

## **HOBSONVILLE POINT RESIDENTS SOCIETY**

### **THE PROPOSAL TO SITE A PUBLIC TOILET IN THE HOBSONVILLE POINT PARK ON DE HAVILLAND ROAD.**

The HPRS Committee was approached earlier in 2016 about the siting of a Public Toilet in the Park.

The Committee welcomed the proposal and in conjunction with Parks suggested that the toilet be placed opposite the end of Baffin Street for these reasons:

- To be on the Hobsonville Point Walkway
- Convenient for those shopping at the local shops on the corner of deHavilland and Hobsonville Point Road
- Available by the deHavilland angle parking for workers in the area who are also customers at the shops
- Close to the children's play ground without putting the children at risk of being molested by undesirables
- Nestled into the slope of the park to make it environmentally discreet and to fit into the Hobsonville Point Plan
- Least likely to generate opposition from residents because it would be least visible for residents
- Close to the services needed for a toilet block

#### **Consultation by HPRS**

In the October E-Newsletter from HPRS Committee to Members (all those who own a property at HP are required to be Members) a short outline of what was proposed and a photograph of the general area was reported.

No feedback was generated about the proposed toilet from this E-Newsletter to our 800 Members.

This Newsletter has been displayed on the Noticeboard for the general public and available as hard copy at the HP Information Centre.

If it was considered necessary to consult further the HPRS Committee would be prepared to put the material on the Noticeboard together with advice on where to give feedback on the project. We would expect limited response.

The general feeling is that a public toilet would be a welcome and necessary addition to the community and would relieve the shopkeepers of the burden of allowing the public to use their very limited toilet facilities in some cases provided for their staff not their customers.

#### **One Objector**

We understand there is a limited objection from some residents in the Brickworks but only one Member who lives in the Brickworks building has spoken to the Chairman. He was asked to put his opinions in writing. No feedback was received from him by the HPRS Committee. He insists that the toilet is for the children and should be right next to the playground. He has no understanding of it being a public toilet.

We also understand that the two newly elected members of the UHB who asked to attend our HPRS Annual Meeting were approached by the same man about the matter.

#### **The HPRS Committee**

We met with Mark Maxlow and Sarah Finlayson who gave us each a detailed set of plans.

#### **The Proposed Site**

- We inspected the site that they proposed which is a few meters further along deHavilland from our original suggestion.
- We located the supplies of electricity, water, discharge and drainage and agree that the proposed site is ideal.
- It also offers a possibility of developing parking for disabled clientele who have been considered in the design of the toilet block. This was to be discussed further with a Traffic Engineer.
- The site plan also makes allowance for a set of 1.5 wide steps beside the toilet to the park area on the plateau which would be an excellent addition to the area.
- We looked in detail at lighting, servicing and cleaning the toilet and access from the foot traffic area.
- We inspected the whole park and believe the chosen site to be the most practical and discreet position for the toilet.

**The Toilet Block Plan** - we were shown two alternative plans, the internal plan was identical in each one.

We prefer Plan 2 for these reasons

- The vertical lines on the back wall were visually attractive
- The roof line would be pleasing to look down on from above and also from the front, side and back perspectives/profiles
- The material for the roof would give the same/similar appearance from above as the texture is similar to that of the pavement thus blending with its surroundings
- We are pleased with the images proposed for the side walls. We have asked that the image of the Gypsy Moth be flipped horizontally for a more pleasing composition.

#### **Conclusion**

As the elected representatives of HPRS we feel confident that we have given the proposal careful consideration and can recommend the proposal on behalf of HPRS according to the Constitution of HPRS.

The Auckland Council design team have given careful attention to every detail and are to be commended for their design. They have gone out of their way to be considerate of the nearby residents and their view of the park.

**Hobsonville Point Residents Society Inc. Committee.**

December, 2016

