

Submission on Christchurch LTCCP

Group	Moa Neighbourhood Committee
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We wish to talk to our main points at the hearings.

The Moa Neighbourhood Committee represents the area bounded by Fitzgerald Avenue, Bealey Avenue, Colombo Street, and the Avon River. According to the 2001 census, some 1,596 residents live in our area.

We are pleased to make this submission on the LTCCP. If any of the points raised needs further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the author.

General Comment

Some of our members have commented that the LTCCP is not setting the strategic vision for Christchurch as they would have expected it. It appears to be nothing more than a 'flushed up annual plan'.

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We would like to offer two additional key indicators for the 'Sustainable Natural Environment' outcome: **sealed land area** and **air quality**.

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We would like to offer an additional key indicator for the 'City of Healthy and Active People' outcome: **participation in active forms of transport** (walking and cycling).

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A further issue to be considered for the **Botanic Gardens** is cycle access for that part of the Botanic Gardens located to the south of the Avon River (i.e. between the Avon River and the Hospital).

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Regarding the first bullet point, another factor for the **poor crash record** are high vehicle speeds in urban areas. The European example of area introduction of 30 km/h speed areas should be followed.

One of the factors listed contributing to the poor crash record is the 'number of cyclists'. This reads as if the number of cyclists in itself is the problem, whereas it is the poor driver behaviour towards both cyclists and pedestrians that constitutes the problem here. We strongly suggest that this be reworded.

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Parks and Open Spaces – the Moa Neighbourhood Committee regards the **Avon River** as the prime environmental asset in the inner city. All day parking along the river side is detrimental to the enjoyment of the Avon. All parking should be banned immediately adjacent to the Avon River in our area.

Moa Reserve – our group has been promised a landscaping upgrade of **Moa Reserve** for two years now, with little progress. The need for this upgrade arose through Council's purchase of a residential property in Ely Street, which was added to the park. As the perimeter planting of that former residential property still exists, the reserve has a strange appearance at the southern end. This needs to be progressed. Also, this project needs to be budgeted for.

Cambridge Green – our group understands that a stage two of the park development is planned. Our group has requested to be informed on this proposal and the project needs to be budgeted for.

Avon River (Inner City) Draft Strategy – earlier this year, Council approved the before-mentioned strategy for consultation. Whilst the strategy has not been released to the public as yet, our group has obtained a copy of the strategy, and we are thoroughly impressed with its vision and comprehensive approach. We will use the opportunity to comment on the strategy more fully during the formal consultation period. We strongly expect that the strategy will get good community support and as such, it is very important to us that funding be allowed for components of the strategy to be implemented. We appreciate that it is an unusual process of asking for budgets for items that have not been decided on, but as strong community support can be expected, we believe it would be prudent to allow for funding so that expectations raised by the strategy can be met.

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We would like to record our dissatisfaction with the **poor performance of the Regulatory Services section**.

For example, our group has been subjected to a non-notified consent of a non-complying activity that was in breach of 8 (eight) district plan rules. Whilst our group was opposed to that activity, we only found out about it once consent had been issued.

Another example is that landscaping and trees that are a condition of the resource consent are often not maintained, and dead trees not replaced, particularly in supermarket car parks.

Furthermore, it is well known that employers instruct their staff to park on the road (e.g. in residential streets) in order to maximise the number of car parks available to their customers, whilst staff car parks had to be established as part of the consent conditions. We are not aware that this practice has ever been subjected to enforcement.

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We would like to see **parking enforcement** to be carried out on a 24/7 basis. The reason is that drivers are well aware that night-time enforcement is not carried out. Police are simply not interested in parking enforcement during times when council officers are off duty.

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In our opinion, what is listed under performance measures against the service “Promote good urban design” is far too weak. Numerous examples of **poor housing developments** in the inner city and elsewhere are testimony to this. The ‘hands off’ approach of the district plan does not achieve good urban design.

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The Moa Neighbourhood Committee proposes to establish a **new park between the cemetery and the Avon River**, for which Cambridge Tce between Barbadoes Street and Churchill Street needs to be closed. This project should be listed in the table on this page (together with the Turner and Growers project and others).

A more detailed proposal is attached (**CambridgeTce_closure_request_final.doc**). This request was put to the Hagley / Ferrymead Community Board in May 2003. In the meantime, the following milestones have been reached:

- On 6 August 2003, the Board was asked to resolve project objectives for the upcoming kerb and channel replacement on Cambridge Terrace. The board did not follow the staff recommendation of keeping the road open, but resolved to *“undertake consultation on the options of a full road closure, one-way vehicle movement and two-way vehicle movement on Cambridge Terrace (Barbadoes Street to Churchill Street)”*.
- In its meeting on 23 March 2004, the Central City Mayoral Forum *“agreed by consensus that it support the investigation of the road closure of parts of Cambridge Terrace and Salisbury Street in order to create a park adjacent to the Avon River as described in the letter from Moa dated 15 March 2004, and taking into account that funds have been set aside in the proposed 2006/07 budget for kerb and channel renewal on these roads”*.
- On 26 April 2004, a Moa Neighbourhood Committee request was put to the Board that the issue be reported to the Council committee that has delegated authority for road closures.

The proposal needs to be included in the budgeting process. We understand that the kerb and channel money is not likely to be available for establishing a park instead. Therefore, we propose that the following budget items be included:

- Streets and Transport – for removal of the existing road.
- Streets and Transport – for under-grounding of overhead services.
- Greenspace – for establishment of park.

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We suggest that **trees** should also be considered for arterial roads that have a speed problem, as trees planted close to the traffic lanes can have a speed-reducing effect. In the Moa area, the two arterial roads with a speeding problem are Barbadoes Street (Bealey to Salisbury) and Madras Street (Salisbury to Bealey). Both roads are wide and open, have four lanes, and due to the spacing of the traffic signals, many drivers speed. Trees could give the roads a different character.

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The intended service is that the city's **parks and open spaces** are well looked after. In November 2003, we wrote to the Greenspace Manager, stating our dissatisfaction with the lawn mowing services, and asked for a response (**copy of letter attached**). The services have not improved in the meantime, and the response is still outstanding.

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Our group supports the proposal by our member Nicki Bell to establish a community composting scheme as a trial for green waste reduction in Moa Reserve.

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Our group believes that **building standards** (in terms of insulation requirements) are too low, and that increased requirements would contribute to an improved outcome for 'Healthy and Active People'. It is for example inconceivable why single-glazing is still allowable. Unfortunately, many buildings are constructed in a cheap way by developers for a competitive market, favouring the short-term savings of building cheaply over the long-term gains of having energy-efficient, comfortable and healthy houses.

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Our group is not convinced that the existing **Shuttle route** (mainly north-south) is the best possible for the city. For example, servicing the cultural precinct would have many benefits. We therefore wonder whether it is useful to have the existing Shuttle route listed as a performance measure.

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It would appear that Council officers do not enforce certain **parking violations** unless acting on a complaint. For example, parking on footpaths appears to fall into this category. This is not good enough and all parking violations that have the potential to result in safety problems (e.g. a wheelchair user having to use the road, as the footpath is blocked by a parked vehicle) should be automatically enforced.

Regards,

(Axel Wilke)

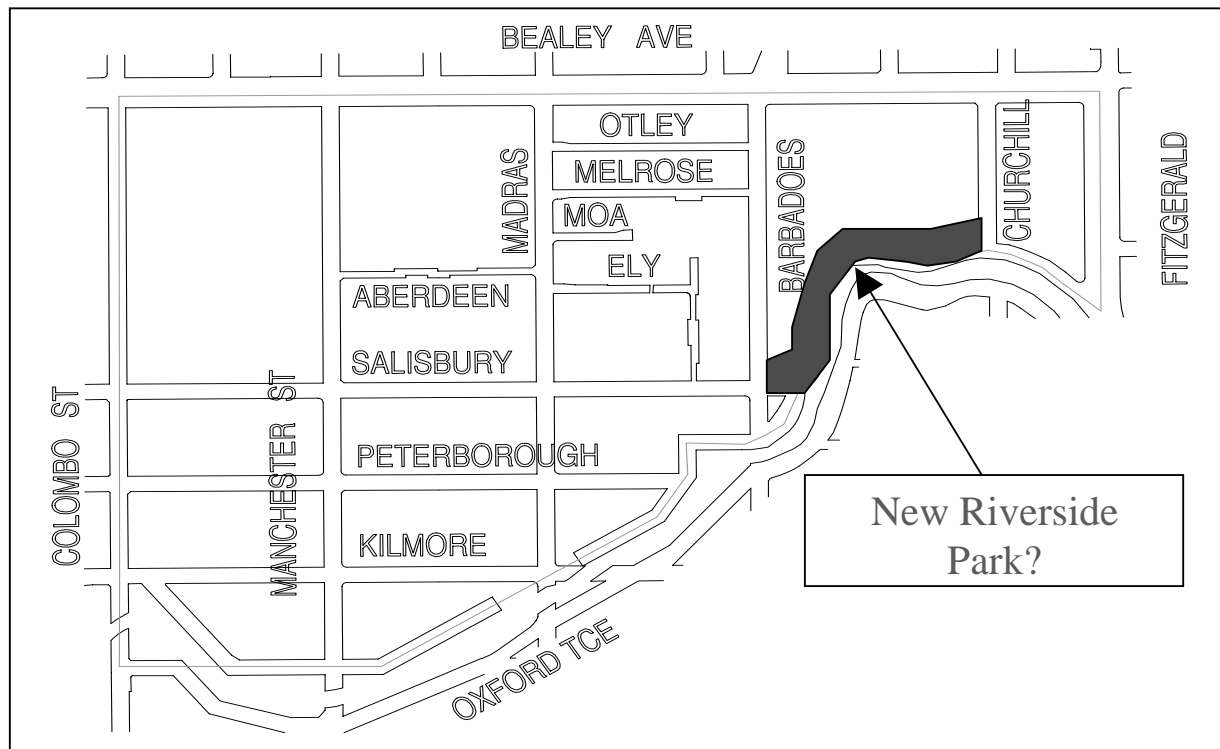
Chair of Moa Neighbourhood Committee

To the Hagley Ferrymead Community Board:

Request for Permanent Road Closure - (parts of) Cambridge Terrace & Salisbury St

The Moa Neighbourhood Group has for more than one year internally discussed plans for the full closure of two adjoining sections of road:

- Cambridge Tce between Salisbury St and Churchill St (adjacent to the cemetery), and
- Salisbury St between Cambridge Tce and Barbadoes St (adjacent to Cambridge Green).



We would like to take this opportunity to formally put this request to the Council.

There are a variety of reasons why Moa believes that Cambridge Tce should be stopped:

- A future park would appear more attractive than the present road.

- The opportunity to create another attractive park adjacent to the Avon River right in the inner city is a golden opportunity to further enhance the Garden City image. When almost no opposition can be expected, this will have to be further investigated.
- The road link is not essential.
- The road has no driveways (other than the Council-owned property at the eastern end of the cemetery).

The Moa Neighbourhood Group had initially envisaged some land use on what is now used as road, such as an outdoor performance area, and had drawn up plans. Consultation with residents in Churchill St and neighbours in the section of Cambridge Tce between Churchill St and Fitzgerald Ave showed general support for the road closure concept. The Avon Loop Planning Association (ALPA) was also consulted, but support could not be gained for the proposed outdoor performance area, or for a proposed bridge over the Avon gaining them access to that area. Hence, we are no longer necessarily pursuing the performance area, but would like to leave it to Council to put forward proposals for the most appropriate usage of the area.

The cemetery is a council reserve. With the reserve area significantly increasing in size with the proposal, consideration could be given to removing the land occupied by the old caretakers house from the reserve area. The Moa Neighbourhood would like to see the caretaker's house retained, and we understand that its location on legal reserve land had almost resulted in its demolition in the past.

We understand that the legal process for a road closure is potentially quite lengthy. As funds are set aside for kerb and channel replacement for this section for 2006/07, we would like to see our proposal pursued with some urgency.

The Moa Neighbourhood Group is grateful for Council's consideration to the road closure request. We are looking forward to your response in due course.

Regards,

(Axel Wilke)

on behalf of Moa Residents Group

Moa Residents' Group
C/o Nicki Bell
18 Melrose Street
Central City
Christchurch

19 Nov 03

Anne Greenup
Parks and Waterways Manager
Christchurch City Council

Dear Anne,

RE: Reserves in our area – Cambridge Green, Moa Reserve, Barbadoes St
Cemetery, Avon River banks

On behalf of the Moa Neighbourhood Group, I am writing to inform you that we are not happy with the lawn mowing services or the state that the reserves are being left in.

We have noticed that there is a longer period between mowings and that the grass is not being removed but instead left too thickly and rotting, which makes the reserves messy and unpleasant to use.

Could you please inform our group on what you are intending to do about this?

Yours sincerely,

(Nicki Bell)