


## 5. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT



Mr Matt Glanville and Ms Cheryl Mitchell attended and addressed the Board to express their concern at the increased number of “party pill” retail outlets being established in the city and recently in the Linwood area, and to advise it on the outcome of a public meeting on this issue held the previous Friday at Linwood College.

The deputation expressed concern at the recent establishment of a Herbal Heaven shop in the Linwood area and requested that the Board take all possible action to restrict the establishment of such outlets and the sale of party pills and that the Board also provide support for two community initiatives seeking to raise awareness on this issue among young people.

In reply to comments made by the deputation the Chairperson explained that currently the Herbal Heaven outlet in question was operating legally within a retail zone and that sale of “party pills” to children 18 and over was legal. The Board was, however, willing to advocate to local Members of Parliament on this issue.

The opportunity was taken for further questions and discussion by Board members and the Board **decided:**

1. *To recommend to the Council that it adopt a zero tolerance policy on enforcement of the Council’s bylaws in respect to freestanding signs and street furniture outside “party pill” shops in the City, and that the Board be provided with information on the number of enforcement actions taken in respect to the above.*
2. *To recommend to the Council that it seek a report on what legal powers it may have in terms of the City Plan and its bylaws, to control the establishment and operation of “party pill” retail outlets and what actions, if any, are currently being implemented in respect to any powers it may possess.*
3. *To ask that relevant Council staff, including the Metropolitan Community Adviser Youth and Community Development staff, meet with the White Elephant Trust and Ironhorse Trust to develop an events strategy on this issue.*
4. *That the Board seek information on the number of “party pill” shops in its area.*
5. *That the Board express to central government its concern at the increasing availability of these pills and their effects on young people.*