

5. CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 ACCESS RAMP TO THE ESPLANADE

The following letter has been received from D Peacock, a resident in Nayland Street, Sumner, who writes seeking an access ramp to the Esplanade.

"I am writing this on behalf of the elderly, infirm and young mothers who just love the Esplanade but when the weather suddenly changes or we are "taken short", we have a long way to gain an exit.

Think of the wheelchairs, motorised scooters, the prams and toddlers on tricycles, a bit of a problem to haul up the steps or to throw them over the wall.

If only we had an access up a ramp between the toilets and the clock tower – it would be so appreciated by so many locals.

I know of the expense but when I look around at the damage the skateboards, rollerblades etc do to the steps, curbs and seats, it makes one wonder. Our rates of 30+ years must warrant some support."

The Community Advocate comments: A report from Warwick Scadden, the Parks and Waterways Area Advocate, on the Sumner beach and promenade access is included in this agenda. Please refer to clause 18.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received.

5.2 FERRYMEAD/BROOKHAVEN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The following letter addressed to the Community Advocate, Linwood Service Centre has been received from Jane Yarrall, Secretary of the Ferrymead/Brookhaven Residents' Association who writes:

"The Association has a formal request to make on behalf of the residents of the above subdivision.

When residents bought their sections in Brookhaven, they were advertised and sold as Ferrymead properties. City Council rates and property values certainly do not show Woolston prices. When houses are sold on by agents (as in my case) we were told we are buying in Ferrymead. The NZ Post has us listed as Ferrymead 8002. We are listed in Telecom's new directory as Ferrymead. We have been advised by the Registrar of Electors that we are classified as Ferrymead on the present Parliamentary Electoral Roll. Christchurch maps have Ferrymead stamped across our area.

Whilst we do appreciate that City Council in general acknowledges that we are in the 'suburb of Ferrymead', we would like any misunderstandings cleared up. May we have written confirmation of this fact to hold in our files for the future. A few personnel at Linwood Service Centre and some surrounding areas, still refer to Brookhaven as Woolston, and we trust that future correspondence, signage etc will show us as Brookhaven, Ferrymead. This is a very irritable issue with the majority of residents. Would you kindly advise Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board of the situation as well.

Thank you very much for your assistance and support."

The Community Advocate comments: The Ferrymead-Brookhaven Residents' Association comments have been noted and circulated to Linwood Service Centre staff.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received.

5.3 LINWOOD COMMUNITY HOUSE

The following letter of thanks has been received from Linwood Community House:

"I am writing on behalf of the Linwood Community House Incorporated to thank you for the Board's generous donation of \$500 to our organisation towards volunteers training and expenses. We appreciate the time you have taken to consider the request and the outcome. We are a voluntary group and are dependent on contributions from people like yourselves to continue to offer our services in the community.

Thank you again for your generosity. We will advise you of the outcome of the projects to which the funds will be applied in due course. If you or any of the Board members would like to see our operation in action, please feel free to call in during our operating hours. You would be more than welcome."

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received.

5.4 CHARLESTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The following letter of appreciation has been received from Mike Reimer of Barbour Street who writes:

"Recently I attended a meeting displaying the "Charleston Neighbourhood Plan". I was very impressed.

I am pleased that the proposed plan is to go ahead. It is especially pleasing to be told that all the services are to go underground before the curb and channelling work is done.

One addition I would propose is the installation of speed bumps on a much wider basis throughout the suburb. There are lots of little kids in this area and, unfortunately, our share of young idiots in loud cars that are not fitted with speedos.

I have lived in Barbour Street for ten years and this is the first time anything at all will be done to our roads!"

The chairman replied advising that the comments made were noted.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received.

5.5 LIFE STORIES

The following letter has been received from Nick Rosenberg, Director, Life Stories, who writes:

"While there's no doubt that installing new playgrounds and upgrading toilet blocks is a tangible way of investing in your community, its important to distinguish between traditional "bricks and mortar" investments and those which enhance the community's sense of itself.

We believe there has to be a balance.

During the past year Life Stories has produced two videos – one each for the Tamaki and Maungakiekie Community Boards.

These are neither boring histories filled with lists of dates and historical 'facts,' nor are they promotional videos designed to make your area look like a tourist paradise.

Instead, we have made videos based on careful consultation with each Community Board and have also involved local school students and older members of the community.

The dual aim has always been to enhance a sense of community and to stimulate curiosity.

We show how what we take for granted today, has not always been that way.

Life Stories would like the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board to consider investing in a video about your area.

It could be distributed throughout the schools and libraries of your area and be available for local residents to purchase.

We believe that the investment in recording the stories of our past will be returned through increased appreciation of our communities in the future. That is the investment to be balanced against upgrading the toilet blocks and improving the street furniture.

Life Stories would be happy to send one of our videos for your members to see and to discuss any issues you may wish to raise.”

Copies of testimonials from the Ward Manager and members of both community boards have been circulated separately.

Chairman’s

Recommendation: For discussion.

5.6 INNER CITY EAST NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP

Jude Pani, the Community Advocate received the following letter from Fiona Aston Consultancy Ltd.

“Re: Civic Trust and Te Whare Roimata References to Christchurch Proposed City Plan

As requested, following is an update on progress with working with Christchurch Civic Trust and Te Whare Roimata on their references to the Proposed City Plan. Both groups have major concerns regarding the Central City East Area (east of Latimer Square to Fitzgerald Avenue) relating principally to character and historic areas and buildings, urban design and diverse housing needs. Significant progress has been made over the last six months. The core group has comprised myself, two representatives from Te Whare Roimata (Belle Melzer and Jenny Smith) and one representative from the Civic Trust (Peter Dyhrberg) and Di Lucas and Jeremy Head (who have been advisors to the Trust on an occasional basis on matters relating to the Central City within the Four Avenues).

The core group have undertaken a ‘walkabout’ of the area and held five workshop sessions. I have prepared a draft variation to the Proposed City Plan which addresses the concerns of the Trust and Te Whare Roimata and is considered to be the most appropriate way of resolving the reference. It follows the Avon Loop ‘model’, proposing variable height, bulk, location and other performance standards, based on a detailed analysis of the character of the area. Urban design assessment criteria specific to the character of the area are also included. The draft variation recognises that the area offers a very diverse range of housing and lifestyle opportunities, including affordable housing types not available anywhere else in the City (boarding houses etc.). A form of financial contribution is proposed as a mechanism for ensuring provision of equivalent replacement affordable housing where lost due to redevelopment (equivalent in approach to the financial contribution required to the Council’s historic buildings fund when listed buildings are demolished). The principle of replacement affordable housing is widely accepted and applied in UK, Australia and USA. However, I am not aware of this type of approach being used before in New Zealand.

Whilst the draft variation addresses the same issues as raised in the original references, it is much clearer as to the relief sought and addresses matters on an integrated basis. The draft will be revised in light of comments from the group (at our last workshop session we discussed the first draft). The group will then be in a position to present the draft to Council officers for their consideration (I have kept them fully informed of progress to date).

The core group are now seeking funding from the MfE Community Law Fund for the next stage of work.

Thank you for the opportunity to assist Civic Trust and Te Whare Roimata with their references. I am sure you will agree that this has been a very worthwhile exercise and we are now well on the way to a positive outcome, hopefully for all parties. It is fair to say that the proposed variation covers significant matters and there may need to be wider community consultation.”

The Community Advocate comments: The Board allocated \$3,000 to engage a professional planner to assist Inner City residents in negotiations with the Council's Planners on City Plan issues which the group had notified to the Environment Court.

**Chairman's
Recommendation:** That the information be received.