

9. RACECOURSE GROUNDS TEAROOM

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Over the last few months, members of the Advocacy team have had several discussions with Mr Michael Connelly, representing Christchurch Racecourse Reserves Trust, and Mr Tim Mills, Secretary to the Trust. The discussion has centred on the future of the Tea House built in the racecourse grounds in 1903.

On 5 April, the Community Advocate met with the above mentioned, Mrs Pam Wilson, (Historic Places Trust), Jenny May (Council Heritage Planner), William Fulton (Council Heritage Architect) to view the building and discuss its future.

Attached is a letter from the Secretary of the Trust which outlines the historical context and future hopes for the building.

After discussion on 5 April, it was agreed that an independent conservation plan be commissioned to ascertain the project needs. This will be undertaken by a local architect with expertise in this field. The cost of this is estimated to be about \$5,000.00. While Council has money available for heritage building restoration, the amount is limited.

The Riccarton/Wigram Community Board is being asked for a grant to cover the cost of this work. Board funds are limited for the rest of this financial year, however, discretionary money will be available after July when Council's budget is confirmed.

This will be a local restoration project of some magnitude, and as such, it is fitting that this Board contribute in a small way. Funding the cost of a conservation plan is an appropriate Board involvement.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: For discussion, and that an on-site inspection of the tearooms (and the Council-owned Chokeybore Lodge) be arranged.