

4. CORRESPONDENCE

4.1 Our Youth Our Community Charitable Trust

The following letter has been received from Jeff Macey, Community Worker at Our Youth Our Community Charitable Trust, who writes as follows:

“On behalf of the children, youth and their families from Our Youth, Our Community Charitable Trust, Joy and I sincerely thank the Board for the opportunity to meet and speak to the community board members. For us, it was refreshing to meet board members and to feel the genuine empathy that the Board has to help children and youth.

Some Board members asked questions that require some time to answer. Those questions relate directly at the issues for young people today, and no community is immune from these issues, and how difficult they appear to be. However, for the work that we do directly in Linwood and the accompanying areas, we feel that closer networking with the Board will help solve, and, at the end of the day empower young lives to be proud where they live and to stand up for their community.

We appreciate the support you make to the community groups in the Hagley/Ferrymead Community and at times decisions can be difficult due to allocated funds available at the time. However, we encourage each of the Board members to be reminded of the excellent work you each contribute to the Eastern sector of Christchurch.”

Chairman’s

Recommendation: That the correspondence be received.

4.2 Letter of Appreciation for Garden Pride Award

The following letter has been received from Lester and Val Sullivan who write as follows:

“We would like to thank the Community Board for awarding us a Garden Pride Certificate for 2002. It encourages us to put an extra effort into our garden to give pleasure to neighbours and passers-by.

Thank you also for inviting us to the very pleasant afternoon function recently. It was nice to meet those associated with awarding the certificate and also the other recipients.”

Chairman’s

Recommendation: That the correspondence be received.

4.3 Rezoning of the Malt Works Site

The following letter, addressed to the Chairman of the Consents and Regulatory Committee, has been received from Jack Travis, Secretary of the Heathcote Valley Community Association Inc:

“The Heathcote Valley Community were very concerned at the approach taken, firstly, by the City Plan team and then by your committee. The recommendation to not consider the matter until after the Proposed City Plan is operative, is not what we believe is the best for the village or in turn the City as a whole.

As far back as May 2001, the Heathcote Valley Community Association sought the feelings of the residents in the area, by a pamphlet drop of over 750. The results were astounding, over 25% of the houses in the Valley returned their forms, showing the huge interest in seeking a change from the Industrial zoning of the Maltworks site.

*The report submitted by the City Plan team from the Environmental Services Unit told of the residents approval of an earlier zoning change. Where, the industrial nature was reduced from a Business 5 to a Business 4 zoning. I think the word “**support**” misleads your committee. The residents, accepted it as pro quo, since the Maltworks were still operating, and they could not have expected any better. It is hardly representative of today’s situation.*

As a Council, you have sought to provide land areas for growth of the City. In doing so, you or should I say the Council, have allowed previous agricultural, horticultural and rural land to be rezoned. A prime example of this is evident in our own valley. The horticultural land on the hillside of Bridle Path Road has been rezoned deferred residential. Here subdivision will no doubt in time over-shadow our Valley village environment. I'm sure many would say to its detriment. Yet, here we have a spot industrial zone in the heart of a village with no other such zoning around, that has been unused for 2 years. It is an eyesore and could now pose a real threat to the village, if industrial use, such as is allowed for within a Business 4 zone, were to start up.

Surely, at the very least, your Committee should be requesting a deferred zoning be placed on the site to protect from such devastating future use. The recommendation from the City Plan team flies in the face of what the Resource Management Act is all about. Our environment is a precious resource, we do not want it polluted by such unsuitable industrial use. The recommendation, to leave addressing the problem until the City Plan is operative, is not acceptable solution. We have been informed that it may take another two years to reach this stage and then there would be no further changes for a further two years.

The Heathcote Valley Community urge you to review your decision made at the February meeting and take some positive action to help our community and the ratepayers of Christchurch.

Should you wish to clarify anything or require further information, please contact me."

The Community Advocate comments: The Regulatory and Consents Committee has not yet considered this letter.

Chairman's

Recommendation: For discussion.