

Waikura
Linwood-Central-Heathcote Community Board
MINUTES ATTACHMENTS

Date: Wednesday 13 April 2022
Time: 4.30pm
Venue: Audio/Visual Link

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Subject: FW: Deputation To Community Board

From: Irinka B <avoncbakpak@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 13 April 2022 11:51 am
To: Beaven, Liz <Liz.Beaven@ccc.govt.nz>
Cc: Robyn Kilty <robyn.kilty@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Deputation To Community Board

Dear Community Board Members

Thank you for this opportunity to speak with you today.

Main points:

1. Keeping Englefield Lodge is a key issue for the signage as so much of the history of the area refers to Englefield.
2. If we were to lose this piece of history, we ask - what would it be replaced with? What would the lovely designed "Welcome to Historic Englefield Area" on the corner of Avonside Drive and Fitzgerald Avenue say without Englefield Lodge standing proudly next door? For that is really the best place for the Welcome sign we are all agreed.
3. We are pleased to hear the recent news that our area is recognised as a character area and is going to be exempt from intensification. This will encourage residents to keep believing that the preservation of their heritage homes is appreciated and supported by the CCC.
4. We are a 'living' tourist attraction, therefore such a great idea to have information for locals and overseas visitors to see written up around the area.
5. We propose a working party be set up from the board to have a 'walkabout' or meeting, or drive around Englefield Historic Area, then work out some proposals where are the best places and what we would like to say at each historic marker.

Please find attached our statement with the support documents for our deputation today.

Robyn Kilty and myself will be attending by zoom.

Thank you

Yours faithfully

Irinka Britnell - Chair - Englefield Residents Association

| *****

13th April 2022

Dear Community Board Members

We are writing today in urgency to remind the board about the opportunity to buy and save Englefield Lodge as per the promise made by the Prime Minister Mr Kirk and the Christchurch City Council in 1973. See document attached Avonside Girls in front of the Lodge.

We understand under the time constraints with the Auction on Thursday at 11am, that the council is limited to what it is able to achieve. However surely you could vote for someone to observe the auction, and you never know it may well be passed in and perhaps a deal could be done further down the track. Another action the council could take is to offer to assist the new buyer with restoration.

Restoring this house will bring far more community values, spiritual connection and deeper understanding of our past. Nothing beats 'hands on' being able to touch and experience our past. Tourists and locals have been walking through this neighbourhood for years, appreciating the unique community/city asset we have here.

This is even more so under urgency to save Englefield Lodge in light of the fact that the council is going to make more of an effort to save heritage areas and buildings. Englefield Lodge is the "Jewel in the Crown" of this very oldest established settlement in Christchurch.

The history of the area and greater Christchurch is so integral to this homestead with the first cricket games, the first regattas on the Avon River, the first established gardens that William Guise Brittan would open to the public before the Botanical Gardens and more.

Losing this amazing piece of architecture and heritage would be like losing the anchor point to all of our local early history of the area. It will be like having the central hub of our heart ripped out. And it would be a travesty and negligence to lose it considering we have the opportunity to acquire and save it now.

We request you be brave CCC to save this piece of history - you will be regarded as heroes. As you all know, we have lost so much heritage and this is literally the most important piece of history, being the first substantial house built in Christchurch. As you can see by the articles attached, Englefield has been on the brink of being lost on more than one occasion. It would be sad to trash all those previous efforts by losing it now.

The future vision by Geoffrey Rice attached shows the potential and that there are many people who, given the opportunity, would be willing to assist in the restoration project. It could be a place of business for functions and a place for community as well as a tourist attraction.

Please just keep your minds open and see what is possible to save this irreplaceable very important piece of our Taonga, our Heritage.

Irinka Britnell – Chair – Englefield Residents Association
Ph (03)981 5878

