

C O N F I D E N T I A L

**CIVIC CHILD CARE CENTRE
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT 2.30 PM
WEDNESDAY, 4 DECEMBER 1991
AT THE CIVIC OFFICES**

In Attendance

Angela Counihan	Southern Local Body Officers Union
Rob Dally	Chairman (Group Manager Metropolitan Services, C.C.C.)
Simon Fraser	Acting Chairman, Civic Child Care Centre Management Committee
Alistair Graham	Leisure & Neighbourhoods Support Manager, C.C.C.
John Gray	City Manager
Martin Maguire	Community Advisor, C.C.C.
Peter Mitchell	Office Solicitor, C.C.C.
Marshall Wright	Personnel Manager, C.C.C.

Apologies: Angela Counihan (for lateness)

The Chairman welcomed the attendees, apologised for the short notice of the meeting, and made the introductions as necessary.

In the absence of a formal agenda, the following matters were discussed in the sequence minuted.

1. The Chairman reported on a 2.20 pm, Wednesday 4 December telephone conversation with Sue Sidey from the Special Services Unit of the Department of Social Welfare. Sue Sidey had advised as follows:
 - (a) Confirmed that she was still dealing with four families.
 - (b) Confirms further negative children's statements re Peter Ellis since Monday, 2nd parents' meeting.
 - (c) Confirmed one staff member consistently identified.
 - (d) Advised that interviews should be finished next week and that Police should confirm findings to the C.C.C. by the end of next week.
 - (e) Confirmed that there are still concerns, not complaints or allegations.
2. Simon Fraser tabled his 4 December letter, which was a summary of the 2nd December parents' meeting. The letter was discussed item by item, and the following were noted and agreed.
 - (a) Updates - the first update was the meeting of 4 December. It was agreed that the further meeting suggested for the parents should be held as soon as possible after the Police have confirmed their findings. It was also agreed that the

parents' representative (Simon Fraser) and the C.C.C. representative (Alistair Graham) should liaise on an "as required basis", not to any time frame.

- (b) Staff - the City Manager advised the meeting that the March 1987 appointment of Peter Ellis was made by the Civic Child Care Centre Management Committee. Alistair Graham confirmed that the normal procedure was for the committee to do the interviewing, carry out whatever reference checking was required, and to then seek formal approval from the C.C.C. This was really in the form of rubber-stamping. Rob Dally confirmed that this was the normal one-up one-down procedure, followed by the Christchurch City Council.

The City Manager confirmed that Peter Ellis would not be reinstated without further consultation with the Civic Child Care Centre Management Committee.

- (c) Counselling - the City Manager confirmed that counselling resources would be made available to parents at a cost to the City Council, and that parents feeling the need for this should liaise with Simon Fraser, through the Management Committee. The City Manager further advised that in his view, such counselling should be offered on a "needs" basis rather than "marketed" by the Management Committee.

Martin Maguire tabled a memorandum confirming the resources available in Christchurch, professional opinions on group/individual counselling, and hourly rates for the various counsellors. The memorandum contained further information relating to counselling available for Peter Ellis. A list of the information pertinent to the Creche Management Sub-Committee is attached to these minutes.

- (d) Management Practices - it was agreed that it would be appropriate to review staff/management procedures at the Child Care Centre as a result of the current incident, and that the C.C.C. and parent members of the Management Committee both needed input. Rob Dally advised that he had requested Martin Maguire to investigate this matter including evaluation of procedures in place at similar facilities. Alistair Graham advised that a "comments" book had already been initiated as a result of the current incident.
- (e) Co-ordination - the City Manager agreed that the Management Committee representative (Simon Fraser) should deal directly with Alistair Graham of the C.C.C.
- (f) Education - the City Manager thanked Simon Fraser for this valuable advice, which had been passed on to the Personnel Unit.
- (g) Update Report - the meeting had agreed earlier that, although formal reporting lines were essential between one representative from each party, and that the timing of communications should be more informal, and on a "needs" basis.

3. General

Rob Dally tabled a transcript from the 4 December radio report from Peter Lawson of the Southern Local Body Officers Union. It was agreed that whilst the City Manager had had some informal discussion with Angela Counihan re this matter, it would serve no purpose to debate the issue at this meeting.

- 4. Rob Dally advised that he had instructed Gay Davidson to liaise with the Central Library in order to have some child abuse books available from the Library at the Creche for the short term loan to parents, at no cost.

Martin Maguire and Angela Counihan agreed to meet jointly with Peter Ellis after this meeting, to discuss counselling available to him, and employment opportunities in general.

The Chairman called for any further general business, to which there was nil response.

5. Summary

Chairman summarised the meeting by stating:

- (a) No further concerns were being investigated by the Police.
- (b) It was hopeful that a resolution to the matter would be achieved by the end of next week (13 December).
- (c) Counselling would be made available.
- (d) That it would be unhelpful for any parties around the table to make any further media statements.

The Chairman thanked attendees for their input, and declared the meeting closed at 3.30 pm.

A/12/11

CIVIC CHILDCARE CENTRE - COUNSELLING OPTIONS

Following discussions with the Group Manager Metropolitan Services regarding counselling for staff and parents, the following information is offered.

Sue Sidey and Sandra Smith from the Department of Social Welfare Specialist Services suggested the following counsellors who are regarded as specialists in sexual abuse counselling.

Trish Allen	St Elmo Courts	Not available
Yvonne Pauling	Durham Centre	\$70.00 per hour
Jan Brooker	Sullivan Avenue	\$50.00 per hour
Paul Baakman	79 Bealey Avenue	Not Available
Sara Crane	79 Bealey Avenue	\$65.00 per hour
Nancy Perryman	Campbell Counselling Centre	\$40.00-\$80.00 per hour
Sue Murray	Campbell Counselling Centre	\$40.00-\$80.00 per hour

Department of Social Welfare would recommend any of these counsellors, but for the purpose which we may require, Sara Crane and Jan Brooker appear to have more experience in group work.

Jan Brooker is not available from 20 December for five weeks. Her fee is \$50.00 per hour.

Sara Crane (who is recognised among other counsellors as perhaps the leader in her field) is available all through January. Her fee is \$65.00 per hour at her rooms, or \$75.00 per hour if she is required to travel. She has a room suitable for group work - up to 24 people. In discussion with her, she would advocate a group meeting of parents (if needed) followed by individual counselling (if needed). She, along with the others, is available to counsel staff if required.