



Hastings District Council

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OPEN MINUTES

RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN SUBCOMMITTEE

Meeting Date: **Wednesday, 4 November 2015**

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Reserve Management Plan Subcommittee held on
4 November 2015 at 9.00am - Tainui, Tauroa, Hikanui and Tanner Reserve**

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HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN SUBCOMMITTEE (TAINUI, TAUROA, HIKANUI AND TANNER RESERVE) HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, GROUND FLOOR, CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, LYNDON ROAD EAST, HASTINGS ON WEDNESDAY, 4 NOVEMBER 2015 AT 9.10AM

- PRESENT:** Chair: Councillor Bradshaw
Councillors Hazlehurst, Heaps, Kerr, Poulain and
Watkins.
- ALSO PRESENT:** Group Manager: Asset Management (Mr C Thew)
Parks and Property Services Manager (Mr C Hosford)
Parks Planning & Development Manager (Mrs R Stuart)
Parks Policy Planner (Mr C Freeman)
Committee Secretary (Mrs C Hunt)
- AS REQUIRED:** **Submitters:**
Grahame Mansfield on behalf of Anthony Rowe (14),
Terry Taaffe (8); Jeremy Cole (5); and Jessica Maxwell on
behalf of Friends of Tainui Reserve (34)
Wayne Palleson (resident)

1. APOLOGIES

Councillor Bradshaw/Councillor Kerr

That apologies for absence from Councillor Lester be accepted.

CARRIED

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

There were no minutes to confirm.

4. HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS ON DRAFT TAINUI, TAUROA ROAD, TANNER STREET AND HIKANUI RESERVES MANAGEMENT PLAN (Document 15/1015)

The Parks Policy Advisor, Mr Freeman gave a brief introduction on the reserves via powerpoint (AST-5-15-1392) of the consultation and notification process undertaken. A total of 24 submissions (including 3 late submissions) had been received relating to the Draft Tainui, Tauroa Road, Tanner Street and Hikanui Reserves Management Plan.

The following issues were highlighted as a result of submissions:

Develop a Top Quality Mountain Bike Track Network

- 37% of the use of Te Mata Peak are mountain bikers (7500 bikers/yr).
- Provide a mix of cycle tracks - easy, intermediate or hard from 30 minutes to 3-4 hours back to the Havelock North Village.
- Collaboration with local accommodation providers to package up a walking and cycle experience.
- Bike wash down areas.
- A clear link between the Village and the top of the Peak, and a continuation along the ridge ultimately connecting with the cycle tracks on the Tuki Tuki River and back to the Village.

Preserve popular walking and dog exercise tracks

- Tainui Reserve, as a walking place for families, elderly, and children, often accompanied by the walking of dogs.
- Please no bike tracks.
- Do not want to encourage more cyclists because, as an off lead area, dogs often go ahead of their owners round blind corners and they, or indeed the people walking could get knocked over.
- Tracks need to have wheelchair access.
- Love the fact that dogs can be exercised freely only one of a very few areas in the Hastings/Havelock North areas where dogs can be off-leash.
- Doggy bag dispensers installed has meant park cleaner.

Seats Signs and Parking

- More seats at Hikanui and Tainui reserves.
- Grass toboggan area.
- Sign showing maps for the trails with suggestions on good loops to do.
- Install a small tar-sealed parking area beside the entrance in to Keith Sands Grove.

Preserve Rustic Nature Of Reserves And Plant More Native And Exotic Trees

- Retain Natural Character.
- Plant Native and Exotic Trees.
- Keep up the native planting.
- Really like the idea of planting some food trees in reserves for the public to use such as fruits and nuts (walnuts, lemons feijoas and hazelnuts).
- A lemon/citrus grove at Hikanui Reserve.
- Have the steep bank in the Tanner Street Reserve planted in natives particularly Puriri, Rewarewa, Titoki, Wharangi and Totara etc.

Control Pest Plants

- Continuation of removal of pest weeds banana passionfruit, wandering willie, old man's beard, english ivy, blackberry, etc)
- Get residents to stop lazy dumping of herbage from the rear of houses into the stream running through Keith Sands Grove.
- Regional Council needs to do more in maintaining Havelock's storm drain areas - more planting and removal of invasive weeds!

Waterway Restoration

- Restore the Mangarau Stream and Te Kahika Stream. Riparian weed control needed with native replacement planting beside streams.

- Catchment areas in reserves need to be planted to retain water, reduce runoff speed and sediment pollution of streams and rivers.

Use Volunteers and Sponsors

- Create a “Care Group” to help with development.
- Residents could buy and donate some larger specimens of trees to hasten their growth and development.
- Support the idea that people could sponsor for example a seat.
- Probation workers do a good job in maintaining the tracks.

VERBAL SUBMISSIONS

Submission No.13 – Grahame Mansfield of Holderness Dennehy spoke on behalf of Anthony Rowe to his submission which was for the removal of two pine trees and a large eucalyptus tree adjacent to his home at 8 Hikanui Drive.

Mr Mansfield circulated a copy of an arborist report (CG-13-53-00120) by Darryl Judd which did not fully support the submission of Mr Rowe. He also tabled photos taken of the trees in relation to the submitter’s house and damage caused (CG-13-53-00123). Key issues raised were:

- Large gum tree outside Mr Rowe’s property which dropped debris and in winds branches broke off. Circulated at the meeting were photos (CG-13-53-00123) taken of where the branch had broken the double glazed window of his home.
- Mr Rowe agreed to the two old men pine trees being removed.
- The arborist report maintained the gum tree was a healthy specimen but listed some adverse effects.
- Shallow roots can cause instability of tree.
- The Arborist would support the reduction of the canopy of the tree.
- Gum trees have no part in native reserves.
- A photo of large gum tree was displayed at the meeting to give perception of its size against Mr Rowe’s house.
- Given location, emphasis of establishing native species does Council want the expense of maintaining gum trees?
- Mr Rowe was happy to contribute towards the removal of the gum tree.

In response to questions the following points were made:

- If the large gum tree had suffered root damage when the driveway was put in the tree would get dead wood in tree and would have to be removed. There was no dead wood and it was not an old tree.
- There were a number of very mature pines, macrocarpa trees but not a lot of gum trees in the area.
- Council has had two arborist/contractor reports undertaken on the trees.
- The large gum tree forms the edge of the group of trees and the North West wind would come over ridge from the Heretaunga Plains and not directly at Mr Rowe’s property. Only the top of the tree was exposed.
- Marginal benefit reducing the canopy at a cost for small benefit.
- If the crown was removed from the gum tree the growth would be transferred and would resprout.
- Every two-three years there would be an ongoing cost if the crown was removed.
- Any discussion on tree removal would include the neighbours.

Submission No. 8 - Terry Taaffe spoke to his submission and highlighted the following points:

- Provision of more tracks, seats and rubbish bins in Hikanui Reserve.
- Improve the path in Hikanui Reserve.
- Mountain bike track below Hikanui Drive may make the slope unstable.
- Supportive of what is being done in Tainui Drive.
- 90% walking across the ridge have dogs.
- Request some colour when new plantings are done.
- Cherries, oak add colour.
- Have concern about the location of mountain bike track.
- Professional geotechnical advice. – Ask whether track should be built where the slope is.
- Very steep slope and adjoining landowners are entitled to natural support of land. Location would jeopardise that support.
- Plenty of room in reserve to provide mountain bike track that will not interfere with property owners.
- Council have worked with residents to provide plantings and stability of land.
- No trees be removed or damaged on southern slope as this would reverse years of work by officers and residents.

In response to questions:

- It was not proposed to have a 2m wide mountain bike track but would be approximately 600mm to 1m wide.
- If there were any geotechnical issues that area of land would be avoided.
- Some parts of the track could be hand dug, however would avoid unstable areas and move the track if there was instability.

Submission No. 5 - Jeremy Cole spoke to his submission and supporting the following:

- Extensive native planting, pest control, removal of dangerous trees and irrigation.
- Involved in planting trees in reserve.
- Soil type is very poor in some parts.
- Irrigation pipes do not work now.
- Like to see more native trees.
- Working bee to include local community to remove weeds and plant shrubs.
- Native trees grow very slowly, old pines and gum trees grow very quickly.
- Do not want to see gum trees in that reserve.
- Pathway is great, needs some maintenance.
- Tainui reserve swamped with blackberry. Some weeds up to 2-3 metres.
- Tainui the main reserve to be worked on.
- Happy to be involved in planting trees.

In response to questions:

- The Committee thanked and congratulated Mr Cole on the plantings and work he had undertaken over the years.
- Gum trees grow very quickly and die young. Have the whole valley planted with native trees. Willow trees would not survive.
- Unsure how the bank could be stabilised but it would take a 3-4 year plan to plant and once planted they would have to be watered and maintained otherwise would die.

- If the trees are not maintained 90% would be lost.
- Lot of neighbours be happy to assist with fertilising and watering of trees.
- Build relationship between the Council and residents surrounding the reserve and Plan can be achieved.

Submission No. 3 - Jessica Maxwell (supported by 62 person petition and 33 form letters) spoke to the meeting and clarified that the wording of the petition and the form letter were different and the petition prayer should read:

“We would prefer that the existing natural path through The Grove remains unchanged but if it is to be replaced then a narrow 1m to 2m dark raised aggregated path which is anti-glare and provides grip would be our preferred choice”.

This statement meant that the 62 signatories wanted the existing walking track to remain in its current natural form.

Mrs Maxwell then tabled a signed memo with the following Petitioner’s Prayer:

“Had we been given the opportunity on the letter/form to choose for the existing natural path to remain, we would have put this option as our first choice. We really don’t want a concrete or aggregate path through The Grove”.

Mrs Maxwell spoke to her submission and highlighted the following:

- Retain poplar trees.
- Opposed a concrete pathway or dark raised aggregate pathway.
- Agreed different wording in petition signed by letters was unfortunate and confusing. The form did not give option to remain with the status quo.
- Seen people and signed memo who do not want aggregate path or concrete path through the grove.
- Altered wording of petition that she and 61 people had signed.
- 90% of people in past four paths want natural track to remain.
- Displayed photos of key issue areas.
- Agreed to tidy up stream work.
- 9 September phoned Chris and met in reserve to discuss submission.
- Number of trees had up to 4 or 5 trunks that disease in forks could be a danger. No issue in removing trees that were diseased or unhealthy.
- Concept of car park at Keith Sands entrance – sounded good.
- Path remain as is and residents were pleased.
- Read email sent 10 September from staff.
- Concrete path idea dropped and pleased.
- Referred to Page 16 where path recommended to be 2m concrete path and disappointed that agreement reneged.
- Remedy 3 E the existing walking track remain unaltered.
- Shocked at non-transparency of recommendation of path.

In response to questions:

- The reserve was used all year round.
- Mr Hosford reminded the meeting that when the Plan was put out for consultation it was consistent with District Wide Reserve Management Plans that the public had requested to have safe accessible paths for all people. In

the Arataki Link Reserve requests for concrete pathways were asked for and Council put them in.

- It was not mandatory to have concrete pathways.
- The Petition was heavily balanced towards having an aggregate pathway and this had created confusion.
- Council receives requests all the time to put safe accessible pathways in reserves. These are for people of all abilities to enable them the use of parks all year round.
- Understanding was that the petitioners wanted a 1-2m aggregate path. Now that Mrs Maxwell has advised that the 100 people who use the park every day want to remain with the status quo there is no need to put a manmade pathway in.
- Final recommendation for approval will go to Council and was yet to be discussed and debated.
- In regard to the removal of poplar trees page 21 (D) it was important to have a Tree Removal Policy. Council officers relied heavily on arborist and contracting arborists and any tree removal came under the umbrella of the policy.
- Nuisance of seeds, fluff and debris need to be vigilant in their maintenance. In 10 years the majority of trees would have to be addressed.
- Recommended change to the recommendations to read: “removed and replaced if supported by the tree removal policy”.
- Confusion with petition that Mrs Maxwell did not want a 3m concrete but an alternative was 1-2m aggregate, but want it left it as is, not even a limestone path.

*The meeting adjourned for morning tea at 10.45am
and reconvened at 11.00am*

The Chair invited Mr Wayne Palleson, who had not made a submission but wished to voice his concerns addressed the meeting.

Wayne Palleson advised that he did not want to see all tall trees cut down and there were a lot of areas on the reserve that could be planted in Native trees but was against cutting down existing mature trees.

This concluded the verbal presentations on submissions.

The Parks Planning & Development Manager, Mrs Stuart advised that the following written submissions were each addressed in the Remedies:

- 1 Ian & Cathie Ellis
- 2 Dave Barnard
- 4 Aileen & Barry Hart
- 6 Alison Goodwin and Gilbert Family
- 7 Nadine Gaunt
- 9 Shane and Liz Lambert
- 10 Kay Bazzard
- 11 Rose Mohi
- 12 Julien & Barbara Montgomerie
- 14 R Bengé and K Nowlan
- 15 Graham Ford
- 16 Ann & David Christie
- 17 Di Bagshaw

- 18 Jennifer Sowersby
- 19 Keith & Dianne Carran
- 20 Linda McFarlane
- 21 A Crutchley
- 22 Sally Jackson
- 23 Malcolm Hanna
- 24 David Smith

LATE SUBMISSIONS

Councillor Kerr/Hazlehurst

That the late submissions from Sally Jackson (22), Malcolm Hanna (23) and David Smith (24) be accepted and addressed.

CARRIED

REMEDY 1-6

The meeting then considered each of the six remedies:

- Remedy 1: remove large pines and gum tree by Hikanui Drive
- Remedy 2: removal of poplar trees
- Remedy 3: Keith Sands to Keirunga Road walkway
- Remedy 4: mountain bike and walking conflicts
- Remedy 5: track erosion, tree maintenance and signs
- Remedy 6: name of Tainui Reserve

It was noted that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) would be drawn up for the usage of tracks which would be integrated into the operational nature of the mountain bike tracks.

Councillor Hazlehurst/Councillor Watkins

- A) That the report of the Parks Policy Planner titled “Hearing of Submissions on Draft Tainui, Tauroa Road, Tanner Street and Hikanui Reserves Management Plan” dated 4/11/2015 be received.**
- B) That the recommendations as adopted by the Reserves Management Plan Subcommittee be referred to the District Development Committee on 8 December 2015 for ratification; and that the Draft Tainui, Tauroa Road, Tanner Street and Hikanui Reserves Management Plan, amended in accordance with the ratified recommendations, be adopted as final.**

REMEDY 1: REMOVE LARGE PINES AND GUM TREE BY HIKANUI DRIVE

- C) That the submissions of Anthony Rowe (13), Robert Benge & Katrina Nowlan (14) requesting removal of the pine trees be allowed insofar as the two aging pine trees and self-seeded trees be removed; and their submissions requesting removal of the eucalyptus trees be referred to the District Development Committee on 8 December 2015 accompanied by an arborist report.**

REMEDY 2: REMOVAL OF POPLAR TREES

- D) That the submission of Jessica Maxwell (Submission 3) opposing the felling of the poplar trees (and the 95 signatories of the form letter and the petition); and the submissions of Di Bagshaw (17), Jennifer**

Sowersby (18), A Crutchley (21), Sally Jackson (Submission 22), Ian & Cathie Ellis (Submission 1), Graham Ford (Submission 15), Ann & David Christie (Submission 16) and Aileen & Barry Hart (Submission 4) be allowed and disallowed in part insofar as six poplars be removed immediately, with the remainder felled and replaced as required by HDC arborist under the HDC Tree Policy.

REMEDY 3: KEITH SANDS TO KEIRUNGA ROAD WALKWAY

- E) That the submissions of Jessica Maxwell (Submission 3), Aileen & Barry Hart (Submission 4), Jennifer Sowersby (Submission 18) and A Crutchley (Submission 21) opposing the creation of a concrete pathway (or request for a 1-2m dark aggregate pathway) and the 95 signatories of the form letter and the petition); the submission of Di Bagshaw (Submission 17) requesting a 1m wide pathway, and the submissions of Ian & Cathie Ellis (Submission 1) and Kay Bazzard (Submission 10) supporting the shared concrete walkway be allowed and disallowed in part insofar as Policy 2.12.5 be retained, but that the Concept Plan be amended to refer to a “2m wide dark aggregate pathway”, instead of a 3m wide concrete pathway.

Accessible pathways may be considered in the future, with community support.

REMEDY 4: MOUNTAIN BIKE AND WALKING CONFLICTS

- F) That the submissions of Jessica Maxwell (Submission 3), Terry Taaffe (Submission 8), A Crutchley (Submission 21), Kay Bazzard (Submission 10) and Julien Brown & Barbara Montgomerie (Submission 12) raising concerns over mixing bikes and pedestrians; and the submission of Malcolm Hanna (Submission 23) requesting separate biking and walking tracks in Tainui Reserve, David Smith (Submission 24) requesting separate biking and walking tracks in Hikanui Reserve and Alison Goodwin and Gilbert Family (Submission 6) requesting a separate cycle track in Tanner Reserve be allowed in part insofar as the Plan be amended to show separate mountain bike tracks through Hikanui Reserve, Tainui Reserve and Tanner Street Reserve.

REMEDY 5: TRACK EROSION, TREE MAINTENANCE AND SIGNS

- G) That the submission of Malcolm Hanna (Submission 23) regarding track erosion and tree maintenance be allowed as this work is already included within the Draft Plan.
- H) That the submission of Terry Taaffe (Submission 8) regarding concern over slope stability be allowed insofar as this issue will be addressed in the design of the proposed mountain bike track.
- I) That the submission of Malcolm Hanna (23) requesting that the tracks within Tainui Reserve be named be allowed and that a new Policy 2.12.6 be included as follows:

2.12.7 That the tracks within Tainui Reserve be named after local features, wildlife or trees and be identified on maps and signposted.

REMEDY 6: NAME OF TAINUI RESERVE

- J) That the submission of Rose Mohi (11) be disallowed and the name

of Tainui Reserve remain unchanged

With the reasons for this decision being that the decision will contribute to meeting the current and future needs of communities for good quality local infrastructure in a way that is most cost-effective for households and business by:

- **Providing a clear direction for the Council's management of Hearing of Submissions on Draft Tainui, Tauroa Road, Tanner Street and Hikanui Reserves Management Plan".**

CARRIED

5. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS ITEMS

There were no additional business items.

6. EXTRAORDINARY BUSINESS ITEMS

There were no extraordinary business items.

The meeting closed at 12.10pm

Confirmed:

Chairman:

Date:

1	Ian & Cathie Ellis	13	Anthony Rowe
2	Dave Barnard	14	R Benge and K Nowlan
3	Jessica Maxwell (supported by 62 person petition and 33 form letters)	15	Graham Ford
4	Aileen & Barry Hart	16	Ann & David Christie
5	Jeremy Cole	17	Di Bagshaw
6	Alison Goodwin and Gilbert Family	18	Jennifer Sowersby
7	Nadine Gaunt	19	Keith & Dianne Carran
8	Terry Taaffe	20	Linda McFarlane
9	Shane and Liz Lambert	21	A Crutchley
10	Kay Bazzard	22	Sally Jackson *
11	Rose Mohi	23	Malcolm Hanna *
12	Julien & Barbara Montgomerie	24	David Smith *