

14. RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATION IN ARANUI

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The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Board on the possible disestablishment of the Wainoni/Aranui Residents' Association and Otakaro/Wainoni Residents' Group, and to seek the Board's support for the newly formed Aranui Community Trust to be recognised as the official residents' group.

BACKGROUND

The Aranui Renewal Project has been established in order to "enhance Aranui as a good place to live". The primary means through which this is to be achieved is through increasing the capacity of the community, enabling residents to drive projects that look to address the needs of the community. One of the mechanisms through which this is being promoted is with the formation of the Aranui Community Trust, which is regarded in the community as the active residents' group.

The Wainoni/Aranui Residents' Association has been inactive for a considerable length of time (unable to establish the date of the last meeting from the Secretary and is no longer in operation. The Wainoni/Aranui Family Centre Management Committee has continued to meet monthly, but the Committee recognises it has not been active as the Residents' Association. During the Committee's meeting on Monday 10 June 2002 the representatives present decided to formally relinquish their role of Residents' Association, and to hand over any relevant documentation in their possession to the Aranui Community Development Adviser.

The Bexley Residents' Association is very active in the adjacent area, but does not consider itself to be representative of the residents centred around the "hub" of the Hampshire Street, Wainoni/Aranui area.

The Otakaro/Wainoni Residents' Association located in the area has been in recession for approximately two years, with the contact person now the secretary of the Aranui Community Trust. Steps are currently being undertaken by the contact person to officially disestablish the Otakaro/Wainoni Residents' Association.

It is desirable that both the Wainoni/Aranui Residents' Association and Otakaro/Wainoni Residents' Group convene publicly notified meetings to formalise their disestablishment. It is understood that the Wainoni/Aranui Residents' Association may convene a meeting for this purpose, in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting of the Wainoni/Aranui Family Centre Management Committee at 6.00 pm on Monday 14 October 2002.

RELEVANT CURRENT POLICY

The current Council guidelines and policy for the formation and recognition of residents' associations were adopted by the Council on 23 August 2001.

Relevant guidelines are:

- (a) That Community Boards decide boundaries for Residents' Associations taking their views into account in doing so.
- (d) That Residents' Groups recognised by the Council must be able to demonstrate that they have good communication processes in place with their members and the community. This may be as simple as a regular newsletter containing relevant information (eg disseminating information, encouraging or inviting community input). Such groups are not elected representatives of their neighbourhood but are a valuable source of input into the Council decision-making processes.

Relevant policy clauses are:

- (a) That the Christchurch City Council supports the formation of local Residents' Groups.
- (b) That local Residents' Groups be able to apply to their Community Board for recognition as an official Residents' Group.
- (c) That Community Boards decide boundaries for Residents' Associations taking their views into account when doing so.

ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Residual Funds

The information given to the Aranui Community Development Adviser from the Wainoni/Aranui Residents' Association Secretary shows the group having in excess of \$1,000 in its bank account. This matter would need to be resolved before the Residents' Association could be officially dissolved. It may be appropriate for this funding to be transferred to the Aranui Community Trust for the purposes of its residents' association role.

Recognition of Aranui Community Trust

As the Aranui Community Trust has only recently been formed, a recruitment drive is still underway to attract new members. Being an integral partner to the Aranui Renewal Project, it is important that special effort be given to including representation from groups within Aranui that traditionally are not involved in committees and Residents' Associations, such as youth, Maori, and Pacific Peoples. People with literacy issues and those with a disability are also often not well represented, and the Aranui Community Trust may need assistance in targeted recruitment of members.

The Aranui Community Meetings (facilitated by the Aranui Community Trust) communicate with the community through local newspapers, flyers and posters, newsletter, and informal networks. The Aranui Community Coordinator and Aranui Community Development Adviser are also actively involved in promoting the meetings, as are the other project staff members. The Board needs to consider whether these communication processes meet guideline (d) above.

Boundaries of Residents' Associations

The issue of appropriate boundaries will need to be addressed. With the continuation of the Expressway through the area of Aranui/Bexley, consideration may need to be given in the future to a reallocation of boundaries between the Residents' Associations in the area, to account for natural boundaries that may develop. Currently the official boundaries of the Aranui Renewal Project cover the area Pages Road, Breezes Road, Wainoni Road and the Avon River, although in reality the project team cover the general locality of Aranui and are not confined to the specific limitations of the boundaries previously defined. Discussions have taken place regarding the inclusion of Shortland Street and surrounding locality, but nothing specific has been decided.

It is suggested that the issues of boundaries be discussed at the next community meeting, scheduled for Tuesday 7 November, 6.00 pm, at the Wainoni/Aranui Family Centre. This has been agreed to by the Trust Chairperson. To circumvent the process of repeated meetings and reports, it is further suggested that representatives from the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board are in attendance, to assist with any questions that may arise.

Training Needs

In order to aid positive community development and sustainability, it would be beneficial for the members of the Aranui Community Trust to take part in a training workshop(s) on issues including meeting facilitation, note taking, setting objectives, roles and responsibilities of Incorporated Societies, funding and sponsorship.

Staff

- Recommendations:**
1. That staff continue to assist the Wainoni/Aranui Residents' Association and the Otakaro/Wainoni Residents' Group to complete their formal disestablishment.
 2. That the Board support recognition of the Aranui Community Trust as the official Residents' Association for the area of the Aranui Renewal Project, subject to the disestablishment of the existing residents' associations and the outcome of discussions on the boundaries of the Trust's area.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: That the abovementioned recommendations be adopted.