


1. DEPUTATION BY APPOINTMENT

BROADBAND FACILITY FOR FAIRWAY PARK SUBDIVISION



Dr Mark Laslett, from the Fairway Broadband Action Group, was in attendance to outline to the Board the Group's request for the installation of a Mux high speed internet communications cabinet on Wilmington Reserve, Fairway Park.

Dr Laslett tabled supporting notes for the group's request, which outlined the group's frustration from delays in being able to access broadband internet access. He noted that 19 of the 22 households in the subdivision wanted broadband connections and stated that three residents were economically compromised by not having broadband. He outlined the significant economic, social and cultural benefits of having broadband in that it is a less expensive method of speaking with family and friends (within New Zealand and internationally) than normal toll based telephone services, and enabled users to continue to work from home during evenings and weekends.

If the Board was to approve the staff recommendations, he requested urgency for Council staff to communicate with the Minister of Conservation for obtaining final approval so that the broadband facility can be installed without any further delays.

The Board's consideration of the request is recorded under clause 5 of this report.