


3. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT

3.1 Mr Geoff Ettrick



Mr Ettrick addressed the Board on the difficulties of establishing sewer connections at Birdlings Flat and the question of Christchurch City Council and Environment Canterbury investigations and conclusions regarding septic tanks at Birdlings Flat.

Mr Ettrick explained the background to this issue which had resulted in property owners having to go through a costly resource consent process to try and obtain approval to install a septic tank system. He said there were currently ten people involved in such a process and that the applications were now being treated on a "limited notified" basis by Environment Canterbury. This was because the Wairewa Runanga would not give its consent to the applications because of concern over contamination to Lake Forsyth.

Mr Ettrick asked whether there was anything the Council could do to improve this situation and it was suggested that perhaps some mediation was needed to get all the interested parties to meet, so that discussions could be held on possible solutions.

Board members also questioned whether funding for the investigation into development at Birdlings Flat could be brought forward in the Annual Plan, so that some research could be carried out into the feasibility of a reticulated sewerage system for the area.

3.2 Mr Nigel Hampton - Okains Bay Museum Trust

Mr Hampton addressed the Board on behalf of the Museum Trust, regarding an application for additional funding from the Council.

Mr Hampton highlighted a submission from the Museum Trust to the Council's Annual Plan, in which the Trust was requesting an additional \$70,000 as part of its annual grant from the Council. He explained that the Trust was endeavouring to put the management of the Museum on to a more professional footing and funding was required to support day-to-day operating expenses. He said the Museum Trust was seeking the endorsement of the Community Board on its submission.

3.3 Mr David Carter - Member of Parliament

Mr Carter attended the meeting and discussed the following issues with Board members:

- Toll Free Dialling – Banks Peninsula to Christchurch. This issue appeared to have resolved itself due to competition in the telecommunications field.
- Representation based on population. There is a need to take into account rural areas and communities of interest. Parliamentary boundaries are soon to be changed.
- Rural Health Services. Population based funding had resulted in rural communities being disadvantaged. Need to ensure that people who choose to live in rural areas are not penalised for doing so. Noted not just medical services but dental etc is also affected in rural areas.
- Elected Members Remuneration. Formula again based on population. Need for Local Government Commission and Remuneration Authority to set clear rules for when a smaller local authority merges with a large one. Mr Carter reported that Central Government had noted the success of the merger of Banks Peninsula into Christchurch City Council, which had occurred by the wishes of the people, rather than through legislation.
- Resource Management Act. Concern regarding process and cost of implementation. Need to be able to streamline the process otherwise the Act is seen as an impediment to growth.
- Petrol Stations. Concern over demise of petrol stations in rural areas, which resulted in people storing large amounts of fuel on private property. Need to put pressure on oil companies to maintain services.

3.4 Mr Mike Herlihy – Little River Rail Trail

Mr Herlihy addressed the Board to outline concerns held by local residents regarding the final portion of the Little River Rail Trail. He said the proposal at present would mean a loss of some pedestrian access on Morrisons Road because the plan was for bikes to share part of the footpath. He said there appeared to be a lack of funding to provide a suitable solution to the need to safely bring the cycle trail into the Little River township.

Mr Herlihy tabled an alternative plan to this problem, which had been developed by the residents in the affected area. He asked that the Council consider this plan which he said the residents felt was a safer alternative to the Council's proposal.

The Board **decided** to pass the residents plan to staff for comment.