

18. BOARD CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMUNITY - UPDATE

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The purpose of this report is to submit for record purposes a summary of meetings undertaken during March with Residents' Groups, Christchurch International Airport Limited and local School Principals.

1. RESIDENTS' GROUPS

The second of the Board's programmed meetings with Residents' Groups for 1999/2000 took place on 20 March.

Representatives from the Burnside Residents' Support Group, Merivale Precinct Society, Yaldhurst and Districts Association and the Yaldhurst Rural Residents' Association were able to be in attendance.

Topics covered in the discussions included the Council's Annual Plan process and in particular the opportunity during May for submissions to be made on the draft Plan.

The pending launch of the anti-graffiti strategy on 29 March was mentioned and the partnership involvement of Residents' Groups in assisting in the process of removing graffiti was highlighted.

Details of the reviews currently underway of Council community facilities located in the Board's area were reported on. The holding of community events and the Board's availability to assist groups including funding support was also drawn to attention. Successful events both undertaken and planned by several of the Residents' Groups were commented on.

The process now being gone through by the Board to give effect to the outcomes of the Strengthening Community Action Plan was explained.

Concerns were aired at the apparent change in the Council's arrangements for public notice advertising in local newspapers and the impact on rural ratepayers in particular who did not receive the Star newspaper.

Other matters raised included underground wiring, the arrival of Telstra Saturn in Christchurch, the proposed millennium footbridge on Park Terrace and commercial concessions operating at Hagley Park.

The operation and management of Mona Vale, the Council's funding policy and the setting up of a fund to assist Residents' Groups in dealing with resource management issues were mentioned and it was noted that these were matters that should be addressed through the Annual Plan process.

Thanks were extended for the action taken to remove the gorse hedge along the Old West Coast Road fenceline of Yaldhurst Bush.

The siting of a rural threshold sign on State Highway 73 on the western approach to Yaldhurst Village was also suggested as a means of flagging to motorists their entry to a built up area and as such, the need to reduce speed. Staff undertook to investigate this suggestion.

2. CHRISTCHURCH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LIMITED

On 27 March 2000, the Board met with the Chief Executive and support staff of Christchurch International Airport Limited to discuss a number of issues of interest to the Board.

Matters canvassed included the recently requested uplifting of a designation involving the Parish land and the Company's plans for longer term Airport related developments.

The future plans for the area of stopped land at the end of Harewood Road and the acknowledged need to enhance landscaping on the approach roads to the Airport were discussed.

The Company was thanked for its joint involvement in the forthcoming millennium planting project on Memorial Avenue between the Russley Road and Orchard Road roundabouts.

The proposed changes in traffic management on Memorial Avenue between Russley Road and Orchard Road were reviewed and the Company indicated its support for the proposals which in their view would improve safety and parking management and enhance the aesthetic values of the planting project to be undertaken.

Engine testing and a possible use for the former Brevet Club site were also referred to.

The visit concluded with a bus tour utilising the internal roads around the northern section of the airport perimeter including the Harewood Aviation Park.

3. NORTH WEST CLUSTER SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

Principals of the North West Cluster Schools hosted the Board at a meeting held at Roydvale School on 30 March 2000.

Similar such successful meetings had previously been undertaken by the Board and were in line with one of the Board's objectives for 1999/2000.

Subjects discussed included graffiti, the Council's Annual Plan process, vegetable gardens in schools, school speed zones and Arbor Day programmes.

Ongoing traffic safety concerns on Greers Road in the vicinity of Christ the King and Burnside High Schools were referred to and a suggestion was made that a cycleway be provided through the Waimairi Cemetery.

Several of the Principals indicated that school use of Jellie Park Aqualand was having to be curtailed due to the high cost of admission charges. Board members undertook to pursue the matter.

- Recommendations:**
1. That the report be received.
 2. That letters of thanks be forwarded to the attendees of the various meetings.
 3. That the agreed action points be followed up by the staff.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the foregoing recommendations be adopted.