

MEMORANDUM

TO: Community Development Committee

MEETING DATE: 6 May 2020

TITLE: Opportunities for use of the St Marks Church site

PRESENTED BY: Joann Ransom, Community Development Manager

APPROVED BY: Chris Dyhrberg, Chief Customer Officer

RECOMMENDATION(S) TO COUNCIL

1. That this report be received as information only.
-

1. ISSUE

In September 2017 St Marks and St Andrews Presbyterian Church made a submission to Council on the Long Term Plan. In short, there was an offer from the Parish Council to work with Council to determine a suitable future use for the St Marks site in line with their belief that the site, as a substantial piece of land centrally located in the Awapuni 'village', has potential to maintain its community service role.

2. UPDATE

In early March 2020 the Community Development Manager met with Annette Nixon and other members from the St Marks parish seeking an update on the original submission.

The key points from the conversation are:

- St Marks, St Andrews and St Davids have amalgamated into the 'Presbyterian New Church' with St Andrews being the new church. It will be strengthened and used as a worship and community space.
- St Davids will continue as is and no decision has been made about St Marks.
- The offer of the St Marks site for community service use still stands.
- No preferred ownership model has been identified but discussions could include leasing, buying or by joint agreement.
- It would be beneficial to form the paper walkway from the head of Panako Place through to Awapuni Park which would provide an easy linkage between the Community Centre, St Marks and the Awapuni shops etc.
- Of note is that the St Marks site has a large carpark opposite the Awapuni Shops and adjoins Council owned land.

3. NEXT STEPS

It will be helpful to consider the situation regarding St Marks Church within a wider discussion about community facilities for the City more generally. This is to ensure that any decision about a future relationship with St Marks takes into account all the relevant information and consequences for the Council and for the wider community.

Staff had intended to bring a report to the Community Development Committee regarding a city-wide research proposal to inform this wider discussion, but this has been delayed due to the COVID-19 Level 4 shut-down. It is not possible to progress the proposed research at this time. As an alternative, it is likely to be possible for this wider conversation to be had within the 10 Year Plan process. Staff envisage that the wider discussion will include consideration of community facilities throughout the city, alongside any proposals for new developments or future partnerships with other organisations.

4. COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Does the Committee have delegated authority to decide? If Yes quote relevant clause(s) from Delegations Manual <Enter text>	Yes
Are the decisions significant?	No
If they are significant do they affect land or a body of water?	No
Can this decision only be made through a 10 Year Plan?	No
Does this decision require consultation through the Special Consultative procedure?	No
Is there funding in the current Annual Plan for these actions?	No
Are the recommendations inconsistent with any of Council's policies or plans?	No
The recommendations contribute to Goal 3: A Connected and Safe Community	
The recommendations contribute to the outcomes of the Connected Community Strategy	
The recommendations contribute to the achievement of action/actions in the Community Services and Facilities Plan The action is:	
Contribution to strategic direction	

and to social, economic, environmental and cultural well- being	
---	--

ATTACHMENTS

Nil