

CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

NOTES OF A SEMINAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

**Held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices
on Tuesday 28 November 2006 at 9.30am**

- PRESENT:** The Mayor, Garry Moore (Chairperson),
Councillors Helen Broughton, Sally Buck, Graham Condon
(from 10.20am), Barry Corbett (until 9.50am), Carole Evans,
Pat Harrow, Bob Parker, Bob Shearing, Sue Wells and
Norm Withers.
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Richard Stokes, Alan Bywater, David Dally and
Mike Theelen.

1. EVENTS STRATEGY

Alan Bywater delivered a PowerPoint presentation on the following points:

- Consultation Results
- Suggested Changes to the Strategy
- Major concerts funding
- Delegations
- Funding

Forty-nine submissions were received to the Events Strategy.

The following issues were discussed:

- Comment on Icon Events
- Iconic Event Feedback
- Visitor and Community Event Themes
- Small Community Event Themes
- Proposed Changes
- Domestic Visitor Marketing
- Proposed Changes – Funding Framework
- Proposed Funding Schemes
- Community Group Grants Review – Small Grants Scheme
- Proposed Changes – Events Framework
- Major Commercial Concerts/Events
- Decision Making Forums
- Events Funding – less than \$20,000
- Events Funding \$20,000 to \$100,000
- Events Funding - \$100,000+
- Implementation Plan – Key Priorities

COMMENT ON ICON EVENTS

The need for iconic events and whether “Iconic” should be replaced with “Premier” was raised in submissions. Councillors, however, supported the status quo.

ICONIC EVENT FEEDBACK

The “harvest festival” feedback was mixed, with the label not favoured and little feedback was received to “NZ Cup and Show Week”. The presenter suggested retaining these events for evaluation with others that were promoted and work with the business industry, as they need to be part of the process.

The Mayor commented that he had received significant feedback in support of the “harvest festival” concept, including favourable comments from Lincoln University, and Canterbury University indicating they would provide input to a harvest festival promotion.

It was suggested that the label “harvest” lacks impact and concern was expressed that “iconic” and “major” events should be separate and if sufficient funding is not provided iconic events will be lost to Christchurch. Council officers advised that if moving a major event into iconic status is considered appropriate, funding will be provided – the strategy does allow for that kind of development to occur.

The Christchurch World Buskers Festival was strongly supported by the seminar participants, and the NZ Cup and Show Week, with the inclusion of a “fashion” focus was also supported. Councillors were advised that these events will need to be part of an evaluation process.

PROPOSED FUNDING SCHEMES

In response to a concern expressed with Community Board discretionary funding in regard to the proposed funding schemes, the Mayor commented that Community Boards should be encouraged to be part of the events strategy, which, he pointed out, is not a legal document, and that the framework presented provides the opportunity to do that.

COMMUNITY GROUP GRANTS REVIEW – SMALL GRANTS SCHEME

The Mayor advised that the Council’s role is to ensure that small events are funded either by the Council, or, for example the Community Trust, and it is the Council’s decision on whether to fund them or not.

PROPOSED CHANGES – EVENTS FRAMEWORK

The Mayor advised that the Council would like to see stronger links between the policy analysts and the events promoters. Staff were asked if the framework is open enough, or too restrictive .

Councillors requested that iconic events with a three year funding package be looked at, with a two year notice of any withdrawal of funding.

EVENTS FUNDING – LESS THAN \$20,000

Council officers were requested to report informally to Council, every three months, on decisions made.

It was suggested that recommendations be presented to the Portfolio Group who can alert staff to any issues where there is likely to be political sensitivity.

EVENTS FUNDING - \$20,000 TO \$100,000 / EVENTS FUNDING - \$100,000+

Council officers were requested to present regular formal reports to Council on decisions made.

The seminar concluded at 11.10am