

**CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE**  
**HALSWELL QUARRY PARK SPECIAL COMMITTEE**

**Held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices**  
**on Monday 25 May 2009 at 1pm**

- PRESENT:** Mayor Bob Parker,  
Councillors Ngaire Button, Claudia Reid, Gail Sheriff,  
Sue Wells and Chrissie Williams.
- IN ATTENDANCE:** **Christchurch City Council**  
Kay Holder, Susan Lilley, David Sissons and Kate Seabourn
- APOLOGY:** An apology for absence was received from Deputy Mayor  
Norm Withers.

**LEGAL BACKGROUND**

On 26 March 2009 it was resolved that the Council:

- “(d) Appoint a Halswell Quarry Park Special Committee from Council members who are not members of a Sister City Committee nor members of the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board, namely the Mayor, Councillors Button, Reid, Sheriff, Wells, Williams and Withers to:*
- (i) Hear any submissions on the revised Management Plan in May 2009.*
  - (ii) Make a decision on the submissions and approve a new Management Plan.”*

**1. HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS**

Twelve submissions were heard by the Special Committee and were as follows, with main points listed:

1. **Name:** Peter Laloli and Mike Mora  
**Association:** Riccarton/Wigram Community Board  
**Time:** 1pm–1.14pm  
**Submission No:** HQ161
  - Acknowledges that Halswell Quarry, although a metropolitan park, has local flavour.
  - Suggests that a trust or committee be established to manage the Park and believes that any management plan should allow for local representation.
  - In response to a question from the Special Committee, Mr Laloli acknowledged the controversial nature of the structures in the Sister City botanical collections. The Community Board has not agreed a limit to the number of structures but believes any decision regarding numbers should be the result of a discussion with most affected parties.

- Noted the concerns of the community with respect to access to Halswell Quarry Park
- In response to a question from the Special Committee, Mr Laloli recognised current issues regarding parking and traffic management.
- The use of the former Manager's House as a café was considered a good idea as seen in the Botanical Gardens and Mona Vale. Mr Mora said the sole use of the Manager's House as a café had not been considered and that it could also be used as a museum or information centre.
- The Community Board would have no problem with Sister City Committee representation on a park management committee.

2. **Name:** Dave Elder

**Association:** Kennedys Bush Road Neighbourhood Association

**Time:** 1.15pm–1.24pm

**Submission No:** HQ035

- Noted importance of Halswell Quarry Park for local residents.
- Commends the draft Management Plan, but suggests that it may need to be stronger to ensure the Park's values are protected.
- Suggests restricting the areas available to dog owners to ensure that people picnicking and families with children are also catered for.
- Believes some vehicle access to the Park is necessary, in conjunction with a revision of car-parking facilities.
- Suggests that the structures that form part of the Sister City botanical collections should be minimised and that any structures should be of a subtle nature.
- Considered the possibility of the Council purchasing land adjoining Halswell Quarry Park to provide a linkage to the Summit Road.
- Believes the structures currently in the Park are sufficient but recognises that additional structures are likely. Any additional structures should be restricted in size and scope. The number of structures permitted should be unobtrusive and based upon the existing number of structures in the gardens. To avoid an unlimited number of structures, the Association believes affected parties should sit down in order to come to a reasonable compromise. Mr Elder suggested that the distance between structures should be sufficient to avoid the appearance of one large structure.

3. **Name:** Paul MacDonald

**Association:** Christchurch-Songpa Gu Sister-City Committee

**Time:** 1.25pm–1.44pm

**Submission No:** HQ156

- Congratulates the Council on the draft Management Plan.
- Believes that structure guidelines set out in Objective 3 of the Plan should allow structures to be authentic in size and dimension and in keeping with Korean culture.
- The current design plan envisages seven structures in total.
- Mr MacDonald provided demographic information with respect to the Asian population living in the Christchurch area. Currently, 6000 - 8000 Asian people live in Christchurch. It is envisaged that by 2026 that 22 per cent of the population of Christchurch will be of Asian descent.

4. **Name:** Gary Blair  
**Association:** Christchurch West Rotary Club  
**Time:** 1.45pm–1.54pm  
**Submission No:** HQ162
  - Detailed the application of the Christchurch West Rotary Club to run a Mountain Biking event at Halswell Quarry Park in May 2009.
  - Believes the Park should be a place of music and entertainment, as well as a memorial and place of historic interest.
  
5. **Name:** Paul O'Connor  
**Association:** Halswell and District Lions Club  
**Time:** 1.55pm–2.09pm  
**Submission No:** HQ178
  - Suggests that the purpose of the Park is accentuated and that structures be interesting and interactive to encourage tourists and locals to visit the Park.
  - Believes the Park's landscaping should be more inviting, rather than lakes with cabbage trees and flax.
  - Suggests the former Manager's House could be used to provide refreshments.
  - Believes the restrictions set out in Objective 3 are constraining and culturally impossible.
  - Suggests vehicular access should be allowed in Halswell Quarry Park following the examples set out in other regional parks.
  
6. **Name:** Thomas Murray Forbes Taylor  
**Association:** Canterbury Korea Veterans Association  
**Time:** 2.10pm–2.34pm  
**Submission No:** HQ018, HQ019
  - Disagrees with the restrictions imposed in Objective 3.7.3 of the draft Management Plan and suggests any height restrictions are in line with the current C2 zone requirements set out in the City Plan.
  - Believes any rules adopted with respect to the Sister City structures should allow for authentic structures to be built.
  - Questions the necessity of Objective 3.7.5.
  - Suggests the amendment of Objective 4.4 to allow for one sign to be erected per garden which is a replica of a traditional sign of the country represented.
  - In response to a question of process from the Special Committee, Mr Taylor would support the establishment of a formal procedure to obtain permission for Sister-City garden structures. This process may include initial talks with the Council regarding suitability. If the plans were agreeable the structure would be designed by a Korean architect in keeping with the C2 zone requirements. Building permission would be obtained from the Council.
  
7. **Name:** Bridget Mosley  
**Association:** New Zealand Historic Places Trust  
**Time:** 2.35pm–2.50pm  
**Submission No:** HQ167
  - Suggests the wording of the draft Management Plan be refined to increase the accuracy requirement for consultation with the NZ Historic Places Trust if a

resource consent is sought. It was suggested that assessment be sought for works currently going forward and also for any works commissioned at a later stage. This would ensure that any earthworks that took place at the Park did not disturb archaeological sites.

- Ms Mosley offered to provide wording suggestions for Objective 2, if the Special Committee thought this would prove helpful.

8. **Name:** Ronald Fensom QSM

**Association:** Halswell Residents' Association Inc

**Time:** 3.20pm–3.39pm

**Submission No:** HQ179

- Noted the submission of the Halswell Residents' Association was a reflection of the views of the community.
- Would support the restoration of the Manager's House. Does not believe the Manager's House should be utilised for meetings or used by park rangers. Suggests the house could be used for exhibitions.
- Suggests that the need of both pedestrian and vehicular traffic be accommodated in the Park, this could be achieved by changing the roading configurations such as seen at the Groynes.
- Acknowledges that the Asian exhibits provide an incentive for people to visit the Park but suggests that expenditure on the park would be directed towards supporting the Park's geographical, geological and historical features.
- Believes the Park could benefit from small administrative improvements to ensure it runs smoothly. The current brochure could be updated to provide more comprehensive information.

9. **Name:** Bob Webster

**Time:** 3.40pm–3.44pm

**Submission No:** HQ171

- Does not support the construction of additional structures at the Park. Supports informal botanical collections that reflect the natural ecosystem. If structures are added, Mr Webster believes these should be small.
- Opposed to Sister City Committee involvement in Park management.
- Supports the restoration of native habitat, instead of farmland. Believes native planting should be promoted at the expense of open pastures and the retention of rural landscapes.
- Supports the creation of recreational connections (walking and cycling) between the Park and other areas in the Halswell district.
- Mr Webster showed the Special Committee a map of the Park marked with red and green dots (opposition and support) to illustrate the views of the community.

10. **Name:** Alice Webster

**Time:** 3.45pm–3.51pm

**Submission No:** HQ034

- Believes it is important to listen to the views of regular visitors/users of Halswell Quarry Park.
- Opposes the emphasis on Sister City gardens.
- Opposes exotic plantings at the Park as they do not provide a food source for native birdlife. Noted the problems that can result from invasive plantings.

- Supports the planting of native species and the promotion of indigenous biodiversity. The restoration and re-establishment of native plantings would provide habitat that supports birdlife especially the tui.
- Believes the Park is positioned in such a way that it can link habitats and create habitat corridors between the Park and other Christchurch and Banks Peninsula areas.

11. **Name:** Carol Jensen

**Time:** 3.52pm–4pm

**Submission No:** HQ032

- Promotes enhancing the natural habitat of the Park so that it can provide a linkage to other planted areas including the Port Hills, Wigram basin, Riccarton Bush and the central city.
- Strongly disagrees with the construction of any additional structures.
- Disagrees with the emphasis placed on farmland and rural areas.
- Believes the planting of indigenous species should be promoted and the Park modelled more like a Savannah, avoiding hard-lines and the mowing of paddocks.
- Opposes the planting of exotic or invasive species as they do not promote natural biodiversity. Believes large areas of exotic trees are inappropriate in a public park. Supports locally sourced plantings.
- In response to a question from the Special Committee, Ms Jensen stated that she preferred restricted vehicle access to the Park and that she believed that cars should be kept separate.
- Ms Jensen confirmed, in response from a query from the Special Committee, her view that her vision of more densely planted natives species fits well with the other elements present in the Park. Ms Jensen did not believe her vision of the Park would be at the expense of others seeking to use the Park.

12. **Name:** Robert Rowe

**Time:** 4.01pm–4.10pm

**Submission No:** HQ170

- Believes there exists strong negative feelings from the people in the Halswell community towards the concept of the Sister City gardens.
- Noted that the 1998 Halswell Quarry Park Management Plan did not contemplate the concept of Sister City gardens or the inclusion of structures.
- Expressed concern that additional structures could be constructed at the Park.
- Highlighted an irreconcilable clash in the draft Management Plan between rural landscape and the structures of the Sister City gardens. In response to a question from the Special Committee, Mr Rowe, given the provision in Objective 3.2 of the draft Management Plan, still believed the concept of the Sister City Gardens irreconcilable. Mr Rowe believes the structures should be moved to smaller reserves.
- Believes that management of the Park should be in the hands of the Council as well as community representatives.

The meeting concluded at 4.10pm.

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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE**  
**HALSWELL QUARRY PARK SPECIAL COMMITTEE**

**Held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices**  
**on Tuesday 26 May 2009 at 9am**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Bob Parker,  
Councillors Ngaire Button, Claudia Reid, Gail Sheriff,  
Sue Wells and Chrissie Williams.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** **Christchurch City Council**  
Susan Lilley, David Sissons and Kate Seabourn.

**APOLOGY:** An apology for absence was received from Deputy Mayor  
Norm Withers.

**1. HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS (Cont'd)**

Four submissions were heard by the Special Committee and were as follows, with main points listed:

1. **Name:** Sylvia Lukey  
**Time:** 9am–9.19am  
**Submission No:** HQ164

- Noted her strong commitment to Halswell Quarry Park and to the draft Management Plan.
- Does not support the closure of parking by the picnic area, believes some in Park car-parking is desirable but does not wish to see the Park over-parked.
- Supports access and increased provision for horse riders at Halswell Quarry Park.
- Expressed support for the submission of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust. Mrs Lukey believed this was important as resource consents only apply to structures over a certain height.
- Does not support the construction of Korean gates. Mrs Lukey expressed concern that there was no specific limit to the number of structures envisaged in the draft Management Plan.

2. **Name:** Paul Loughton  
**Time:** 9.20am–9.36am  
**Submission No:** HQ163

- Suggests the van Ash subdivision could be used as a possible area for horse riding in the future. Mr Loughton believes horse riding on the northern slopes of the Park could cause erosion in wet weather.
- Recommends that dog areas are marked at ground level to delineate clearly dog friendly areas.

- Believes additional lighting should be installed at the Park. This may work to discourage people from loitering.
- Drew attention to the tall trees along the boundary of the Park that shade adjacent properties.
- Suggests the Council ensures that grasses close to the boundary are well maintained to reduce fire risks.
- Supports the concept of the Sister City gardens, but suggests it would be more sensible to spread the individual national gardens over a number of recreational reserves.
- In response to a questions from the Special Committee, Mr Loughton does not believe the footpath along Kennedy's Bush Road is serviceable. He commented that there are currently no markers in place to delineate between the road edge and the footpath.

3. **Name:** David Chamberlain  
**Time:** 9.37am–9.44am  
**Submission No:** HQ166

- Supports the retention of public vehicular access to public areas.
- Does not support the proposed car park at 201 Kennedys Bush Road.
- Supports the establishment clearly marked roads and pedestrian footpaths.
- Believes cabbage trees should be banned at Halswell Quarry Park.
- Suggests any structures should be less than 3m in height and of a colour which blends into the background.
- Believes that the former Manager's house could be used as a museum with a café attached. Mr Chamberlain does not support the use of the house for storage or staff accommodation.
- Believes the management of the Park should include a range of interested parties.
- Believes Halswell Quarry Park should be listed as a reserve.

4. **Name:** Jonathan Gillard  
**Submission No:** HQ 160

Mr John Greene placed an apology on behalf of Mr Gillard.

5. **Name:** John Greene  
**Time:** 9.46am–9.55am  
**Submission No:** HQ168

- Believes the draft Management Plan has weak provisions relating to heritage and conservation.
- Notes the lack of reference to historical Maori sites in the draft Management Plan and suggests that potential sites should be identified before any further development takes place.
- Suggests a moratorium on any additional structures.
- Suggests an area for Sister City garden structures is established at the top of Kennedys Bush Road to provide a point of visual interest at the beginning of Kennedys Bush Track.
- Supports the Sister City botanical collections.
- Suggests the Park is linked with other areas of native bush, this would support birdlife in the area such as Tui.

- In response to a question from the Special Committee, Mr Green believes that there should be a Halswell Quarry Park management committee that is a partnership between the Council and local residents. Mr Loughton confirmed that he believed this committee would seek to guide the vision and establish a mandate for the Park rather than involve active volunteer work.
- In response to a questions from the Special Committee in regard to the relationship between the Halswell residents and the group 'The Friends of the Quarry', Sylvia Lukey informed those present that The Friends of the Quarry was established as a response to Sister City involvement at Halswell Quarry Park. The Group is now small in number. Mrs Lukey believes it is a Sister City Committee rather than 'Friends of the Quarry'.

## **2. DELIBERATIONS**

### **2.1 Points of Clarification**

- It was confirmed that the Special Committee had delegated authority to make a decision with respect to the draft Management Plan.
- Following the concerns raised by a member of the Special Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10.45am whilst legal advice was sought. The advice was that the meeting should continue to be open to the public and proceed accordingly. The meeting recommenced at 11am.

### **2.2 The Special Committee listed the following points to give further consideration to:**

- The purpose of the Management Plan. The Special Committee seek to discuss whether the Management Plan should act as a guiding document or a definite plan or rule book.
- The role in and relationship of the Sister City Gardens to Halswell Quarry Park
  - (a) The number of Sister City gardens
  - (b) The number and limit on structures.
  - (c) The area, scale and location of structures in the Sister City gardens
  - (d) The detail of structures.
- The nature of Halswell Quarry Park:
  - (a) Open spaces and rural farmland
  - (b) Native restoration
  - (c) Connectivity and linkages
- Activities
  - (a) The type of activities permitted at the Park.
  - (b) Potential conflict between activities.
  - (c) Events held at the Park
  - (d) Discrete areas for specific activities.
- The governance structure of the Park.
  - (a) Who
  - (b) Number
  - (c) Role of the Council
  - (d) Relationship with Tangata Whenua
- The legal status and the pathway forward
- The role of heritage structures
- Traffic management
  - (a) Vehicular access

- (b) Car-parking
- The status of Halswell Quarry Park
  - (a) Regional/ metropolitan or local park.
- Archaeological status and report.
- Plantings
  - (a) Consistency of plant species
  - (b) Weeds and invasive species
- The relationship of the Park to neighbouring properties
  - (a) The scale of planting at park boundaries.
- Linkages of the draft Management Plan to other plans and strategies i.e. South West Area Plan, Urban Development Strategy.

### **2.3 Status of the Sister City Garden Structures at Halswell Quarry Park**

- The Committee affirmed the status and role of six Sister City botanical collections at Halswell Quarry Park.

### **2.4 The Number and Scale of Built Structures**

- The Committee discussed the following matters:
  - (a) The number of structures to be permitted in the Sister City Gardens and how a restriction on number could relate to the context of the garden.
  - (b) The visual impact of structures outside the Sister City Gardens.
  - (c) The role of vegetation in providing a visual screen to structures. The Committee considered whether structures should be screened against from day one or as planting grow over a period of time.
  - (d) Potential restrictions to the size and scale of structures.
  - (e) The context of the structures within Halswell Quarry Park and their respective Sister City Garden.
  - (f) The box defining 'structures' at the beginning of Objective 3 is confusing and should be removed.

### **2.5 Status of Halswell Quarry Park**

- The Special Committee agreed that Halswell Quarry Park is a citywide regional park.

### **2.6 Staff were asked to provide additional information to the Special Committee on the following matters:**

- The status of the Halswell Quarry Park Management Plan 1998 and Sister Cities Garden Park Proposal, Turning point 2000 and how they have been implemented.
- Any additional understandings or commitments undertaken with respect to Sister City Garden structures since the 2000 Turning Point document.
- A snapshot of what has changed and how any changes were implemented since the 2000 document.
- The status and options available for the use of the former Manager's house and the two residential dwellings situated along 210 Kennedys Bush Road.
- Staff are to provide to the Special Committee with additional information on the following:
  - (a) The archaeological status of and sites at the Park.

- (b) Linkages between Halswell Quarry Park and existing Council plans and policies.
- (c) The legal status of pathways.
- (d) The existing rules with respect to invasive plant species.
- (e) Dog park.

2.7 The Special Committee identified the following issues for discussion at the next meeting:

- Vehicular access and car-parking
- Linkages to wider plans, visions and policies.
- Archaeological status.
- Review of the exotic plants list.
- Process with respect to structures and timeframes.
- Community involvement.
- Potential for existing and future activities in conjunction with the compatibility of activities that take place at the Park.
- Nature vision of the overall park.

The meeting concluded at 12.10pm.