

## 10. MERIVALE JOINT WORKING PARTY – REPORT OF 8 FEBRUARY 2000

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The purpose of this report is to submit for the Board's consideration, the report of the Working Party meeting held on 8 February 2000:

**Report of a meeting of the Merivale Joint Working Party held on  
Tuesday 8 February 2000 at 12 noon  
in the Board Room, Sockburn Service Centre**

**PRESENT:** Barbara Stewart (Chairman), Diana Bradley, Val Carter, Keith Nuttall, Ron Wright, Tony Hunter, Jeff Vesey, Pat Quinn, Tony Wallace, Paul Lonsdale

**1. APOLOGIES**

An apology was received and accepted from Colin Foggo.

**2. DEPUTATION BY APPOINTMENT**

**2.1 Merivale Precinct Society re Vandalism to Topiary Trees**

Gina Williamson on behalf of the Precinct Society outlined concerns over the extent of the on-going vandalism occurring to the topiary trees and indicated the Society's willingness to assist in the maintenance and well-being of the trees. Action taken by Society members over the Christmas/New Year period to look after the trees was elaborated on.

Overcoming the recurring vandalism was acknowledged as a priority and discussion followed on possible techniques to protect the trees such as signage, surveillance camera(s) and tree staking.

Officers were asked to further investigate the matter of a surveillance camera and report back and it was **agreed** to action immediately the staking of all the topiary trees. The success or otherwise of this action is to be reviewed at the next meeting of the Working Party.

Contact with a locally based security firm was mentioned and the inclusion of an item in the Merivale Mall newsletter was also offered.

The addition of ground cover in the planter boxes was also asked for as a means of controlling litter which at this stage was minimal.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Working Party, thanked the Merivale Precinct Society for their efforts and commitment to date in looking after the topiary trees.

### 3. CONCEPT PLAN – STAGE 2

The Landscape Architect, Andrew Craig, presented a design concept and cost estimate for entry obelisks on Papanui Road.

It was recalled that the concept plan for Merivale prepared by Boffa Miskell proposed a strong, distinctive sense of entry into the commercial area and that this was to be achieved by using large trees. The presence however of underground services meant that trees could not be located at the preferred sites and this therefore meant that an alternative “gateway” feature was needed.

The structure now proposed was an obelisk design at an estimated cost of \$4,000 per unit. Subject to ratification by the Board in the near future, an amount of \$30,000 was available to undertake this stage of the project.

The Working Party considered the proposed unit design which included a frame for a climbing planter, possible lighting and an identification sign.

The use of other materials/concepts was also proposed and it was **agreed** that officers along with Colin Foggo and Gina Williamson give further consideration to possible options and report back to the Working Party.

The Working Party also recorded its thanks to Tony Wallace and to Chen and Andrew Craig for their assistance to date with the project.

### 4. NEXT MEETING

It was **agreed** to next meet on Wednesday 29 March 2000 at 12 noon to receive reports on the above matters and to also review the appropriateness of the existing street furniture and to receive a financial report on Stage 1 of the project.

The meeting concluded at 1.20 pm.

#### **Chairman’s**

**Recommendation:** That the report be received.