**18** **December 2006 Power Point Presentation to Canterbury A & P Board**

**Present**

CA&P Doug Marsh, Richard Lemon, Peter Townsend, Colin Notley, Dougal Thomas, Chris Wright, Ben Tothill, Rea Findlay

CCA

Richard Reid, Brian Adams.

After Richards presentation a number of concerns were raised by A&P Board.

Peter Townsend believed that the working party needed to consider:

Location, compatibility, benefits, fatal flaws

**30 January 2007**

**A follow up meeting was held with the working party of Reid, Satterthwaite, Adams (CCA) and Rae Findlay and Dugal Thomas (A&P) and discussed the four points raised by Townsend.**

Best position is SE of 1st row of land, Daugal Thomas keen and sees no negatives.

The development at Canterbury Park is recommended to be researched in more depth. It is on Council land and has many advantages. The potential for expansion is far greater than the other sites investigated.

**Email to Justin, no written response as yet**

24/1/2008

Dear Justin,

Cran Bull and I are meeting on Friday February 15 2008 with the Mayor Bob Parker and Tony Marryatt CEO of the CCC, Bruce Irvine and Bryan Pearson from Vbase and Doug Marsh and Peter Townsend from the Canterbury A&P Board. We hope that Lee Germon will be able to join us.

The purpose of the meeting is to further progress Canterbury Park as the preferred site as a Test match venue in Christchurch and that Council acknowledges cricket as a special case for funding. We are seeking funding of $10m with the balance coming from Vbase $3m and the CCA $3m.

At the meeting Doug Marsh said that A&P Board is not supportive of the present proposal but would support a ground further west.

**Friday February 15 2008**

Present: Mayor Bob Parker, Tony Marryatt (CEO CCC), Bruce Irvine, Bryan Pearson (Vbase), Doug Marsh, Peter Townsend (A&P)

Cran Bull, Lee Germon, Brian Adams (CCA).

Topic: to update the A&P on the proposed location of a cricket ground at Canterbury Park and to understand any issues that this may create for them.

to encourage the A&P support for the establishment of the ground.

to discuss the timing of a formal submission to Council.

Bruce Irvine began the meeting by outlining the history of the search for a Test match venue in Christchurch and the role that Vbase have in supporting the CCA’s work.

Doug Marsh was then invited to outline the A&P Board’s view. He stated that the show now had the designation of Royal and was worth $27m, not certain where that figure came from and what it covered. He was extremely negative to the concept outlining three concerns.

1. The unknown effect that the proposed motorway and the corresponding loss of land would have on the Show.

2. The effect of losing a substantial piece of land, in particular during the 2 weeks of the Show, but also over the whole of the year. He mentioned car parking and dog trials as the major concern.

3. The long term vision of the A&P Board that Canterbury Park was a rural park and that there was a philosophical objection to the changing environment.

Tony Marryatt questioned Doug extensively and gave the impression that in his view these points seemed to be minor impediments in the way of establishing a cricket ground at CP. The discussion then continued covering such points as:

1. The date of the Show has no effect on the cricket programme, home matches scheduled for that time could be played at Rangiora.

2. The outfield, with adequate protection, could be used during the Show.

3. There was discussion on the possible use by the Show of land to the West that at present is only used for sheep grazing.

Tony agreed to investigate whether there are difficulties in using land in this area due to the water retention basin. BCA view was this land was not used at all during the Show so there was plenty of potential to expand car parking into this area. The aerial pictures produced by Doug were inconclusive regarding their usage during the Show.

4. The portion of land required by Transit for the motorway will be taken regardless how it might leave some land difficult to be used by A&P.

Doug and Peter agreed to take back these discussions to their Monday Board meeting and determine whether their three concerns could be overcome. They said they would have a response within a month. They left the meeting at this time.

The second part of the meeting was mostly led by Bob Parker and he clearly outlined the Council’s concerns over a raft of large capital costs facing them. As a politician he had to be conscious of rate rises and there had been recently been placed before Council a number of unforeseen items. His view and supported by Tony was that it would be unwise to go to Council at this time seeking funding. He said we could place a proposal before Council but believed that the Councillors would immediately reject it as support for it would immediately open up discussion on other sporting requirements.

It was pointed out that the funding required would be spread over three years. He understood the need for a Test match venue in Christchurch and was supportive and also understood the concern raised by Cran on our stakeholder’s frustration in the delay in finding a new venue.

Cran also outlined the difficulty the Canterbury Cricket Trust has in raising money without a venue decided, agreed on and supported by Council. Both Parker and Marryatt supported a proposal being placed before Council in February 2009 with the intention of the funding being incorporated into the LTCCP. They would support Council funding the venue but strongly believed that this is not the appropriate time.

In terms of CP there was little support for the concerns raised by Doug and Peter and we would seem to have the Mayor and CEO on our side in promoting the site. There was some lack of understanding over the rights of the A&P at CP and Tony agreed to look into the lease agreement between the CCC and A&P.

An interesting sidelight was raised by Parker when he asked Cran what is the ideal site for a test match venue in Christchurch. Hagley Park is clearly the answer and had obviously been discussed by some of them before the meeting. Discussion revolved around the concept and BA indicated that the CCA had already looked at the ground and found the resource consent and club issues difficult to resolve. However Parker was very enthusiastic about the marketing potential for the city with such a venue. It would be a yearly one off concept and it was agreed that Vbase and the CCA would further the proposal.

**Summary:** a very useful meeting for the three of us to meet informally with the movers and shakers of the city. There is clear stated support for Council funding for the venue from Parker and Marryatt but not at this time. A key element in their support is the financial contribution that the CCA would make to the project.

The follow up is:

1. Marsh and Townsend will report back after their Board meeting

2. Maryatt will investigate the use of CP land to the West and the lease agreement between CCC and A&P.

3. Vbase and the CCA will continue to work on the venue proposal that is to go to Council. Pearson indicated that he hoped to make this submission in June.

4. Vbase, Council and the CCA will work on the Hagley Park proposal and the consequent adjustments that might be needed to a new ground (VG or CP) accommodating only domestic cricket.