

5. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Funding for Plunket Toys

The following letter seeking funding of \$800 towards the replacement of broken and lost toys has been received from Ady Shannon of the Mt Pleasant Plunket Association.

“Last year, members of the Mount Pleasant Plunket Puzzle Club renovated the former Heathcote Valley Plunket rooms as a new venue for our toy library. The move has proven to be a great success and we now offer toy library memberships to more than 60 local families.

A recent stocktaking exercise has identified a number of lost and broken toys and puzzles and we write in the hope that you may be able to provide \$800 funding towards replacement costs so that we can maintain the current range of toys on offer.

New toys are purchased from our fundraising ventures and membership fees – which we endeavour to maintain at an affordable level. We regularly undertake fundraising ventures and seek support from members, and the wider community, to contribute towards our running and replacement costs. In addition, members contribute many volunteer hours to ensure toys are mended, cleaned and available for loan. We offer a wonderful resource for children in our community and trust that you will recognise our role when considering our application for replacing those items we will be excluding from our library.

Enclosed is an information brochure which we distribute to new parents in the community through the Mt Pleasant Redcliffs Plunket Clinic. This ensures that all new parents are aware of our library and we welcome new members.

We hope you will consider our application favourably. I can assure you that the toys we purchase have the potential to make many small people in our community very happy.”

Chairman’s

Recommendation: For discussion

(b) Linwood Avenue Tennis Club (Inc)

The following letter seeking funding of \$531 towards the cost of the Annual Commercial Rental has been received from Mrs Jane Reed, Treasurer, Linwood Avenue Tennis Club. The tennis courts site is leased by the Club from the Council.

The Club is also requesting the Council to consider reducing the rental on the property.

“I am writing on behalf of the Linwood Avenue Tennis Club. Over the past few years our membership has declined rapidly. Our current membership numbers are in the vicinity of 10 seniors and 15 juniors.

We currently have an outstanding account of \$531.00 for Annual Commercial Rental that is due for payment. My concern at the moment, as Treasurer is that we are not in a position to pay this rental, and for the size of our Tennis Club, this account is too high.

Our courts are situated on Linwood Avenue, by the park and are heavily used by the community along with our few members. We have an honesty box there for payment of casual court fees by the public at \$1.00 per person, but each week when the club members arrive there is no money in the honesty box. We have committee members who live in the area, and we are aware that the courts are being used on a regular basis.

We believe that our tennis club provides a service to the Linwood community, but due to our current financial circumstances are not able to fund this community service. We supply the nets, and incidentally 18 months ago had two stolen one night, which we had to replace at a cost of \$1,000. Also in the past two years we have refenced the courts and again this was a cost to the tennis club of approximately \$4,000. (Sorry I do not have the exact figures with me). Any enhancements that we make to the surroundings of these courts benefit the public, who frequently use our courts.

We would appreciate any assistance that you could give us at the moment, but in particular a review of the property rental. Upon speaking to Helen Gallagher who was most helpful, it was suggested that we apply for a Hillary Commission grant, which we are also doing.

We are looking forward to hearing from you with a favourable response, and I thank you for your time in reviewing this issue for us.”

Chairman’s

Recommendation: That the Board, because of the public recreational service being provided, request the Parks/Property Units to waive the rental on the Linwood Avenue Tennis Courts.

(c) Letter from the New Zealand Community Board Conference Liaison Team

Attached is a letter from the New Zealand Community Board Conference Liaison Team, which was addressed to the Chairman of the Board.

This letter seeks an expression of opinion on whether two subjects should be put forward for discussion at the National Community Boards Conference in Invercargill next year.

These two subjects are:

1. The desirability of elected members holding both Councillor and Community Board status at the same time.
2. The issue of elected Community Board members not being required to live in the area to which they have been elected. Is this a matter of concern?

Chairman’s

Recommendation: For discussion

(d) HERITAGE AND COMMUNITY IDENTITY BOOK: EXPERIENCE THE PORT HILLS

The attached letter and publication budget from Diane Menzies, Chair, Port Hills 2000, seeks funding towards the costs of publishing a book on the cultural and natural history of the Port Hills.

Ms Menzies advises in support of this letter that Port Hills 2000 is seeking funding of \$60,000 from sponsors and would welcome any contribution that Community Boards are able to make.

The sum of \$1,000 has already been offered towards this project by the Canterbury Regional Council.

The sponsorships sought are to go towards the pre-publication costs of the book including paying the author, Gordon Ogilvie.

An outline of the proposed book will be tabled at the meeting.

Chairman's

Recommendation: For discussion.

(e) MT PLEASANT COMMUNITY THEATRE

The following letter has been received from Mrs Dianne Cooke of the Mt Pleasant Community Theatre seeking start up funding of \$1100.

Mrs Cook writes:

"As a newly formed affiliated group of the Mount Pleasant Community Centre and Ratepayers Association (Inc), I would like your Board to consider funding of \$1100 from Discretionary Funds towards the start up costs of this group.

The Mount Pleasant Community Theatre will be situated at the Mount Pleasant Community Centre and is fully supported by the members of the Centre Committee. I am currently the Administrator at the Centre and a financial member of the Mount Pleasant Community Centre and Ratepayers Association (Inc).

It is intended to introduce all aspects of theatre to children and young adults, by way of workshops in stage presentation, voice projection, dance techniques, as well as musical and pantomime productions to audiences. Our first production is scheduled for the school holiday break in July.

I have 12 years theatre experience with the Sumner Theatrical Group, both on stage as well as directing and producing. There is a need, I feel, to encourage young people to participate 'on stage', thus to gain self confidence, meet new people, and channel their individual abilities into a positive direction, which can be enjoyed by those involved, as well as the audience watching the performance.

Some necessary equipment to get things started, is another microphone (\$500), scaffolding to hold the hired lighting (\$200), a reel to reel tape recorder (\$250) and black fabric for side wings and top curtaining to frame the stage participating area (\$150).

I have planned a formal Ball for 6th May and anticipate a profit from this in the vicinity of \$1000, which will be used for costuming, stage props, stage sets, etc. Also participants will become members of the Community Theatre and the funds received from these memberships and ticket sales will be put back into the further enhancement of the stage, lighting, sound, costuming, etc for future productions.

I will also be encouraging the participants to 'have a go', at directing or producing something they would like to do, therefore further honing their communicating and creative skills.

I do hope the Board will give this application their consideration, as I honestly feel that a theatrical direction available to children and young adults at an early age, will give them some of the necessary life skills needed in their future and I would like to think we all could lend a hand in this, in a Community way."

Mr Bruce McKessar, President of the Mt Pleasant Community Centre & Ratepayers' Association Inc writes in support of this request, as follows:

"The letter from Mrs Dianne Cooke has the total support of the Community Centre committee.

Mrs Cooke has identified a gap in the community services we at the Centre provide to the residents of Mt Pleasant and has taken steps to address the lack with enthusiasm.

We have confidence in her ability to establish and operate a successful group filling this need. Her application for seeding funds is we believe reasonable and we trust that the Board will be able to assist with a grant for the amount requested from discretionary funds."

**Chairman's
Recommendation:** For discussion

(f) ENGLEFIELD HISTORIC ENCLAVE

The attached letter has been received from Mrs Frances L Ryman on behalf of the Englefield Historic Enclave, inviting Board members to an historic walk of Hanmer Street, Elm Grove, Avonside Dive and Fitzgerald Avenue.

During this walk, Mrs Ryman wishes to outline the historical research she has done about the area, which is to be related in a book she is preparing on the Brittan family and their contribution to the establishment of the Canterbury settlement. Mrs Ryman believes that her research supports the formation of an "Englefield Historic Enclave" in this area, and would be very happy to outline this concept to a future Board seminar meeting.

Mrs Ryman's letter also acknowledges the Board's contribution to her research project through its support from the Year 2000 Fund.

Also attached is a proposed circular for distribution to residents in the Englefield Historic Enclave area and a list of the members of the Englefield Historic Enclave Committee.

**Chairman's
Recommendation:** For discussion.