

# CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

## NOTES OF SEMINAR OF THE COUNCIL

**Held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices  
on Tuesday 10 October 2006 at 9.30am**

- PRESENT:** Councillor Graham Condon (Chairperson),  
Councillors Sally Buck, Barry Corbett,  
David Cox (to 9.50am), Anna Crighton, Carole Evans,  
Pat Harrow, Bob Parker, Gail Sheriff, Bob Shearing,  
Sue Wells, Norm Withers.
- APOLOGIES:** Apologies for absence were received and accepted from  
Mayor Garry Moore and Councillor Helen Broughton.
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Steve Lowndes, Glenda Burt and Tony Sutcliffe (Community  
Board) and members of the Executive Reference Group.

### 1. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The session was introduced by Catherine McDonald following which James Ryan provided a power-point presentation covering:

- Aim of seminar.
- Timeline to complete this work.
- What is a strong community?
- Community development currently supported by.
- Council in a unique position.
- Key strategic challenge.
- Vision for the Council's role in community development.
- Principles.
- Two types of goals.
- Criteria to select issues.
- What will remain the same?
- What will change?

Questions and comments were made in respect of the following:

- Whether "greenspace" should be included as another element.
- The need to revisit and research the subject matter once again was questioned.
- Was there any timeframe for carrying out the recommendations.
- There was need to work smarter and line up the programme with the budget, or was it more about the Council getting out of people's way and letting them get on with it.
- There was nothing in the strategy about fun.
- Strategy implies that the Council has to do something before programme will function.

- There was need to value the work being performed by volunteers, but there was also the opportunity to work with our service groups on the strategy's implementation.
- If the Council is to get involved then it needs to be on a sustainable basis.
- The Council needed to be open to helping the community.
- Service providers should amalgamate to be more efficient.
- A balance needed to be found between the provision of community services across the city as opposed to those of a local nature.
- It should not be just about providing grant money but also the support the Council could provide.

## 2. **COMMUNITY GROUP GRANTS REVIEW 2006**

The session was introduced by Lincoln Papali'i and James Ryan covering:

- Recommended schemes.
- Strengthening communities fund.
- Small projects fund.
- Discretionary response fund.
- Principal organisations fund.
- Community loans scheme.
- Allocation of grants budgets.

In the discussion that followed questions and comments were made in respect of the following:

- Clarification of funding for Community Boards needs to be discussed.
- How is the differentiation made between the different Community Boards?
- Could the Council provide an accountant for small groups as a Community Auditor?
- Flexibility needed to be retained in the grants system.
- Changes within the grant allocation method needed to be highlighted.
- With the ability of organisations to obtain funding from several sources, failure could result if not all funding received, leading to outcomes not being achieved.
- Should some groups that have been applying for some 17 plus years now be a line item in the Council's budget?
- The size of the funding available between individual grants schemes appeared to be out of balance.

## 3. **COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLAN**

James Ryan provided a power-point presentation covering:

- LTCCP proposed savings.
- Why is the Council in the business of providing community facilities?
- What is the Council's current involvement?
- How should the Council continue to be involved?
- Regional network.
- Council's proposed role.
- Where to from here?

Questions and comments followed covering:

- Differential in rentals was an issue that needed to be reviewed.
- The ownership of community cottages policy should not be altered.
- The Council needed to look at why certain facilities were not being used.
- The public right of access to school halls needed to be followed up on as some had received Council funding.
- Expanded map including Banks Peninsula facilities was sought.
- Should community cottages be separated out?
- Maintenance was an issue that needed to be addressed as well as use.
- To identify the problem the community should be engaged with and a mechanism appropriate found.
- Were there other ownership models that could be followed?
- There was need to ensure that various community groups could in fact cope ie OSH regulations.

### **Outcomes**

It was left to staff to incorporate the various comments and suggestions made into the strategy document for presentation to the Council on 2 November 2006.

The seminar concluded at 11.52am