

CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

NOTES OF A SEMINAR OF THE COUNCIL

**Held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices
on Wednesday 14 August 2007 at 9.30 am**

PRESENT: Mayor Garry Moore, (Chair),
Councillors Sally Buck, Barry Corbett, David Cox,
Anna Crighton, Carole Evans, Pat Harrow, Bob Parker,
Bob Shearing and Norm Withers.

IN ATTENDANCE: **Community Board members:**
Glenda Burt, Steve Lowndes, and Yani Johanson.

Council Officers:
Tony Marryatt, Jane Parfitt, Michael Aitken, Miranda Charles,
Ainsley Chapman, Michael Fisher, Ross Herrett, Dave
Hinman, Terry Howes, Caroline Ingles, Kevin Mara, Hugh
Nicholson, Maurice Roers, and Michael Theelen.

Boffa Miskell: Sarah Hamilton

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received and accepted from
Councillors Helen Broughton, Graham Condon, Gail Sheriff,
Sue Wells and Community board member Bob Todd.

1. CENTRAL CITY REVITALISATION UPDATE

Maurice Roers in conjunction with Hugh Nicholson, spoke to a power point presentation which provided an update on progress made in the implementation of the Central City Revitalisation Strategy.

Hard copies of this presentation were tabled, along with copies of the “Central City Action Tracker” and the “Project central city – a world-class city with heart....” booklet. (Copies on file).

Questions and comments raised following the presentation included:

- Any progress on provision in Madras Street for safe pedestrian road crossing near the CPIT?
- Seven (eight including Nancys) new hotels/visitor accommodation sites identified. Provide accurate figures of projected room numbers for elected members.
- The ongoing work with Ted Pryor and Chris Kissling was acknowledged.

ACTION

ACTION

- UDS - are mechanisms in place to identify sites and properties with potential for acquisition?
- Youth in central city as part of central city revitalisation –incorporate an action point to work with young people?
- Why has the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board had no information on certain proposals e.g. CPIT pedestrian crossing, Jade Walkway?
- New artworks – should be aiming for one each year – nothing projected on Tracker at present.
- Latimer Square – need to action “enhancement” aspect (design work done). Include provision in 2008/09 for public artwork for Latimer Square. The restoration of the lantern standards and a piece of contemporary art would create a nice balance.
- Action Tracker – “Reduce noise problems” - what does this mean? Need to consider concerns of hotel owners, noting retrofitting can assist.
- Police kiosk redevelopment – what is happening there?
- Increase and publicise the cycle lane network - need more linkages across the city, with effective signage and navigational aids for cyclists.
- Urban design: the history and layout of Christchurch proves the need for this. Need to reinforce heritage.
- The seminar expressed the Council’s recognition and appreciation of the years of work contributed by the members of the Central City Mayoral Forum.

OUTCOME:

The information was received. Council officers were asked to take into account the matters raised during the seminar and provide any additional information as sought by elected members.

The seminar concluded at 10.35 am.

Maurice/Hugh

CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

NOTES OF A SEMINAR OF THE COUNCIL

**Held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices
on Tuesday 14 August at 1.30pm**

PRESENT: Councillor David Cox (Chair),
Councillors Helen Broughton, Graham Condon,
Sally Buck, Barry Corbett, Carole Evans, Bob Parker
and Norm Withers (until 2pm).

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received and accepted from
Mayor Garry Moore and Councillors Anna Crighton,
Gail Sherriff and Sue Wells.

1. TREE PLANTING – THE WAY FORWARD

Shane Moohan presented a PowerPoint presentation covering:

1. Introductions
2. Purpose and outcomes
3. Scene setting
4. New trees
5. Replacement trees

Various photographs were used to illustrate the particular topic.

In the discussions that followed, questions and comments were made in respect of:

- Cost of consultation, contained within the figures supplied.
- Did the tree planting account receive credits for any sale of trees for timber?
- Progress sought on changes to the City Plan in respect to trees provided by subdividers in terms of quality requirement.
- The policy in regard to the placement of trees which could affect road safety.
- Rather than the utility line companies requiring the Council to prune street trees at its cost, should it not be the lines company that should pay or underground its lines?
- There were difficulties in planting trees where the road width is required for bus lanes.
- Could some trees in the central city be sponsored which would assist the tree planting budget?
- There was need for some innovation to be applied in respect of such matters as use of contractors in planting trees, the delivery and maintenance of trees etc.
- It would be appropriate to provide an overview of the whole tree strategy.
- Transit New Zealand needed to be consulted in terms of trees being planted at the city gateways. The General Manager City Environment is to have discussions with Transit about this.

- Where the street design was changed to incorporate safety measures, was special provision made for trees to be planted?
- Could not, as is the case in some overseas cities, trees be planted in small spaces, not necessarily just a grass berms?
- Trees were of considerable environmental benefit to a city.
- Trees represented a significant value on the asset register and their removal needed to be evaluated carefully.

The Chair concluded with questions being asked in respect of:

1. Do we want to increase the number of street trees in Christchurch?

Direction given was to increase the number of street trees in Christchurch.

2. What are our priorities for new street tree planting?

It was seen that the order of priorities should be:

- (i) CBD (four avenues)
- (ii) Kerb and channel upgrades
- (iii) Arterial, including gateways to Christchurch
- (iv) Collector before road landscape upgrading
- (v) Local roads by residents requests

Where appropriate within the CBD build outs or islands are to be constructed to ensure trees are incorporated into the overall design

3. What are our priorities for replacement tree planting?

It was seen that the order of priorities should be:

- (i) Trees severely disfigured through power line clearing.

However, some flexibility is needed depending on circumstances at the time. Other matters to be considered under this issue are that of:

- examining alternative arrangements to pruning/removing trees with utility lines companies.
- analysing costs of alternative arrangements in terms of their impact on the balance sheet and the value of the trees concerned.

- (ii) Condition/age of the tree.

- (iii) Profile of tree eg the likes of Bealey Avenue, Fitzgerald Avenue and character streets.

4. Are we going to replace trees based on species, eg Silver Birch and Liquidambar? There is to be no city-wide removal and replacement of silver birches for supposed health associations. The removal of Silver Birches or similar, are to be evaluated on a case by case basis and only to be removed for tree health and safety reasons, with them being replaced by another tree species.

5. Should residents be able to say no to a tree being replaced outside their house?

It seems that the answer to this is no, but discussion in the matter is needed, such as getting an opinion from the whole street.

It was noted that the tree policy is to come before the Council in due course, which will require some definitive answers.

2. PRESENTATION ON STUDENT EXCHANGE KURASHIKI

Julie Battersby provided a history and details of the Student Exchange programme relating to:

- the economic benefit to Christchurch, with the level of good support received for the exchanges.

This was followed by a DVD showing the 2006 exchange visit to Kurashiki.

The meeting concluded at 3.15pm.