(5) GRAVEL EXTRACTION – WAIMAKAIRIRI RIVER BED

A presentation will be presented at the meeting.

6. HALSWELL DRAINAGE DISTRICT BOUNDARY

The upstream boundary of the Halswell Drainage District is the boundary of the old Christchurch Drainage Board District (Halswell Junction Road).

The area of Christchurch City between the current City/Selwyn boundary (Knights Creek) and Halswell Junction Road is not included in the City's Land Drainage District but is rapidly developing into urban use. City Council staff see merit in providing for this growth and in acquiring and developing margins along the waterways prior to the urban development.

To provide for these developments staff of the CCC are considering options to extend their Land Drainage District to the City boundary. This could lead to ratepayers paying rates to both the City and to Environment Canterbury for land drainage purposes and also create difficulties in managing the upper reaches of the Halswell River.

Discussions about future drainage management for this area have been held between City and Environment Canterbury staff and it has been accepted that it would be possible for the part of the Halswell Drainage District in the city to be re-classified and a contribution made from the City in the same way that the classes U3 and U4 contribute to the Halswell.

Any change would need to be agreed between the Christchurch City Council and Environment Canterbury before the special order processes were initiated.

The Strategy and Resources Committee of the City have adopted the recommendation.

That the Christchurch City Council and Canterbury Regional Council commence discussions with a view to initiating the appropriate statutory processes to transfer responsibility for administration and management of drainage for the area between Halswell township and the Christchurch City boundary from the Halswell drainage district administered by the Canterbury Regional Council to the Christchurch land drainage district administered by the Christchurch City Council.

That extension of the land drainage district to the Christchurch City boundary be considered as part of the next funding policy review.

A map showing the area involved and the current rating levels will be discussed at the next meeting.

Recommendation

That the joint committee recommend to their respective councils that a joint staff working party develop recommendations for a possible change in the management of the Halswell Drainage District and the statutory processes necessary to achieve any recommended change.