



Community

1ST QUARTER 2001

News

Residents question flood remedy

Late last year stop banks were erected along the Dallington Terrace stretch of the Avon River in the vicinity of Dallington Bridge. Not all residents favoured this development and two meetings have been held on site with local City Councilors and a Community Board member. Representative residents have also attended a Community Board Meeting where the problem has been discussed.

Expressed concerns include the loss of view, the obtrusive concrete wall and the risk of children getting into difficulty in the river without being seen.

It has also been suggested that this stop bank does not address the existing drainage problem. Since the Dallington Terrace footpath and guttering was upgraded, minor ponding has occurred and some residents have difficulty getting out of their gates with dry feet during heavy rain.

Some residents advocate the lowering of the stop bank but for this to happen a further resource consent would be required. If a subsequent flood occurred and water breached the stop bank the Council could then be liable for subsequent damage.

Current indications suggest that little will be done to alleviate these problems until minor flooding can again be observed and the problem analyzed.

Residents just want some action.

COMMUNITY BOARD REPORT.

By Don Rowlands (Deputy Chairman)

Palms Expands

A new Farmers building the size of the Big Fresh supermarket has been planned for the North East corner of the mall. There will be a non-notified consent process for the planned expansion. The proposal appears to have overwhelming support from the Golf Link Residents Association and the local residents. Additional car parking will be available on the roof.

Mall ownership has acknowledged interest in relocating the Elderly Persons Complex to the north and developing the mall further. While many residents appreciate additional shopping opportunities in close proximity others have expressed concern about traffic issues and the fact that Christchurch already has more retail space than Sydney. What impact will this have on the viability of the Central City?

Aquatic Weed Threat

Egeria densa was discovered at Kerrs Reach two years ago. Since then the suction dredge has failed to eradicate the weed. Agreement has been reached with Environment Canterbury to trial the use of the aquatic herbicide, Diquat. This had proved

successful in the Rotorua lakes. Diquat degrades quickly in the water and high sediment and salinity levels nullify its effect. The impact of tidal flow reversal in the Avon River and environment effects will also be monitored and evaluated after the trials. Trials were undertaken in mid-January.*

Board Backs Cottage

The Community Board has put \$17,000 of its funding toward the rental, staffing and running costs of the centre in McBratneys Road. The most recent addition has been the purchase of computers for the Cyber Café from the Board's strengthening Communities Fund. Congratulations to the hard working Cottage Committee and residents Association for making the project a success. I have asked the City Council to guarantee the Cottage a long-term future by budgeting for its purchase in its five-year plan.

(* Since this report was written the Parks and Waterways Unit of the Christchurch City Council have undertaken another application of herbicide in areas of Kerrs Reach to further trial control methods for exotic weed growth.)

DALLINGTON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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The official letter of the Dallington Residents' Association is published quarterly with the help of the Shirley Service Centre. Contributions and queries should be forwarded to the Editor (Bill Allott), Dallington Community News, 5 Locksley Avenue, Christchurch 8006 (Ph. 389 1816).

