

## **Cashmere Residents' Association**

**Public Meeting:** 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2013, 7.30pm, on current draft council plans  
Cashmere Hills Presbyterian Church Hall, Cr. McMillan Ave and Dyers  
Pass Road.

Minute Recorder: Leona Murahidy

Present: Refer attached list

Apologies: Helene Mautner, Ora Hartstone, Peter Oliver and Penny  
O'Connell.

Speakers :

**Phil Clearwater**, Community Board Chairman acknowledged the work already done by Council staff and affirmed Community Board support for the Middle Heathcote Park plan covering the section from Colombo Street to Opawa which has been put "on hold" following the earthquakes. We need to ascertain that the \$100,000.00 put aside for Heathcote River projects be retained.

He asserted that the Community Board is devoted to "Strengthening Communities" projects and has focussed on encouraging community organisations by providing low rent accommodation with the possible allocation of the "Distribution Centre" for community activities which is of particular relevance to the CRA whose major outlays lie in cost of venues for the two to three Public Meetings held each year to provide an information source between Residents and Council and a voice for Residents' views to be presented to Community Board and council.

Other projects of interest to the community Board include the preservation of Ngaio Marsh House to a cost of up to \$200,000.00, replacing the Waltham Park Memorial gates at a cost of \$40,000.00 to \$50,000.00 and the development of a "Cashmere Forest Park" for walkers and bikers on "the hill". He also mentioned the "Annex Road" beautification project and the suggestion that the council purchase the land at the base of Dyers Pass Road where the building has just been demolished to open up the intersection to a second lane of traffic.

Phil Clearwater asserted that the Community Board is totally opposed to any disposal of Council assets and suggested that redirection of funds from the "rugby stadium" could be used for these local projects.

In answering questions from the floor, Phil Clearwater stated

1. "The Old Stone House" is already on the list for restoration hopefully before the end of the year.
2. The "Takahe" belongs to CCC and Community Board will advocate it be on the list but may be looking to Cashmere Residents for support to have both the "Takahe" and the "Sign of

the Kiwi” to be placed as high as possible on the list as soon as possible.

3. The “Masonic Lodge” is currently up for tender and possibly could be acquired by the Council for a community meeting place.
4. The “Pump House” has already been considered as a venue for community groups and Phil will pursue this on our behalf (here Rik drew a parallel with the “Ernie Clark Reserve” which receives a great deal of community support from local residents).

**Robert Woods** represented Environment Canterbury.

He outlined the organisation’s areas of responsibility as

1. Water Management Strategy
2. Earthquake recovery as regards Public Transport, Land use Recovery, National Environment Recovery Plan (with specific referral to pollution of the Heathcote River) and Air Quality (Chimney removal).
3. Building relationships with Ngai Tahu

He referred to the “Regional Policy Statement” which includes a Land Use Recovery Plan providing a 15 year picture of land use indicating where folk can and cannot develop property with a longer term plan following on covering

1 Housing issues, including Red Zoned properties, Temporary accommodation during “rebuild”, “temporary workforce” and displaced persons.

2. Central city development.

Questions from the floor focussed on possible payment for water use.

**Arthur Turner**, Community and Welfare Co-ordinator , Civil Defence defined their objective to be to make as much as possible of the inherent “RESILIENCE” of the community by which is meant the community “getting back onto its feet”.

This can be assessed by asking how strong is the community already, how strong should it be , how strong could it be?

The “Preparedness Program” offered by the Civil Defence covers

1. Schools - children are taught what to expect and how to react in a “disaster situation”.
2. Individuals and families are invited to “Get ready and Get through” - instructions for which are on the back of the telephone directory.
3. Businesses – need to anticipate how the business will quickly get back on its feet with a changed locality, redirected phone lines, staff sharing, equipment time sliding.
4. Local community - develop a “HUB” or first port of call in an emergency, identify hazards within you own community such as

earthquakes or snow falls, power failure. Develop a list of local people with specific skills or resources e.g. power generator for light or hot water.

He concluded by inviting those in attendance to take on his proposed plan and implement it for ourselves as a community, while offering to train representatives to implement such a proposed civil defence plan. He suggested that The Cashmere Residents' Association had a vital role to play in co-ordinating "Sector Posts" such as Cashmere School, Thorrington School and the Presbyterian Church Hall.

**Dave Wilkinson**, Manager for Neighbourhood Support Canterbury, previously Neighbourhood Watch, referred the group to a computer resource program , "Christchurch Gets Ready", developed by the organisation which records and matches a person with a specific skill or resource with a specific need. This could be a database we, as a Residents Association, could make use of or contribute to in the longer term.

Comments from the floor and later submitted to the  
<ChristchurchCityCouncilOnlineForm@ccc.govt.nz>

Rate setting & asset retention	Cashmere residents have shown an overwhelmingly endorsement the City Council policy of retaining its commercial assets, for restraining rate rises in the future, in funding its part of the city rebuild; which is to say that CRA supports the Spreydon-Heathcote Community Board position on this.
Community facilities	CRA supports the initiative for a local community facility to be built in the old pump house next to the CCC Beckenham Service Centre, and would make use of it once established.
Traffic management	CRA supports the initiative to create a Cashmere Forest Park, for control of vehicle misuse on the Port Hills roads and to facilitate walking and biking track growth. Also, traffic decongestion measures for Cashmere Road, at its major intersections at Dyers Pass and Hackthorne roads at the hill, are something we have long lobbied for: safer laning, turns and possibly traffic lights please. A roundabout at Hackthorne/Cashmere Rd intersection may be the most suitable layout.
Heritage & tourism	CRA would like to adopt the Sign of the Takahe as a focus area, as our contribution to the recovery of tourist trade in the city. We wish to see a timetable for the Takahe's repair and to work with the Council on Cracroft

	Reserve maintenance.
Waterway health	CRA wishes to see a program for major reduction of sediment pollution in the Opawaho/ Heathcote River, and a report on the same.
Civil defence community plans	CRA requests specific support for residents' associations to coordinate creation of local community plans, around each emergency hub operable in their area, for widespread and effective civil defence preparedness.
Community Gardens resilience	CRA assists with the Sydenham Community Gardens at 188 Strickland Street and wishes to ensure that this facility is safeguarded as a key component within the Sydenham Master Plan.

Meeting closed at 10.15pm.