

4. RICCARTON/WIGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE REPORT OF 18 JULY 2000

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author Janice Huddy, Community Advocacy Assistant
Corporate Plan Output: Riccarton/Wigram Community Board Vol 1 3.2 Text 6	

The purpose of this report is to submit the outcomes of the Environmental Committee meeting held on Tuesday 18 July 2000.

The meeting was attended by Alison Wilkie (Chairperson), Mary Corbett, Neville Bennett, Mike Mora, Lesley Keast, Helen Broughton (for part of the meeting) and David Buist.

Also in attendance were Martin Maguire (Community Advocate), Anne Cosson (Area Parks Officer), George Marsh, (Consent Officer (Senior) Environmental Services Unit) and Janice Huddy (Community Advocacy Assistant).

1. APOLOGY

2. PAVEMENT/SANDWICH BOARD SIGNS

George Marsh was present to discuss issues regarding compliance, regulations, payments and public encroachment of pavement/sandwich board signs.

Copies of the relevant Council Policy, By-laws and City Plan are available from the Service Centre.

Recommendation: That the Christchurch City Council amend its Policy, By-laws and City Plan in relation to sandwich boards and moveable signs, namely

1. That the said boards/signs be licensed and an annual fee charged.
2. That it be understood that the revenue raised cover supervision costs, and that the balance contribute towards environmental enhancement.

3. CLEAN UP THE WORLD CAMPAIGN – 18–24 SEPTEMBER

It was **decided** to contact Residents Groups and local schools to encourage them to become involved in this campaign by cleaning up their local environment.

The Waste Management Unit will provide refuse bags and free refuse station entry for the disposal of rubbish collected. The local media to be contacted to provide coverage of events to be held in the area.

4. HISTORIC BUILDINGS/PLACES

Jenny May, Heritage Planner will be present at the 15 August Environmental Committee meeting to speak about the Community Heritage Award Scheme.

Alison Wilkie tabled the following suggested proposal for environmental/historical activities for members to consider prior to the next meeting.

1. That the Community Board establish a directory of Historic and Heritage Buildings, features and sites within the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board area.

This would include sites already known and identified by the Historic Places Trust and Ngai Tahu. Modern architectural treasures could be added to the list when timely. Assistance to research and action this may be possible through ACE or other employment assistance scheme – refer Helen Broughton; possibly the Canterbury Historical Society.

The residents of the Board area could be asked to submit places; publicity about the proposal being sought through local papers/residents groups, schools, churches etc.

2. Establish a Riccarton/Wigram Environmental Award and/or Heritage Award to an individual or group who has/have made a positive contribution to the Riccarton/Wigram Board area.

This could recognise restoring an historic/heritage site or building; retaining established suitable trees within a new subdivision; improving the natural environment of an area; producing a written history of an area; creating a website highlighting these aspects of the Board area/involvement.

3. Develop brochures/booklets highlighting aspects of the Board area.
4. Develop historical walks around an area, with appropriate brochures readily available.

Recommendation: That the Board discuss in principle and action as appropriate.

5. ALLEGED FELTEX DISCHARGE TO AIR OF POLLUTANTS

Susan Wurtzburg, a local resident, was present for this item.

Residents were concerned that when contacting the Environmental Hot Line with complaints regarding air and noise pollution they were being told that no action could be taken because Feltex had a case pending to the High Court; and then Feltex was undertaking monitoring.

The Community Advocate to seek a legal opinion from Council's Solicitors as to whether the Board can become involved in this issue given the fact that an appeal has been lodged by Feltex to the High Court regarding CRC921738.

It was suggested that the Board consider providing a fund of \$2,000 - \$3,000 to Residents Groups to enable an independent scientist to monitor air pollution levels. The Community Advocate to:

- (a) seek a legal opinion on this matter, and
- (b) discuss the role of Environment Canterbury in monitoring such issues.

Recommendation: That this Board hold any resolution regarding the Feltex Air Discharge matter until a legal opinion has been received.

6. STREET TREE PLANTING – RICcartON AND WIGRAM WARDS 2000

Craig Taylor, Project Co-ordinator Arboriculture advised the following.

“Streets to be planted this planting season:

Riccarton Ward

Showgate Avenue – Acer griseum (Paper Bark Maple)

Kumai Place – Plagianthus regius (Ribbonwood)

Peverel Street – Sophora microphylla (Kowhai) – Euston to Wainui

Wigram Ward

Azalea Close – Various

Bella Rosa Drive – Magnolia campbellii

Springs Road – Prunus yedoensis – Gibson to Halswell Junction

Wycola Avenue – Quercus palustris (Pin Oak) additional planting

Additional Streets dependent on plans

Jones Road – to Jones Reserve

Gilberthorpes Road – south west to Roberts Road only.”

The Area Parks Officer to give an update on the Peverel Street plans in the light of the traffic enhancement that is being planned for this street and the appropriateness of Kowhai as street trees.

Recommendation: That the information be received.

7. MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE OF PRIVATE OPEN PITS

Following the on-site inspection tour held on Wednesday 26th April with Environment Canterbury, of open pits and the Board’s request for an update on the activities at, especially the Ablett landfill site at Pound Road, Environment Canterbury reported that a routine inspection had been carried out and that there was no evidence of smoke discharges originating from the previously reported deep-seated fire. The tip face displayed no inappropriate material.

Mr Ablett’s application for Resource Consents to discharge to land and air are both being handled by an independent consultant. A comprehensive management plan has been prepared for this site.

A formal monitoring visit of the Owaka Road site is to be carried out.

Recommendation: That a letter be written to Environment Canterbury thanking them for their reply and requesting that the result of the formal monitoring visit to the Owaka Road Pit site be forwarded to the Board when available.

8. REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY'S LONG TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY

Environment Canterbury had put out a survey, the purpose of which was to discover

- interest in Environment Canterbury
- expectations of Environment Canterbury
- whether expectations are being met
- how well Environment Canterbury does its job; and
- ideas as to the future direction for Environment Canterbury.

It was **agreed** that Alison Wilkie and Mike Mora would complete the survey on behalf of the Environmental Committee.

9. 2001/2002 PLANNING

Working Party meeting of the Environmental Committee to be held on Tuesday 1st August at 1.30pm to discuss projects for the 2001/2002 financial year. Part of this planning to involve a field trip.

10. HILLARY CRESCENT RESERVE

The Area Parks Officer reported that the final plan had been produced for this new park and is **attached**. The consultation process started with an open letter to the residents asking them to attend a public meeting at the reserve or to write in with ideas for the new reserve. About 12 residents attended the meeting and 8 written comments were received. The comments were mainly about providing an area for the small children to play, a nice place to sit and an area for older children.

Board members will remember the needs analysis that was done about 2 years ago on this area, which resulted in the purchase of the land.

The Landscape Plan incorporates a path that links the round the reserve and meets with the walkway that is there at the moment. The paths are to give the opportunity to cycle around or roller blade or even skate board around. This gives local under fives a chance to ride their bikes off the road. There is a small area for play equipment. (There are limitations on the size and amount of equipment because of the size of the reserve.) There are some green spaces incorporated into the design, this gives people the opportunity to play games or just to sit. The latest plan went out again for comment. Most people were very happy with the design, there were comments for and against removing the Big Pine trees. The Pine trees have been assessed from the ground and look fine but a proper assessment will be done when construction starts and the trees have some work done on them.

There was an option to place a ¼ basketball court on the reserve or to have more equipment or to leave the area as a green open space. The support did favour the ¼ basketball court. But at this time we believe that the inclusion of a ¼ basketball court will create a lot of noise, and could upset the residents adjoining the park.

At present we are looking at putting a small module unit of play equipment, constructing paths and garden beds. Parks Unit believe that it is best to start the construction of the reserve, then assess the reserve again in a few years to see what else is required. This also gives residents a chance to get used to the idea of a reserve in their street. A few of the elderly residents were quite concerned about the new reserve.

The Parks unit has \$18,000 for landscape treatment. There is no money to pay for the play equipment. It is therefore requested that the Community Board consider funding \$12,000 towards the project this year.

Recommendation: That this Committee recommend to the Community Board that a sum of money be made available to expedite the development of the Hillary Crescent Reserve.

11. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

A report was received from the Parks Manager informing the Board of the environmental education programme being planned by the Parks Unit.

Funds are being secured to employ staff and develop resources (including web site based information) to promote and improve the educational opportunities currently run within the Council. These include programmes run by Parks, EPPU, Keep Christchurch Beautiful, Water Services (WaterLink) and Waste with input from the Children's Advocate. The programmes, will be offered throughout the Council area primarily in parks, waterways and waste facilities. The target audience will be primary and intermediate school students within the City Boundary.

The value of the programme is that it will assist in working towards the City's vision for Christchurch:

“A green city – that protects its important natural habitats, landscapes and ecological values and develops community environmental awareness and responsibility as stated in Christchurch City Council Environmental Policies and Statements City Plan 1999 Bk 2 1/1.”

Recommendation: That the information be received.

12. ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS

Mike Mora reported on the setting alight of the tyres in the Rhodes Pit area, Halswell Junction Road.

13. RELOCATION OF GO KART CLUB

Some discussion was held over the above.

14. ONGOING ISSUES

- Green spaces in the Riccarton Ward
- Community Gardens

15. NEXT MEETING DATE – 15 AUGUST 2000

Chairperson's

Recommendation: That the report be received.