

Bryan and Rosie Fowler
404 Marine Drive
Charteris Bay
RD1 Lyttleton 8971
7th April 2009-04-07

The Christchurch City Council
P.O. Box 237
Christchurch.

Dear Sir/ Madam

Personal Submission By Bryan and Rosie Fowler at the above address on the CCC Long Term Community Plan for 2009-2019.

We are deeply concerned that the Charteris Bay Water and Sewrage scheme which was timetabled to be completed in 2010 has now been abandoned, and does not even appear on the long term community plan for 2009 – 2019.

Both the Banks Peninsula Council and the Christchurch City Council and their officers have acknowledged both verbally and in writing that the combined scheme is needed. Charteris bay is a coastal strip development of about 160 houses with about 40 % of these being holiday homes. Current trends are that many of what were once holiday homes are now being either let to permanent residents, or are being used as full time homes by the owners. Some of the newer homes have modern Oasis type systems, but most of the older homes have septic tanks (Some still use long drops or “ bury the Bucket “) That run in tile drains in mostly heavy clay. Many of these tanks are very old , and while perhaps they may be able to cope with use over a short period of time they cannot cope with the increased use that many are now experiencing. The smell of raw sewerage is now present for much of the year . We believe that the effluent from these overtaxed systems constitute a real health hazard.

Charteris bay is in the rainshadow of Mount Herbert and we can expect about 20% less rainfall than Lyttleton. Our 25000 litre tanks have only been full twice in

the five years that we have been permanent residents in the bay. Most of our water is used for household purposes, there is very little left over for the garden. On a number of occasions we have had to purchase water at currently \$135 for 5 to 6000 litres (although how long this service will be available for is open to conjecture as Governors Bay transport has been declared bankrupt) How anyone with a young family manages I have no idea.

We were assured at a meeting of the Residents Association that the scheme was fully funded and was due for completion in 2010. We saw the survey being completed and were delighted to see the map of the scheme posted on the CCC's noticeboard on the boat ramp in Charteris Bay.

For our part we came to live in Charteris Bay in 2003 living in a holiday home that was constructed by Rosies' father in 1946. We decided in 2005 to largely demolish the old house and rebuild on the site. A large part of our decision to rebuild was based on the understanding that we had (reinforced by discussions with councillors and council staff) that in particular the water reticulation scheme was " just around the corner". We certainly would not have include a high pressure water system in our house had we been in any doubt about the imminent introduction of the water reticulation scheme.

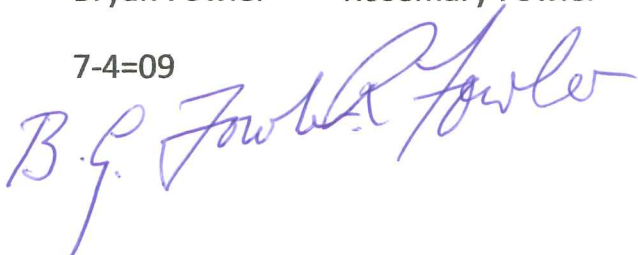
We were devastated when we learned that the scheme was not only not funded for, but was not even included in the long term plan. We still find it hard to believe that the Council should so betray the trust that we had in them, and in the consultative process that we in Charteris Bay had engaged in with them.

We therefore implore the council to reconsider their decision, and reinstate the water and sewerage in your scheme and honour your promise to complete it in 2010.

Yours Faithfully

Bryan Fowler Rosemary Fowler

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'B. G. Fowler', is written over the typed name 'Bryan Fowler'.