

5. CORRESPONDENCE

PROPOSED NEW COMMUNITY RADIO STATION

The following letter was received from Russ Isherwood on behalf of Pier FM Community Radio regarding a community radio station in the eastern suburbs of Christchurch:

"A group of community representatives from the New Brighton Project, the New Brighton Commercial Ratepayers and Retailers Association, the New Brighton Residents' Association, the New Brighton Pier and Foreshore Promotion Society and several experienced, professional radio advisers and consultants, have joined together; to form a steering committee for the establishment of a new community radio, for the eastern/coastal suburbs of Christchurch.

It is envisaged the radio station will be named "PIER FM" and will broadcast on FM to approx 35,000 people in our area, 24 hours per day, seven days a week.

The aims and objectives of the new organisation are:

- (a) To provide a community radio station to serve the eastern suburbs of Christchurch.*
- (b) To involve all community groups in the coverage area.*
- (c) To provide a professional and efficient service.*
- (d) To raise awareness of our community and provide a vehicle of communication.*
- (e) To achieve and maintain self-sufficiency.*

If you and/or your group would be willing to support this venture, the steering committee would appreciate a letter indicating this, in order to show, we have the community backing needed for this venture in our quest for funding.

It is envisaged, that once support has been given, an invitation will be extended to all support groups to attend a meeting of the steering committee, where we would welcome any thoughts and ideas that might help the station to fulfil its aims and objectives."

Additional background material has been circulated separately to Board members. Russ Isherwood will be in attendance to comment on the proposal.

Chairperson's

- Recommendations:**
1. That the Board support the community radio station as a venue that will assist in community development and the communication of the Council's work in the east of Christchurch.
 2. That the Steering Committee be asked to consider inviting a representative from other community newspapers in the area.