

Waipapa
Papanui-Innes Community Board
Submissions Committee
OPEN MINUTES

Date: Friday 11 September 2020
Time: 10.38am
Venue: The Board Room, 5 Restell Street, Papanui

Present

Members
Emma Norrish
Simon Britten
Ali Jones
Emma Twaddell

10 September 2020

Christine Lane
Manager Community Governance, Papanui-Innes
941 5213
christine.lane@ccc.govt.nz
www.ccc.govt.nz

Part A Matters Requiring a Council Decision

Part B Reports for Information

Part C Decisions Under Delegation

**1. Apologies / Ngā Whakapāha
Committee Decision**

There were no apologies. Note: Emma Twaddell was present via Zoom teleconference.

2. Declarations of Interest / Ngā Whakapuaki Aronga

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

**3. Strengthening Communities Strategy Review
Staff Recommendations**

That the Papanui-Innes Community Board Submissions Committee:

1. Receive the information in the Strengthening Community's Strategy Review report.
2. Consider any feedback the Subcommittee would like to provide to the questions asked in the review of building stronger, connected communities in the Christchurch City Council's 2007 Strengthening Communities Strategy.

Committee Resolved PCBSC/2020/00001

That the Papanui-Innes Community Board Submissions Committee:

1. Receive the information in the Strengthening Community's Strategy Review report.
2. Consider any feedback the Subcommittee would like to provide to the questions asked in the review of building stronger, connected communities in the Christchurch City Council's 2007 Strengthening Communities Strategy.

Emma Norrish/Ali Jones

Carried

Your feedback

Thinking of people of all ages, abilities, ethnicities, interests and identities, what does a healthy and connected community look like?

Being part of a connected, inclusive community means knowing who you live next to; saying hello, smiling, waving and stopping for a chat from time to time. It is a community where people are socially connected, physically connected (environment wise - schools, roads, walkways, green spaces, etc). It is

where people support one another. It's also about people feeling safe so they can connect in these ways. It's about technological connectivity - so info can be shared and people can reach one another.

1. People

- A. What are the best ways we can build a community where people are treated equally, feel included and diversity is welcomed?

Recognise diversity, and support and empower groups that promote the connections in a community - both as a board, and as a council. We should connect these groups with others with similar interests and goals, essentially enabling them to mould their own progress and direction. Refer 3A.

- B. What are the main obstacles preventing that happening?

- Stress, fatigue, funding, lack of clarity and communication.
- Need a strategy that is simple, clear, consistent and well supported.
- Council processes – perceived and actual.
- Specific and appropriate information is not targeted to effectively reach relevant groups and communities.
- People's busy lives – time poor, priorities change.
- Specific challenges related to COVID and post-earthquake recovery that people are still dealing with.
- Financial barriers.

2. Place

- A. What would increase our sense of belonging?

Having strong clubs and support groups, including local community spaces. The community boards/Council should be the enabler to support communities to activate local spaces and have a sense of pride and control over these spaces; while continuing to work with the wider community and local authority – this would be a collaborative, community-led partnership.

The last ten years in Christchurch have been extraordinarily challenging and it is important to acknowledge this in the strategy, particularly as the existing document pre-dates these events. As we know the city continues to rebuild and recover, however we still face considerable challenges. Our sense of belonging is even more critical to successfully overcome all these challenges.

Depression, anxiety and suicide are common mental health conditions associated with lacking a sense of belonging. These conditions can lead to social behaviours that interfere with an individual's ability to connect to others, creating a cycle of events which further weakens a sense of belonging.

We cannot separate the importance of a sense of belonging from our physical and mental health. The social ties that accompany a sense of belonging are a protective factor helping manage stress.

- B. What can we do to increase our use of public spaces and places?

Improve physical access, promote community activities in these spaces, help support groups to hold activities, make these spaces appealing to use. Community input into the development and running of spaces and places.

Early communication with communities on appropriate projects to instil a sense of involvement and a genuine belief that their input is valued. This will also support a sense of ownership.

3. Participation

- A. How do we encourage more residents to become involved in community activities?

Refer items above.

Accessibility, promotion, promote a sense of belonging, appeal to all demographics.

- B. Do you feel like you have the opportunity to be involved in decision making?

Mostly, but it can always be improved.

- C. If not, what are some of the reasons stopping you from taking part?

Sometimes there are issues where the community board believes it should have been involved earlier in the process to get the best results.

4. Being Prepared

- A. What can the community do to prepare for disruption and change in our lives?

Connect with other groups, use a template that works elsewhere, be educated and informed about a variety of issues, have access to technology and information that might be needed. Have innovative and adaptable groups and facilities.

- B. What do you think the Christchurch City Council's role is in helping to build strong and resilient communities?

Acting as a facilitator and enabler, primarily. Also helping to set up groups, templates, plans and then supporting groups to do it themselves. Providing funding and advocacy for communities.

- C. Can you identify the top three opportunities that Council should focus on in its Strengthening Communities Strategy?

Optimism/Celebrating Success: promote the positive in every aspect of what it does and align that with what Christchurch, NZ does – for example; Promote the cherry blossoms blooming (best blossom photo), the daffs out in the gardens, the new immigrant family opening the food business in the city. "Optimism plays an important role in protecting individuals and their communities from the effects of chronic stressors. Hope and optimism

at the individual level positively influence health and protect against the effects of stress. In contrast, hopelessness is thought to diminish health”

Ref: <https://oxfordmedicine.com/view/10.1093/med/9780199939220.001.0001/med-9780199939220-chapter-24>

Our City: Identify and celebrate the uniqueness and personality of areas/suburbs of Christchurch and promote/communicate this across the city.

Technological connectivity / smart cities: Use technology to connect groups, people with interests, help them set up groups, etc. Again use an app/smart phones to support this. Include information on funding that boards can support.

Note: The Council needs to monitor and analyse outcomes to measure the effectiveness of the strategy.

Meeting concluded at 12.27pm.

CONFIRMED THIS 18TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2020.

EMMA NORRISH
CHAIRPERSON