

14. APPLICATION TO SPREYDON/HEATHCOTE 2010/11 DISCRETIONARY RESPONSE FUND – SUMMIT ROAD SOCIETY INC TO ASSIST WITH RESTORATION WORK ON THE GRAVE OF HENRY GEORGE (HARRY) ELL

<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager, Regulation and Democracy Group DDI 941 8462
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	Unit Manager, Democracy Services
<b>Author:</b>	Jenny Hughey, Community Board Adviser, DI 941 5108

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. The purpose of this report is to request funds to assist with the work to correct the date of death and some restoration work on the grave of Harry (Henry George) Ell which is located in the private cemetery behind St Mary's Church in Halswell. The Summit Road Society Inc has requested the funds to pay for the work and assistance with undertaking the restoration work.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

2. The Summit Road Society Inc wishes to have work undertaken on the restoration of the grave of Harry Ell. Harry Ell, whose drive and vision is largely responsible for the Summit Road and the network of bush reserves and walking tracks on the Port Hills died on 25 June 1934. This work involves correcting the date of his death which is incorrect. This would be corrected with the addition of a new plaque to the existing grave placed outside but adjacent to the grave under following heritage advice. The original stone cannot be altered on the expert advice of the stone mason. The cost of supplying the bronze and setting in the concrete and plaster desk, then on to a concrete plaster foundation at the foot of the grave is \$795 plus GST (\$908.57). A photo of the grave and the position of the plaque is shown on **Attachment 1**.
3. It is interesting to note that the funeral service was held at the home of his parents followed by a funeral cortege which was one of the longest ever seen in Christchurch according to his grandson John Jameson. A burial service was held at the cemetery and he was buried in the same grave as his father George Waldock Ell.
4. The monumental masonry work on the grave of Harry Ell and his parents reflects the natural geology of the Port Hills area constructed from Halswell quarry stone. Heritage advice is that the work on the restoration of the grave will need to be undertaken in a highly sensitive manner. Plant, labour and materials will cost \$430.74 plus GST (\$492.27). Details of work on the grave include the following:
  - Carefully hand weed the weeds. Remove leaf and debris.
  - Spray headstone (and surround) with Quad Kleen and then follow up with Stay Kleen. What this does is kill the lichens and moss (they will change colour which means that the headstone will probably look worse before it looks better). These will be left to naturally fall away or they could be mechanically removed after they are dead using wooden sticks (iceblock stick - this does not damage the stone if done carefully).
  - Once existing growths are dead and fallen away there will be a follow up with another Quad Kleen to kill any remaining problems and Stay Kleen to stop spores re establishing. This is a long process but it is one that the Council has undertaken on the Waltham War Memorial gates which is the same stone with the same crumbling occurring. The marble and lead elements need to be protected so no chemical will go onto them.
  - Marble elements will be washed with Triton 100 with a microfibre cloth, no brushes will be used on or near the letters.
5. While the grave is located in the Riccarton/Wigram Ward it is considered appropriate that the application be made to the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board given that the Summit Road was opened within the area covered by the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board and because of the continuing close connections with the administration groups which cover the Summit Road.

6. A letter of support for this application from the Summit Road Society Inc is attached as **Attachment 2**. John Jameson has indicated Harry Ell's family are in full support of this work.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

7. There is currently \$41,697 funds in the Boards Discretionary Response Fund.

**Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2009-19 LTCCP budgets?**

8. Yes.

**LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**Have you considered the legal implications of the issue under consideration?**

9. There are no legal implications.

**ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS**

10. Aligns with LTCCP and Activity Management Plans.

**Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2006-16 LTCCP?**

11. As above.

**ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES**

12. This application aligns with the Strengthening Communities Strategy.

**CONSULTATION FULFILMENT**

13. Not applicable.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board allocate \$1,400.85 from its 2010/11 Discretionary Response Fund for the renovation of the grave of Harry Ell located within the grave of his father George Waldock Ell.

**CHAIRPERSONS RECOMMENDATION**

For discussion.