiry regarding an awning that went over a walkway on this property, which was not part of the consent that was granted for the alteration. The Committee agreed that it should be recorded that there was no official complaint from this Committee in regard to this matter.

5.2 Appointments to Akaroa Design & Appearance Advisory Committee

It was reported that the Akaroa Civic Trust wished to support the appointment of Mr William Fulton and Mr Philip Kennedy to the Committee. The Trust believes both gentlemen will bring a high level of expertise to the Committee.

The meeting closed at 11.25am

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Board receive the minutes of the Akaroa Design and Appearance Advisory Committee meeting held on Thursday 1 April 2010.