

3. **RICCARTON/WIGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
REPORT OF 17 OCTOBER 2000**

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author Roger Cave, Community Secretary
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The purpose of this report is to submit the outcomes of the Environmental Committee meeting held on Tuesday 17 October 2000.

The meeting was attended by Alison Wilkie (Chairperson), Mike Mora, Mary Corbett, David Buist, Neville Bennett; Ishwar Ganda was also present.

Also in attendance were Martin Maguire and Roger Cave.

1. CAMPERVAN DISPOSAL SITE

The Committee was in receipt of a report which identified the locating of a campervan effluent dump site at Templeton and seeking the Community Board's approval for this site.

The suggested site is at the information lay-by on the Main South Road immediately north of the Templeton urban area. This location is convenient for traffic from the south and west of Christchurch. The lay-by will require a minimum of extra hard standing to provide easy and safe access for the largest campervans. Transit NZ staff have indicated verbal approval for the installation on the state highway subject to strict conditions requiring a trenchless method to install the sewer connection. The public sewer is located 75 metres distant on the opposite side of the road. It will be necessary to use a directional drilling technique to lay a flat graded sewer lateral under the road carriageway.

The installation would consist of a concrete pad 600mm x 500mm with 150mm raised edges fitted with a hinged lid. The suggested location is on the fenceline near the information kiosk. An alternative location would be within the grassed and planted area between the lay-by sealed area and the state highway. In either location screen planting would be provided to minimise any visual impact. The connection to a campervan is made by a standard hose and fittings carried by campervans. A sump would be provided for emptying porta potties and a water supply with a short fixed hose would be provided to leave the facility clean after each use. Arrangements can be made for servicing three times per week by City Care Ltd staff as part of their normal public toilet servicing round. This facility would be very similar to the caravan dumps stations provided by Councils throughout the country.

A sewer connection is considered essential so the choice of sites remote from the urban area is very limited. Many other sites throughout Christchurch have been investigated including negotiating for public access to commercial motor camp facilities. These have either raised instant objection even though some were some 500 meters from residential properties or in the case of a motor camp in the local area was considered expensive at a \$10,000 per year cost to the Council. For motor camps to provide "free" public access there is considerable inconvenience in having potentially large numbers of campervans trekking through their properties plus a loss of revenue that they currently obtain from casual users. Therefore the cost of \$10,000 may not be unreasonable but is very much above the estimated annual servicing cost of \$2,500 for a municipal facility.

This proposal has been discussed with the owners of the two houses opposite the lay-by. One has no objections and the other has concerns as to possible smells from spillage but would be satisfied with written confirmation that the site will serviced as necessary with a minimum of three times per week.

The Committee were supportive of the site and ask that appropriate landscaping, signage and additional hard standing areas be incorporated in the final design.

Recommendation: That a campervan effluent dump facility be installed at the Templeton information lay-by.

2. TEMPLETON DOMAIN SKATEBOARD PETITION

The 6 September 2000 meeting of the Board received a petition from 47 young persons seeking additional “features” to be added to the existing facility.

The Committee looked at the site during a visit last month. It was agreed that officers would investigate the request.

A report will be available to the November meeting of the Committee.

3. DENTON PARK (WESTERN SIDE) TREES AND ENVIRONS

The 6 September 2000 meeting of the Board received a petition from residents in Kathleen Crescent seeking some work on the trees, (on the park) along their western boundary.

The Committee looked at the site during a visit last month and agreed that Council officers consider the petition and report back.

On 9 October 2000 our Area Parks Officer, together with the Arboriculturist, visited the site; it is proposed to initiate a landscape plan which will see the removal of some trees and new plantings will be placed along the fenceline.

Areas in the park relating to the Water Services Unit operation were being addressed, also.

The plan will be available to the Committee prior to it going out for public consultation.

4. SISKA PLACE STREET TREES

The Committee was in receipt of a report from the Area Parks Officer about the progress to date on the Siska Place street trees concept plan and to request that the Community Board make a recommendation to the City Services Committee.

The Board will remember an application made by two residents in Siska Place to have their silver birch trees removed from outside their property. The Board recommended that staff consult further with residents about the street trees and also to address the tree planting in the reserve.

A letterbox drop was made of Siska Place and a meeting was held for local residents.

Concept Plan (Attached)

The initial request was to remove three silver birches outside 1 and 3 Siska Place. As staff worked through the design of the concept plan, we discovered a water main which runs along the southern (odd numbered) side of the street. The water main is under the grass berm area. Any trees that have invasive or vigorous root systems could damage the pipe. The silver birches outside 1 and 3 Siska Place have the potential to cause damage to this water main.

To overcome this problem we have recommended the planting of magnolia wilsonii. Magnolia wilsonii is a small sized deciduous tree, which grows to 6-8 metres at maturity, bearing white flowers in early spring.

The attached landscape plan shows the area affected by proposed new street tree planting.

Seven new street trees were proposed along with the removal of the silver birches outside 1 and 3. A few of the residents turned down the option of street trees but on the whole everyone was happy for the silver birches to be removed from outside 1 and 3, and new street trees to go in.

On the even number side of the street there is no footpath, just grass berms, or planting. The silver birch tree outside 14 needs removal. The top half of the tree is declining. This tree will be removed and replaced with shrub planting.

Outside number 8 Siska Place, there are three silver birches planted very close together. The closeness of the planting has begun to affect the form and growth of the trees. It is recommended to remove the centre tree. Number 6 Siska Place has a similar problem, with three trees planted very close together. It is recommended that we remove two trees leaving the centre tree. The centre tree has the best shape. These trees are robinias.

Residents at number 16 requested to have their street tree removed. The tree has been assessed by the Parks Unit Arborist. He believes the tree is in good health and is one of the best trees in the street. It is recommended that this tree remain.

Siska Place Reserve

A plan also went out to discuss the removal of some of the trees in the reserve. When the reserve was originally planted the trees were planted too close together for their mature size. The closeness of the planting has begun to affect the form and growth of the trees to such an extent that now many of the trees are being suppressed and have very poor form. All residents were happy for this work to be carried out.

Committee Comment

The Area Parks Officer will be asked to comment on the placement planting outside No 14 being shrub planting rather than a replacement tree.

The origin of “Siska” would be investigated and members consider that if any tree species could be aligned to this origin then appropriate planting could be undertaken.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the Community Board recommend to the City Services Committee:
 - (a) The removal of the silver birch trees outside 1 and 3 Siska Place.
 - (b) The removal of one silver birch from outside number 8 Siska Place.
 - (c) The removal of two trees from outside 6 Siska Place.
 - (d) That the existing tree outside No 16 Siska Place be retained.
 2. That new street trees go in to replace the trees removed where possible, and new street tree planting be established on the odd number house side of the street.
 3. That the new plantings species be aligned with “Siska” and that these be done with agreement of the residents concerned.

5. DRAFT CANTERBURY HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The Regional Hazardous Waste Working Party has sought support from all territorial local authorities for it to seek public submissions on the strategy. All territorial local authorities have had an opportunity during August to comment on the strategy and all have recommended it for the next phase – that of seeking public submissions which is planned to take place during October.

Environment Canterbury staff will co-ordinate the public submissions after which the Regional Hazardous Waste Working Party will consider submissions in November, and recommend a final strategy to all the Canterbury territorial local authorities. It is planned to complete this process by the end of this year.

The Strategy Itself

The Strategy has a vision of zero hazardous waste by 2020, with a long-term objective of eliminating the adverse effects of hazardous wastes on the environment.

Summary

The Strategy will ensure that action on hazardous waste issues in the region are planned and executed in a co-ordinated way to ensure minimum environmental effects with a long term objective of eliminating the adverse effects of hazardous wastes on the environment.

Recommendation: That a submission be prepared on the draft strategy by Alison Wilkie and Mike Mora and that it be considered by the Board for adoption at its 1 November 2000 meeting.

6. OWAKA PIT

There was discussion on the current situation of the operation and compliance of this site; also, discussion on the Committee decision to seek a meeting with the Legal Services Manager on the continued operation at the site.

7. ON-GOING ISSUES FOR NEXT MEETING

- Stock Truck Effluent discussion.
- Rural Threshold Signs update.
- Reserves Development Plans, various sites.
- Land Use Mitigation Measures relating to flooding issues.

Other Issues

- Heritage Researcher/Writer.
- Project Allocation Funds.
- Community Gardens.

8. NEXT MEETING

An inspection of the Summit Road/Gibraltar Farm land acquisition sites has been arranged for Thursday 30 November 2000.

The Committee will also meet on Tuesday 12 December 2000.

Chairman's

- Recommendation:**
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 2. That the Community Board recommend to the City Services Committee:
 - (a) The removal of the silver birch trees outside 1 and 3 Siska Place.
 - (b) The removal of one silver birch from outside number 8 Siska Place.
 - (c) The removal of two trees from outside 6 Siska Place.
 - (d) That the existing tree outside No 16 Siska Place be retained.
 3. That new street trees go in to replace the trees removed where possible, and new street tree planting be established on the odd number house side of the street.
 4. That the new plantings species be aligned with "Siska" and that these be done with agreement of the residents concerned.
 5. That a submission be prepared on the draft strategy by Alison Wilkie and Mike Mora and that it be considered by the Board for adoption at its 1 November 2000 meeting.