

# STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Community Services Committee

**FROM:** Community Services Chair

**REFERENCE:** C785

**DATE:** 2 February 2005

**SUBJECT:** Chairperson's Report

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**It will be obvious that this is a rather quiet agenda** so we will take the opportunity to tour some of the reserve facilities in Wakefield, Brightwater and Rabbit Island. These familiarisation tours are very valuable in terms of later discussion. We can also take the opportunity to discuss the outlook for facilities in each area which is again helpful, both in terms of our own projections and the Resource Policy strategic planning process.

**As Councillors know, the Heritage Subcommittee** reports to the Environment and Planning Subcommittee. However I believe there are a number of matters dealt with by this subcommittee which are of interest to this committee as well. It might be useful to invite Rose Biss to update the Community Services Committee at a future meeting on some of the projects which are being considered for support in the coming months.

**I would like to thank Mike Tasman-Jones** for the work he has done on refining the Grants processes. With increasing pressure on all funding sources it is good practice to review this regularly to ensure that funding is administered in the fairest and clearest way possible.

**Councillors will be aware that Councillor Henry** and myself made some suggestions on various aspects of councillor facilities in the new building. This is to remind you that responses to these suggestions would be helpful in ensuring that final details are as practical as possible. Whilst this is a minor factor in the total project it is still prudent to make best use of space and resources.

**Could I suggest that further representatives from the Youth Council** be invited to attend a meeting of this committee, and that thought be given to the whole Youth Council attending a full Council meeting. The recent attendance by three members of the Youth Council was most useful and informative – I was particularly impressed to see that two members stayed on for the balance of the meeting. I also believe that we should facilitate discussion on the place of civics education in secondary schools and make contact with others who are interested in progressing this idea.

P K O'Shea  
Chairperson