

## 7. NORTH EAST RURAL RESEARCH FOLLOW-UP

<b>Officer responsible</b> Community Advocate	<b>Author</b> Jo Maraki, Advocacy Assistant DDI 354-1710
Corporate Plan Output: Public accountability 3.2.text 2.1	

The purpose of this report is to identify the issues raised in the North/East Rural Research and review progress on implementing and/or addressing the recommendations.

This Research Report was presented to The Board in November 1999 and it was decided to establish a Working Party to consider the recommendations. While the working party has not formally met, many of the concerns raised have been addressed through other avenues and actions along the way. It is recommended that the Working Party now meet to discuss the remaining issues as follows.

### COMMUNITY NEEDS ANALYSIS SURVEY – OCTOBER 1999

#### Residential Development and Growth

Due to an increase in residential development, especially Brooklands and Spencerville, there has been significant growth of families with children moving into this district. This impacts upon the public facilities available and required including:

1. Access to pre-school, primary and secondary education.
2. Decent public roads able to service the increased transport through and around the surrounding areas.
3. Community and leisure facilities.

*Recommended Action:* Develop formal lines of communication between planners of residential development and those involved with providing public facilities.

*Purpose:* To ensure that the needs of the community as it grows and develops are being adequately monitored and when necessary addressed.

#### SCHOOLS

According to the 1996 Census there are approximately 180-200 primary school aged children living in these areas, the children are attending various schools in the surrounding areas namely Belfast, Marshlands and Ouruhia with many travelling in as far as the Shirley/Burwood area. The North/East District does not have a primary school to service these numbers.

*Recommended Action:* Support the community in their submission to the Ministry of Education to address this situation and consider the establishment of a primary school in the district, and/or increase the resources of the schools in the surrounding areas (eg Ouruhia).

#### HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

Holiday Programmes in the area folded in May 2000, this was due to various reasons such as lack of adequate numbers interested in attending, funding etc. The lack of numbers may have been caused by the fact the programmes offered did not operate daily and in light of this it may be more convenient for parents who work in town to place their children in programmes there.

*Recommended Action:* The Recreation and Leisure Adviser (Maria Moran) is happy to explore the possibility of organising a holiday programme for primary aged children in the district. She also expressed an interest in working as part of a team with the community in Stewarts Gully and Riverlea Estate on a project to utilise and develop the existing facilities (Stewarts Gully Sailing Club) if they are interested.

## **PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

According to the survey there is an absence of adequate public transport in and around the surrounding areas which are presently being served by a 'workers' bus and a 'shoppers' bus service. There is no weekend service which isolates many of the households in the area without private motor vehicles or have one vehicle which is used to travel to and from work leaving the remaining members of the household isolated.

*Recommended Action:* Follow up the current situation regarding Public Transport facilities and if the situation is unchanged forward the results of the survey regarding public transport facilities to Environment Canterbury.

## **SPEED LIMIT (LOWER STYX ROAD THROUGH SPENCERVILLE)**

The steady growth in and around these outlying communities means the roads are now servicing greater numbers on the roads. The residents have expressed serious concerns regarding the current speed limit and careless and reckless driving.

*Recommended Action:* These issues are similar to those recently addressed by the residents of Kainga/Bridgend and it may be appropriate for the Board to support the whole North/East Rural community district in the same way.

## **RECREATIONAL/LEISURE AND PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

### **Brooklands and Spencerville**

Respondents to the survey identified concerns about the odour from vents in the sewerage system at Brooklands and Spencerville and the report recommends measures to be put in place to eliminate these odours.

Waste Management are aware of this and followed up with a survey to the community. No response was received.

### **Brooklands Domain**

There are complaints that the domain has poor drainage. There is a temporary skate ramp presently at the domain and a permanent skate ramp is scheduled for completion in March 2001. An official opening is being planned for 3 March 2001 by way of a combined Skate Jam and Family Fun Day.

### **Seafield Walkway**

This local feature is well used. The gardens and signage around the entrance have not been well maintained and this area looks generally neglected. The gardens are overgrown and the signage is not easily seen from the road (*Site visit 15 December 2000*).

### **Spencerville Domain**

This area has a Hall, Tennis Courts, Playground and Barbeque Area. There have been community concerns that this area is not as well utilised as it could be. It was noted (*Site visit 15 December 2000*) that there was a lot of litter and broken glass around the car park, Hall and play equipment making it unattractive and unsafe for children to use.

### **Observation Platform**

The area is overgrown with weeds and a Park Bench is broken (*Site visit 15 December 2000*).

### **Kainga/Bridgend**

The playground/park lacks adequate park benches and tables and could be upgraded. The standard of footpaths and maintenance of roads and roadsides have received some criticism. However, \$25,000 has been allocated in the Capital Works Schedule 2001/2002 to upgrade the roads etc in the Kainga/Bridgend area.

### **Western Stewarts Gully/Riverlea Estate**

There have for several years been issues in this community regarding rezoning of the area from a *Rural* to *Rural Living Village* status. Early in 1997 a joint meeting occurred between Council Staff and representatives of Western Stewarts Gully regarding zoning of this area. Rural zoning was retained with the provision of services for example Water Services and Waste Management. Funding for these services was not identified as a priority in the Christchurch City Council (Annual) plan at that time and it was necessary to put this forward for consideration in the next Annual Plan process. Both Stewarts Gully and Riverlea Estate have for the past two years been connected to the city water supply and Riverlea Estate has its own sewerage scheme. There is a lot of potential and scope to work with this community to try and take full advantage of the individual charm and unique nature it offers to the character of Christchurch and Canterbury as a whole.

**Recommendation:** That the Working Party set a date for discussion of the findings of this report, and identify actions including possible partnerships with Riverlea Estates and Western Stewarts Gully.

### **Chairperson's**

**Recommendation:** That the officer's recommendation be adopted and that the meeting take place on the next seminar meeting date.