

3. **RICCARTON/WIGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE REPORT OF 15 FEBRUARY 2000**



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The purpose of this report is to submit the outcomes of the Environmental Committee meeting held on Tuesday 15 February 2000.

The meeting was attended by Alison Wilkie (Chairperson), Mary Corbett, Neville Bennett and Mike Mora.

An apology was received from David Buist.

GROWING COMMUNITIES ORGANIC RESOURCES FOR SOCIAL NEEDS

Mr Eric Park, Solid Waste Engineer with the Council, was in attendance to discuss his report. A precis is as follows:

- to seek ideas and suggestions and interest in a synergistic project to maximise the use of organic resources, currently wasted in the City, as a resource for community style gardens meeting a wide range of social needs
- Council supports the concept
- success of community gardens has been based on community commitment
- Community Boards can identify projects
- home composting well supported, with a Council goal of zero waste to landfill by 2020
- kerbside recycling, citywide, has raised awareness of recycling and recovery of waste as a valuable resource
- next step is to tackle organic waste
- various Council policies are aligned to goals and objectives of this scheme
- possible community benefits include:
 - increased understanding of natural cycles
 - education, by participation
 - promotion of healthy social communities, by self-help
 - meets basic food needs
 - need to look to 'education co-ordinators' and funds.

In discussion, the Committee was very supportive of the scheme.

Various options to identify potential Council-owned sites were discussed, the use (by way of partnerships) of community-based work trusts / groups, as well as promotion / education to the community.

It was agreed to consider this further at the next meeting of the Committee.

CAMPERVAN EFFLUENT DUMP POINT SITES

The Committee noted that the City Streets and Waste Units were now pursuing a site, on SH1, with the local camping ground in Templeton; previous sites identified were in industrial side streets in Hornby.

‘WELCOME’ SIGNS (OR, RURAL THRESHOLD SIGNS)

Four sites have been identified, with City Streets Unit keen to promote the placing of rural thresholds at each site; one sign is being sited (for incoming traffic) within a planted area. The threshold addition will see a duplication of the planted area on the side directly opposite.

OPEN PIT CONTROLS AND COMPLIANCE

It was noted that the Committee Chairperson and Board Chairperson had been invited to the joint Canterbury Regional Council/Christchurch City Council meeting, Wednesday 16 February to discuss (stock truck effluent and) open pit / landfill management issues.

In view of this Board’s stance on this issue the Committee sought the support of the Board to make a presentation to the Council’s Environmental Committee on open pit controls and compliance.

STREETSCAPE SITES

Two sites previously identified (Peveler Street, from Eusten to Wainui, and Springs Road, from Gibson to Halswell Junction) were reported on. Funds would be provided by the Parks Unit.

The planting of trees back into Picton Avenue, previously discussed, would be considered by the City Streets Unit who have the reconstruction of this street programmed in 2001/02.

The proposal to undertake replanting of the median of Main South road (Parker to Carmen) was tabled, for further consideration. However, members were not totally supportive of the ‘need’ to undertake this work.

UPPER RICCARTON DOMAIN PLAYGROUND UPGRADE AND RELOCATION

A request has been received, from local residents, concerning the positioning of the playground equipment, on the Upper Riccarton Domain, adjacent to Yaldhurst Road.

The request seeks to relocate the equipment into the park.

The domain has high local uses. There is a tennis club, and the open space accommodates two sports fields and cricket blocks. There are very limited options to where the equipment could be moved to.

Renewal of the equipment is currently scheduled for 2003/04.

The Committee undertook an on-site inspection with local residents. It was acknowledged that the current site (in Yaldhurst Road) was less than ideal.

After discussion, a preferred site was identified, being at the northern end where a line of poplar trees ran parallel with Sayes Crescent.

It was also noted that any early funding of the relocation / upgrading of equipment would have to be by way of substitution, or Board funding to advance the 2003/04 programme.

In thanking the residents for their initiative, it was agreed to give the request further consideration.

Committee Chairperson's Comment:

As noted in Clause 4 above, Alison Wilkie, Mike Mora, Martin Maguire and Roger Cave attended the joint Canterbury Regional Council / Christchurch City Council meeting on Wednesday 16 February.

Stock Truck Effluent

- the non-regulatory Code of Practice was released in June 1999
- attention then focussed on implementation of the Code by the various stakeholders
- Lincoln University undertook study analysis and identified five locations that required dump sites
- at its meeting on 4 February, the regional working group endorsed the proposed sites of Amberley and Ashburton / Tinwald
- a funding bid is being made to Transfund NZ for the construction of these two sites
- rationale is that funding is on the basis of 'polluter pays', i.e., road user charges fund
- optimistically, the dump sites could be in place within twelve months
- effectiveness of these sites will be dependant upon stakeholders exercising their responsibilities
- Road Transport Association expect member compliance within two years
- Councillors were supportive of funding share being provided by regional and local authorities, if this accelerated the progress to construction.

Pits/Landfill Site Management (or Open Pit Controls and Compliance)

- extensive studies undertaken by Canterbury Regional Council on ground water contamination
- Canterbury Regional Council officers then focussed on the Owaka Road site, and the Ablett Pit, on Pound Road
- through regular monitoring, Canterbury Regional Council officers contended that Owaka was being operated (generally) in accordance with the resource consent
- at Ablett Pit, officers are assisting owner in application for resource consent
- our Board video was then shown. It, together with a recent on-site visit (7 February 2000), tended to suggest that there had been no marked improvement of on-site compliance / control...
- Many of the elected members present (at the 16 February meeting) expressed concerns of what the video showed up...
- The Joint Committee resolved that it request the Canterbury Regional Council Enforcement Section to take all practical steps to clean up the Owaka Road and Ablett Pit sites and report back on progress to the next meeting of the Committee.

The Committee also agreed that more involvement between the Canterbury Regional Council and Community Boards should be fostered, for example, through joint tours of sites of concern.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: That the report be received.