CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

NOTES OF A SEMINAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices on Friday 18 August 2006 at 1.30pm

PRESENT:	Mayor Garry Moore (Chair), Councillors Helen Broughton, Sally Buck, Graham Condon, Barry Corbett, David Cox, Pat Harrow, Gail Sheriff, Sue Wells and Norm Withers.
IN ATTENDANCE:	Glenda Burt (Chair, Burwood/Pegasus Community Board) and Tony Sutcliffe (member of the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board).
APOLOGIES:	Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor Carole Evans and Community Board member Yani Johanson.

		ACTION
1.	DELEGATIONS	
	The Council's solicitors, Judith Cheyne and David Rolls, spoke to a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file).	
	The following comments and points were noted during the presentation:	
	• "Non-notified", "limited notified" and "public" notification issues were discussed at length and the current process explained in some detail.	
	• The view was expressed that the Council's common practice of appointing only one Commissioner to hear an application brought to question the democratic process. There was an awareness of the cost factor to the applicant should more than one Commissioner be appointed, and the difference between the cost of a Commissioner and a Hearings Panel of three elected members. It was noted the Christchurch City Council aims to be 'business friendly' and that the Council hearings process is not a political process, but 'quasijudicial' in a legal sense. However, there was a view that the possible perception of a lack of public/private good with one person acting as an adjudicator. It was noted that applicants can request more than one Commissioner to hear their application.	

• Seminar: November 2006	ACTION
Topics to include:	
Policy on elected member appointment to panelsBriefing on the North Shore judgement.	Peter Mitchell/ Max Robertson
• Information to Councillors on hearing statistics was requested	
• The need for clear wording to promote public understanding of hearing process was raised. Elected members were directed to Christchurch City Council website, under 'pamphlets', where considerable helpful information available for the public.	o the
• A report to extend the delegations of the City Plan References Subcommittee to include provision for the Banks Peninsula D Plan, will be brought to the Council.	
• "Significant" proposed subdivisions should be brought to the attention of the UDS, developers and adjacent territorial local authorities, to enable them to work together in an effective matter of the statement of the statemen	
• Reference was made to the Council's cycleways strategy from It was explained this is now Council policy and a process issu Council Seminar: Tuesday 29 August 2006 at 1.30pm on Riccarton Road/Cycling Strategy.	
• Outcome from today's seminar: Delegations Register to be presented to the Council for "sign off" in approximately four	weeks.
• Community Board delegations a matter for future consideration Councillors.	Dn: Peter Mitchell

The meeting concluded at 3pm.