6. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT

Historical Aspects of the Botanic Gardens and opportunities for the future

Messrs Neiel Drain and John Taylor attended and spoke to the Committee on historical aspects and opportunities for future development of the Botanic Gardens. They provided interesting information on a reunion of horticultural apprentices, trainees and supervisors, held at the Botanic Gardens facilities on 3 and 4 April 2004. They also provided the Committee with most interesting and informative anecdotes and thanked the Chairman for her contribution to a most successful reunion.

Messrs Drain and Taylor also:

- complimented the Council on providing significant funding for development and improvements of the Botanic Gardens.
- acknowledged the appointment of Dr David Given as Curator and urged the Council to continue with its recognition of the Botanic Gardens at local, national and international levels, in matters such as education, conservation, species diversity and the public exchange of information.
- invest in staff education and training.
- record all tree and plant collections (particularly rare and uncommon) on a database.

Messrs Drain and Taylor responded to questions and congratulatory remarks from the Committee and were thanked for their enthusiastic contributions by the Chairman.