

3 May 2006

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Christchurch

Submission on Botanic Gardens Capital Project

- (1) Relocate the existing information centre and display area to the old RSA Clubrooms site in the area used by Christchurch Petanque. The building could then be used as a Clubrooms by Christchurch Petanque , Christchurch Model Yacht Club and used on special occasions by Christchurch Running Association & Christchurch Race Walker groups, Christchurch Fishing and Casting Club and perhaps other users of Hagley Park.
Christchurch Petanque could take a head lease and sublease to Christchurch Model Yacht Club and the other groups could pay on a “as required” basis. Christchurch Petanque could pay a rent based on the value of the Clubrooms including relocation and re-establishment costs
- (2) The existing RSA pavilion is intrusive and of no architectural merit, has restrictions on its use due to earthquake risks and is past its “use by” date.
- (3) Build a new exciting building on the site of the existing Information site plus extending down towards the river. Perhaps a hexagonal shape to mirror the existing nearby kiosk. The ground floor to be used for visitors centre display area, souvenirs and have space for Friends of Gardens tours to assemble. Retail area- toilets.
- (4) The first floor Curators office, executive office, admin, library, resource area, lecture rooms, meeting room.
- (5) The existing house which is used as office staff facilities probably demolish and implement shed could be refurbished.
- (6) Using the fundraising precedent set by the Art Gallery, substantial private funds sponsorship and grants could be arranged to offset the capital costs

Yours faithfully,

Andrew Findlay