

5. CORRESPONDENCE

A) LINWOOD HIGH SCHOOL – YOUTH EVENT

The attached summary of a multi media youth event entitled “EFMERAL II CATALIST” has been received from Mr Cary Caldwell, Event Manager for this project, in the Media Department at the Linwood High School.

This project is “to create the opportunity for the students of Linwood High School to receive practical experience at staging a multimedia event and to give national and international exposure to original New Zealand music through the media of radio, television and the internet.”

The aims are:

- To stage a multimedia event at Linwood High School
- To provide national and international exposure for original New Zealand music
- To provide the opportunity for students to receive practical experience and unit standards qualifications by staging a multimedia event.

The project has a total cost of \$37,500, and sponsorship amounting to \$20,000 are being sought.

As part of this quest for sponsorship, the Event Manager has made this approach seeking a contribution to this sponsorship from the Community Board.

Chairman’s

Recommendation: For discussion.

B) BUS SHELTER – MARRINER AND WAKEFIELD STREETS, SUMNER

The following letter has been received from Mr B R Hansen:

“I took the liberty to take your proposed plan for this project to the Annual Meeting, Sumner Senior Citizens’ Friendly Club, 14 July 1999. The plan was passed around for each person to inspect, after which the President, Georgina Hooker asked for comments. There was a virtual 100% response that the proposal was not acceptable.

Since these are the very people who use this bus stop, they want a back, sides and a top for protection against rain and wind. The proposal would not do this. At present, during inclement weather, they shelter under a nearby verandah.

With your proposed plan, vandalism was mentioned as a possibility. They do not want an “arty” design. They want something functional.

The Friendly Club will be forwarding a letter on this matter.

PS They remarked about the roof over the Sumner Library bus seat having water running down the wall during wet weather.”

A further letter referring to the proposed bus shelter has been received from Mrs Lola Bouckoms, Secretary of the Sumner Senior Citizens’ Club as follows:

“I am writing on behalf of the members of the Sumner Senior Citizens Club concerning the bus shelter on the corner of Wakefield and Marriner Streets in the suburb of Sumner. The drawing of the proposed shelter was shown to our members at the 36th AGM of our club recently and a unanimous “No” was given when asked if it met with their approval.

I often wonder if the people who dream up these ideas while sitting in their warm offices have ever waited for a bus when it is raining and a cold wind is blowing. A style befitting Sumner would be acceptable but a thought for the practicability must surely be of first priority.

It is the wish of our members that you reconsider your present plan – after all these are the majority of the people who use this facility.”

Chairman’s

Recommendation: For discussion

C) WOOLSTON PARK BOWLING CLUB

The following letter has been received from Mrs Beverley L Burgess, Present of the Woolston Park Bowling Club. Mrs Burgess’ letter is seeking Board funding for a Millennium Bowling Tournament commencing at midnight on 1 January 2000.

Mrs Burgess writes:

“It is the intention of the Woolston Park Bowling Club to hold a Millennium Bowling Tournament commencing midnight 1 January 2000.

We have written to Bowls Canterbury requesting acknowledgment as being the Club to hold the first tournament in the new Millennium. We are also writing to Bowls New Zealand with this request and we would like to be the first in New Zealand.

We would like to apply to the Ferrymead Community Board for funding to help host this important event. We feel that this Bowls tournament will cater for an age group that are not big party goers, but will want to be in the company of friends and like minded to celebrate the new Millennium. It will also cater for those who may otherwise be alone on this very important occasion.

We would be happy to give more details and an outline of costs involved if you give favourable consideration to our application.”

Mrs Burgess has undertaken to fax further information in support of this request (attached)

Chairman’s

Recommendation: The application be referred to the Year 2000 Projects Fund Subcommittee for consideration.

D) SUMNER REDCLIFFS NETBALL CLUB INC

The following letter has been received from Mrs A J Mathias, Secretary of the Sumner Redcliffs Netball Club Inc, requesting funding of \$500 from the Board's Discretionary Fund.

"Recently we applied for Hillary Commission Funding for a project with a total cost of \$1477.00. The Hillary Commission granted us \$500.00 for that project for which we are extremely grateful.

As we consider this project is a priority and with limited funds available to our netball club, we request that your board give consideration to granting a further \$500.00 towards this project from your Discretionary Fund.

The reason for this request is that we see the equipment and education of our club players an important part of our sporting activity.

Thank you for considering our application."

The application submitted for Hillary Commission funding requested support for a coaching programme for parent helpers to coach young players. Items of coaching equipment to a total value of \$1477 were specified in the application. The funding application was for the full amount of \$1477. As Hillary Commission funding is provided on a subsidy basis, the Community Funding Committee allocated \$500 to this applicant.

Chairman's

Recommendation: For discussion

E) CLOSURE OF LINWOOD AVENUE CYCLEWAY BETWEEN HARGOOD AND TILFORD STREETS

The following letter addressed to the Chairman of the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board has been received from Mr Paul Larkin of Linwood Avenue:

"As the result of yet another burglary of our property where, in this case, the offender made off via the cycleway, it is my intention to obtain its closure in order to reduce the risk of such crime in this area. Over recent years a number of properties backing onto this cycleway have been subjected to a variety of crimes where the offenders have used it to gain access to and/or escape from our properties. Just a couple of weeks ago. A prowler in black clothing and matching balaclava was observed leaving the large empty section at the Tilford Street end via the cycleway at dusk by a man walking his dog. He was chased but escaped. According to the police it is possible that this is the same individual who broke into 402 Linwood Ave last year and was almost caught but also escaped via the cycleway. There are many other examples and the police are presently attempting to compile a dossier in support.

In addition to the crime risk that the cycleway creates, the general condition of it, particularly the appalling amount of ever increasing graffiti (tagging) does nothing to enhance it.

To this end I have approached the owners and/or occupiers of all the properties from the Hargood Street end of the cycleway to ours which are all the ones exposed to the cycleway. Of the 14 involved all except 2 have signed a document endorsing the closure and many have written additional comments reinforcing it. Of the two remaining, one property is apparently vacant and the resident who did not sign has a large dog and says he uses the cycleway to go to work. Closure will be no real inconvenience for him and when pressed about this he accepted my reasons for closure. The overwhelming consensus speaks for itself.

It is likely that all the properties along the south side of the cycleway are also exposed to the risk of crime. Likewise those on Tilford Street and Linwood Ave west of ours which back on to the large empty section which in turn backs on to the cycleway. I have little doubt, as do the police, that a survey of these properties will yield a similar result as to the one obtained above.

As such a closure will create minimal, if any inconvenience for those few people who actually use this section of the cycleway I can see no reason for our properties to be subjected to the ongoing risk. In addition the cost of closure to the council will be minimal with a suitable fence with drain grid at each end being all that's required plus gates to allow council staff access for maintenance. In light of the affected residents' support for closure and notoriety of the level of council bureaucracy, it is our collective requirement is for this to become a 'P' project for the council; ie one of 'priority', not unnecessary or futile 'procrastination' or 'protraction'. To that end it is my intention to involve the media to monitor progress.

Time being of the essence I look forward to the community board's supporting, indeed perhaps presenting such a demand to the council on our behalf."

The Area Engineer comments:

"The pedestrian/cycleway along the outfall drain forms a link between Linwood Park and the Hargood Street/Keighleys Road corner. It provides residents with an alternative route to Linwood Avenue and has access points at Smith Street, Gow Place, Arran Crescent, Tilford Street and Hargood Street.

This cycleway is part of the cycleway network and will eventually be linked to the City via Marcroft Street and Tuam Street, creating a cycle route away from the arterial roads.

This pathway also provides access to the drain for Water Services staff to carry out maintenance and this needs to be retained. Other sections of this drain closer to the city which do not have a pathway, experience similar problems to those described.

Closing the pathway will not preclude access to adjoining properties by the criminal element who use it at present.

Contact has been made with the Police. Reported burglaries along the whole length of the pathway from Smith to Hargood Street over the last six months will be advised to the meeting. The Community Constable, Ray Hastie, reports that he is not aware of any criminal activities in the area but is aware of the graffiti problem. He recommends that the access way stay open because retaining occasional use will help to deter both the criminal element and vandalism.

There is no street lighting along the accessway but it is something that could be investigated. This would add another deterrent.

Graffiti is an ongoing problem throughout the area. Negotiations are about to commence to have the fence on both sides of the drain painted – probably green to enhance the area and remove the present graffiti. Once this is done it will make it easier to remove any new graffiti.

City Streets could not support the closure of any section of the pathway because of the link which it forms as an alternative off-road cycle and pedestrian route for residents and school children.”

Chairman’s

Recommendation: That a meeting be arranged between the Chairman, the Community Advocate, the Police and residents to discuss this matter.