



# *Hastings District Council*

*Civic Administration Building  
Lyndon Road East, Hastings*

*Phone: (06) 871 5000*

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## **Vol 2 of 2**

### **Draft Keirunga Tree Management Plan Submission nos. 126-210**

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## **COUNCIL MEETING**

**Meeting Date: Thursday, 30 May 2019**

**Time: 9.00am**

**Venue: Council Chamber  
Ground Floor  
Civic Administration Building  
Lyndon Road East  
Hastings**

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ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE
<b>6.</b>	<b>DRAFT KEIRUNGA TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN</b>	
	Submission No. 126 - HP	1
	Submission No. 127 - Alan Franklin	3
	Submission No. 128 - Alanda Rafferty	5
	Submission No. 129 - Kylee Dunkerley	7
	Submission No. 130 - Anita Kleinjan	9
	Submission No. 131 - Ginny Redwood	11
	Submission No. 132 - Adrian Cowie	13
	Submission No. 133 - Anna Cana	15

Submission No. 134 - Dorothy Harrison	17
Submission No. 135 - Chris Ledword	19
Submission No. 136 - Robert Fuller	21
Submission No. 137 - David Head	23
Submission No. 138 - Linda Schwass	25
Submission No. 139 - Max Hurley	27
Submission No. 140 - Jane Hibbert	29
Submission No. 141 - Doug Bixley	31
Submission No. 142 - Bette Davis	33
Submission No. 143 - Bronwyn Watkins	35
Submission No. 144 - Shane Lagas	37
Submission No. 145 - Andy Horne	39
Submission No. 146 - Mike Head	41
Submission No. 147 - Ali Evers	43
Submission No. 148 - Kate Hurley	45
Submission No. 149 - Rod Searle	47
Submission No. 150 - Martin Davis	49
Submission No. 151 - Tracey Wilson	51
Submission No. 152 - Scott Hansen	53
Submission No. 153 - Clare Sambrook	55
Submission No. 154 - Penny Triandafilidis	57
Submission No. 155 - Monique Weir	59
Submission No. 156 - Miriam Sage	61
Submission No. 157 - Liam Bergstrom	63
Submission No. 158 - Nigel Dawes	65
Submission No. 159 - Elaine Prakash	67
Submission No. 160 - Ellen Looij	69
Submission No. 161 - Catherine Reeves	71
Submission No. 162 - Tim Dorward	73
Submission No. 163 - Rob Reeves	75
Submission No. 164 - John Stace	77
Submission No. 165 - Colin Shields	79
Submission No. 166 - Jessica Maxwell	81
Submission No. 167 - Jan Wilson	111
Submission No. 168 - Caroline Rees	113
Submission No. 169 - Ngaire Mules (nee Bacon)	115
Submission No. 170 - Roger Mulvay	117
Submission No. 171 - Peter Egerton	119

Submission No. 172 - Angela Cottingham	121
Submission No. 173 - Berry Small - Keirunga Garden Heritage Action Society	123
Submission No. 174 - Terry and Steph McGovern	125
Submission No. 175 - Lyn Fippard	127
Submission No. 176 - RT Moorhead	129
Submission No. 177 - Stuart and Jenny Sowersby	131
Submission No. 178 - Leigh and Grant Whitfield	133
Submission No. 179 - Shirley Lammas and Tony Corbett	135
Submission No. 180 - Andrew and Cheryl Whitworth	137
Submission No. 181 - Sophie Lankovsky	139
Submission No. 182 - Darryl Mitchell	141
Submission No. 183 - Marion and Keith Carey-Smith	143
Submission No. 184 - Keirunga Gardens Heritage Action Group	145
Submission No. 185 - Joe Leete	147
Submission No. 186 - Anne Crutchley	165
Submission No. 187 - Pat Turley	167
Submission No. 188 - Jenny Cumberbeach	237
Submission No. 189 - Leith Wilson	239
Submission No. 190 - Ian Wilson	241
Submission No. 191 - Nicky Manning	243
Submission Nos. 192 and 204 - Jean Hudson	245
Submission No. 193 - Brian Pattullo	249
Submission No. 194 - Rita and Barry Motley	251
Submission No. 195 - Ethne Ainge	253
Submission No. 196 - Kim Salamonson	255
Submission No. 197 - Paulette Johnston	257
Submission No. 198 - Harold Neal	259
Submission No. 199 - Kate Tweedie	261
Submission No. 200 - Darryl Mitchell	263
Submission No. 201 - Guy Wellwood	265
Submission No. 202 - Robin Sage	269
Submission No. 203 - Kate White, Lux Harvey, Juno and Siiva Harvey	273
Submission No. 204 - Jean Hudson (refer 192)	277
Submission No. 205 - Michael Broadbent	279
Submission No. 206 - Guy Wellwood	281
Submission No. 207 - Susan and Darryl Judd	285
Submission 208 - Peter Marshall	287

Submission No. 209 - Yvonne James	289
Submission No. 210 - V Howles	291



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#126

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 10th 2019, 9:55:27 pm

## \* Name

H P

## Address

New Zealand

## Phone number

## \* Email

hrpetera@hotmail.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

Save our trees

Item 6

Submission No. 126



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#127

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 10th 2019, 11:04:23 pm

## \* Name

Alan Franklin

## Address

239a Willowbank Ave

Napier

4183

New Zealand

## Phone number

2102403210.0

## \* Email

alanrig@yahoo.com.au

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

<https://app.wufoo.com/#/entry-manager/842/entries/127>

1/1

Item 6

Submission No. 127



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#128

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 10th 2019, 11:07:06 pm

## \* Name

Alanda Rafferty

## Address

1504 Waimarama Road

RD 12

Havelock North

4294

New Zealand

## Phone number

212972357.0

## \* Email

alanda.rafferty@vetent.co.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

No need to cut down healthy trees. Oak trees are hundreds of years old in England and they don't just cut them down because they are getting older!! Oak trees get big and live s long time.. that's what they do. Unless they are cut down in their prime!!



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#129

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 10th 2019, 11:19:26 pm

## \* Name

Kylee Dunkerley

## Address

173 Tauroa Rd

Havelock north

4130

New Zealand

## Phone number

21493392.0

## \* Email

kdunkerleynz@gmail.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

Manage the trees- prune appropriately- don't destroy 80 odd years of growth &amp; heritage





4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#130

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 10th 2019, 11:41:40 pm

## \* Name

Anita Kleinjan

## Address

Anderson Cottage

Anderson Cottage

354 Te Aute Road, RD2

Hastings

New Zealand

## Phone number

273163309.0

## \* Email

anita.kleinjan@outlook.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

Please review real evidence that requires such drastic action. It seems like someone needs to be controlled and is chainsaw happy. A few years ago Te Mata Peak had dead limbs dangerously hanging above walking tracks. RC employed someone to do a clean up. But now there's the other extreme, removing part of the fabric of HNth life. Come on council, stop lacking commonsense and borrowing trouble.



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#131

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 12:04:49 am

## \* Name

Ginny Redwood

## Address

43 Tainui Drive  
Havelock North  
4130  
New Zealand

## Phone number

274498190.0

## \* Email

dindins4@tra.co.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

It's about time Council listened to ratepayers concerns and stopped spending money on needless works like cutting the Keirunga Oaks down. I read David Trubridges article in regards to the oaks and firmly believe there is no valid reason for them to be cut down. Council. Get off your high horses and be real. Listen to what your ratepayers are saying. Remember its election year .



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#132

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 8:06:33 am

## \* Name

Adrian Cowie

## Address

86 Beach Rd Haumoana

Hastings

4102

New Zealand

## Phone number

## \* Email

adrian@pb.co.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

This is shortsighted and disrespectful of the effort and generosity of the man that gifted us this wonderful woodland.

Please preserve this park as it exists and manage it appropriately for the benefit of future generations.



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#133

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 8:29:43 am

## \* Name

Anna Caña

## Address

65 Middle Road Havelock North

4130

New Zealand

## Phone number

## \* Email

anna\_cana@outlook.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan





4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#134

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 8:50:49 am

## \* Name

Dorothy Harrison

## Address

Appartment 136. Mary Doyle  
3 Karanema Drive  
Havelock North  
Hawkes Bay  
Hastings .4130  
New Zealand

## Phone number

8737956.0

## \* Email

lewis.dorothy@xtra.co.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

Sad that you would even think to CUT down these trees that have taken so long to reach the age of them.  
Must we cut and destroy everything in our way .



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#135

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 9:46:29 am

## \* Name

Chris Ledword

## Address

25 PlasseyStreet

Havelock North

4130

New Zealand

## Phone number

## \* Email

kcjledword@xtra.co.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

<https://app.wufoo.com/#/entry-manager/842/entries/135>

1/1

Item 6

Submission No. 135



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#136

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 11:31:34 am

## \* Name

Robert Fuller

## Address

249 Te Mata Rd.

Havelock North

Hawke's Bay

4130

New Zealand

## Phone number

68778688.0

## \* Email

fuller.daphbob@xtra.co.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#137

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 12:25:34 pm

## \* Name

David Head

## Address

89 Ngatarawa Rd

RD5 Hastings

Hastings

4175

New Zealand

## Phone number

2108387081.0

## \* Email

davegh8966@gmail.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

I can see no justification for removal of oak trees. You will destroy history.





4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#138

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 1:24:19 pm

## \* Name

Linda Schwass

## Address

308a Park Rd Sth

Hastings

4122

New Zealand

## Phone number

## \* Email

linda@schwass.kiwi.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

If the trees are healthy and not causing any danger leave them alone.



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#139

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 1:49:29 pm

## \* Name

max hurley

## Address

324a swanson rd

waitakere

0610

New Zealand

## Phone number

98338736.0

## \* Email

mhlb@outlook.co.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

Councillors forget that they are no better than the rest of us and they are elected by us to do the best they can for the ratepayers that put them in office. Then they who are the minority group think that its their way or the highway, how arrogant is that.



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#140

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 4:31:27 pm

## \* Name

Jane Hibbert

## Address

55 McHardy St  
Havelock North  
4130  
New Zealand

## Phone number

68775988.0

## \* Email

hibbert.family@slingshot.co.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

More input from people that use this area reguarly would be appreciated The trees that are currently been removed from our reserves for no apparent reason is most upsetting Whilst some replanting is occurring maybe more tree management rather total removal occur



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#141

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 5:09:48 pm

## \* Name

Doug Bixley

## Address

Havelock North

90 Simla Ave

4130

New Zealand

## Phone number

8772236.0

## \* Email

bixley@slingshot.co.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

I cannot believe trees of that age need to be cut down, I've seen Oak trees in England 800+ years old, and American Oak trees over 200 years old. The plan is absolutely ridiculous.






4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE #142

CREATED

PUBLIC  
Apr 11th 2019, 7:30:52 pm

\* Name

Bette Davis

Address

Hawkes Bay  
Hastings  
New Zealand

Phone number

\* Email

davisbette7@gmail.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Disagree

Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

Item 6

Submission No. 142



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#143

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 8:07:22 pm

## \* Name

Bronwyn Watkins

## Address

35c Middle Rd  
Havelock North  
4130  
New Zealand

## Phone number

275240899.0

## \* Email

bronwyn.watkins@xtra.co.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

Leave the oaks to live please.

Item 6

Submission No. 143



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#144

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 8:28:35 pm

## \* Name

Shane Lagas

## Address

12 percy berry place

Havelock north

4130

New Zealand

## Phone number

## \* Email

lagasshane@gmail.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

Healthy trees should stay. There are plenty of unhealthy oaks that are heritage trees that need to be looked at rather than Keirunga gardens.



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#145

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 8:57:34 pm

## \* Name

Andy Horne

## Address

7

Waikonini Place

Havelock North

4130

New Zealand

## Phone number

273994077.0

## \* Email

andrew.horne@police.govt.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

Independent arborist report suggests it is not necessary to fell all these trees. I understand they are only 60 years old which is relatively young. I am concerned at the lack of maintenance from council not only here but in many of our local parks. It seems to be the easiest option for council but will destroy an important public asset. Being somewhat cynical I also wonder at local home owners who may benefit from this felling may well be influencing this action. More proactive maintenance and care needs to be given to enhancing these areas, not the opposite.

<https://app.wufoo.com/#/entry-manager/842/entries/145>

1/1

Item 6

Submission No. 145





4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#146

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 9:15:05 pm

## \* Name

Mike Head

## Address

34 Bertram Street

Elsternwick

Melbourne

Victoria

3185

Australia

## Phone number

## \* Email

mhead73nz@yahoo.co.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

This place is of emotional and historical importance to myself and my family having lived in Havelock North for 3 generations. Leave this majestic place alone.



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#147

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 9:26:21 pm

## \* Name

Ali Evers

## Address

281Clifton Rd

Te Awanga

Hastings

4102

New Zealand

## Phone number

## \* Email

alievers13@gmail.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#148

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 9:43:45 pm

## \* Name

Kate Hurley

## Address

New Zealand

## Phone number

## \* Email

katehurley60@gmail.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

Please don't cut down those beautiful trees. Its areas like that which make Havelock the beautiful village that it is and make it a lovely feeling place to live.



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#149

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 10:06:36 pm

## \* Name

Rod Searle

## Address

57 Trent Street

Napier

4112

New Zealand

## Phone number

274743488.0

## \* Email

searlespr@gmail.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

Respect the intention of the gifter of the land and look to the long term future of our region and preserve the trees for posterity., They do not grow overnight.





4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#150

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 10:13:21 pm

## \* Name

Martin Davis

## Address

Queen street west

Hastings

New Zealand

## Phone number

## \* Email

martinandjody@yahoo.co.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

I vote to save the Oaks.



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#151

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 11th 2019, 10:47:01 pm

## \* Name

Tracey Wilson

## Address

2/628 Nelson Street North

Mahora

Hastings

4122

New Zealand

## Phone number

## \* Email

trayceew17@gmail.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

Please leave the Oaks. Why would you cut down healthy trees. The Keirunga gully is one of the most beautiful places in Havelock North.



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#152

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 12th 2019, 6:03:14 am

## \* Name

Scott Hansen

## Address

Havelock north

4130

New Zealand

## Phone number

## \* Email

sh@intersoft.co.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

The trees make the area unique.

Money could be better spent elsewhere.



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#153

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 12th 2019, 8:06:38 am

## \* Name

Clare Sambrook

## Address

12 chestnut court

Haveloce north

4130

New Zealand

## Phone number

275554700.0

## \* Email

Csambrook25@gmail.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

I have been going to keirunga for over 50yrs...it is part of havelock identity. ..the trees are still very young for oaks and I am more than willing to risk a tree falling on me. This is dessicaton of an iconic identity of our beautiful village...it is our history and our heritage...please please please do not destroy our beautiful sacred identity..I love this place..I want to show grandchildren where I have walked almost daily for over 50 years.

LEAVE OUR TREES ALONE !!!





4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#154

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 12th 2019, 8:56:36 am

## \* Name

Penny Triandafilidis

## Address

27 Trigg Crescent Taradale

Napier

4112

New Zealand

## Phone number

8443131.0

## \* Email

penetriandafilidis@gmail.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#155

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 12th 2019, 9:31:08 am

## \* Name

Monique Weir

## Address

24 havelock road

Hospital hill

Napier

4110

New Zealand

## Phone number

274968856.0

## \* Email

moniquesqueek@hotmail.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

Those oaks are a very unique woodland which is very rare to see.  
It would be an absolute crime to remove these trees.

The community walk this area because of its beauty and how these trees make them feel connected to nature.

It takes 50 or more years to get this kind of woodland to have even close to this stature and presents.

Please consider preservation and protection of these trees.

Where else can you go to be in such a wonderful place.



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#156

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 12th 2019, 9:40:05 am

## \* Name

Miriam Sage

## Address

56 Reynolds Road

Havelock North

Hastings

4130

New Zealand

## Phone number

68774708.0

## \* Email

miriamsage@outlook.co.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

I think we should value these trees and keep them here .

Item 6

Submission No. 156



4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#157

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 12th 2019, 10:09:59 am

## \* Name

Liam Bergstrom

## Address

New Zealand

## Phone number

## \* Email

ligwib@gmail.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

Item 6

Submission No. 157





**Julia Martin**

---

**From:** Bart G. Leslie  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 17 April 2019 6:44 PM  
**To:** Records Team  
**Subject:** FW: Replacement submission - Keirunga Gadens  
**Attachments:** 20190416 submission.docx  
  
**Importance:** High

Neither agree nor disagree

---

**From:** Colin Hosford  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 16 April 2019 6:31 PM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie <bartgl@hdc.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** FW: Replacement submission - Keirunga Gadens  
**Importance:** High

Please include in the pile

---

**From:** Nigel Dawes [<mailto:nigeldawes60@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 16 April 2019 5:21 PM  
**To:** Colin Hosford <colinh@hdc.govt.nz>  
**Cc:** Scott Smith <Scott.Smith@hdc.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Replacement submission - Keirunga Gadens  
**Importance:** High

Colin,

As per correspondence please find attached an amended submission re Keirunga Gardens. I have just tried to load it via myvoice but of course that option is not available now!

I need therefore to ask you to ensure that this attachment text replaces that which is already in the system.

Regards,

Nigel

Name: Nigel Dawes  
Address: 7/b Kopanga Road, Havelock North  
Submitted on 16 April by agreement with Colin Hosford

**THIS REPLACES THE PREVIOUS SUBMISSION MADE BY MYSELF, NIGEL DAWES**

Recommendation/next steps

The Council should engage Arborlab and Paper Street to assist the Council in establishing a future management plan for the gardens. The plan should focus on tree retention and overall management and should only remove trees where absolutely necessary (ie from a safety perspective).

It is suggested/recommended that once the Council has agreed a management plan there should be further discussions with interested parties as to how the work will progress in order to maximise the effect of the work whilst minimising disruption and damage during the process.

Background

Since the original consultation period, ie consulting on the Draft Management Plan, there have been two additional reports published (Arborlab and Paper Street Tree Company) as well as an Addendum.

The Arborlab and Paper Street reports both provide detailed and structured information on the gardens. There are areas where the recommendations of the two companies concur and areas where they differ. This is hardly surprising when comparing the recommendations of two professional organisations.

Upon receiving the Arborlab report it would have been very easy to say that it should be adopted as published, however the Paper Street report does raise some additional points that probably should inform the Council's discussions. The emphasis really needs to be on ensuring the creation and adoption of a robust future management plan for the gardens, with relevant annual/biennial/triennial checkpoints and ensuring that the management plan only looks to remove trees when absolutely necessary from a safety perspective (safety of the trees as well as of people).

A solution that is based somewhere between the Arborlab and the Paper Street reports would be welcomed, I believe, by many in Havelock North. Both reports focus on gradual change over a period of years, and this approach assists tremendously in ensuring continuing community enjoyment of the gardens as well ensuring the longevity of the existing trees.

4/16/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#159

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 12th 2019, 11:35:50 am

## \* Name

Elaine Prakash

## Address

7a lindsay St  
Havelock North  
Hastings  
4130  
New Zealand

## Phone number

## \* Email

elaine.prakash@gmail.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

We have already lost so many large trees in the area due to in fill housing which makes the ones in public shared spaces like Keirunga all the more treasured and important to retain for enjoyment of locals and visitors and future generations.



4/17/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#160

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 12th 2019, 11:41:07 am

## \* Name

Ellen Looij

## Address

21 Colenso Ave

Hospital Hill

Napier

HB

4110

New Zealand

## Phone number

68350624.0

## \* Email

ellen.chris.looij@xtra.co.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

Even though I now live in Napier, I used to be a member of Keirunga Gardens, and lived in Hastings for decades. Both my father in law (Thomas Looij) and husband (Chris Looij) worked for the city council in the Parks and Recreation department, and have been instrumental in the green spaces.

Cities need green spaces, and are the richer and more enviable for having mature and healthy wooded areas. It shows that a council appreciates that they are only in a stewardship position, and need to leave it in a better place for the future.

When you have several well learned and respected arborists declaring that these oak trees are healthy specimens, and if you did your research on the longevity of this species, you will understand that they have not even reached their peak.

Please have new landscaping designs drawn up by someone who actually knows and values botanical issues, and will include the oaks. Not just cut them down because of a trendy idea.

The Hastings District was given an heirloom treasure, to be enjoyed by generations to come. It was not just the area, but what was cultivated on it. Don't just throw that out, but work with it.

Yours, E.Looij.



4/17/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#161

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 12th 2019, 12:32:09 pm

## \* Name

Catherine Reeves

## Address

625N Nelson Street

Hastings

4122

New Zealand

## Phone number

6468764350.0

## \* Email

catherine@sunshinevintage.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

I strongly disagree with the draft reserve management plan as proposed and believe that it would wrong to remove these historic trees on mass instead of remediating the issues that have caused their decline. These trees and gifted valley are a Hawke's Bay treasure and should be treated with great respect and care. There have been some excellent alternative, informed suggests made, that I believe to be a much better course of action. Once the trees are gone they are gone for all time and that would be an entirely unnecessary travesty! PLEASE save "our" trees.





4/17/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan COMPLETE #162

CREATED

 PUBLIC  
Apr 12th 2019, 12:35:00 pm

\* Name

Tim Dorward

Address

New Zealand

Phone number

\* Email

timmyd51@gmail.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Disagree

Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

Item 6

Submission No. 162



4/17/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#163

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 12th 2019, 12:47:57 pm

## \* Name

Rob Reeves

## Address

625 Nelson Street

Hastings

Hawke's Bay

4122

New Zealand

## Phone number

64210775645.0

## \* Email

rob.reeves@outlook.co.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

I strongly disagree with the draft reserve management plan as proposed and I believe that it would be wrong to remove these trees when it would appear according to different expert advice that is entirely unnecessary!

PLEASE save "our" trees. Listen to that other advice as to what has caused their decline and then find a long term remedy rather than a senseless and reckless short term solution using a chainsaw!

These trees and gifted valley are a Hawke's Bay treasure and should be treated with great respect and care. Let the next 10 generations enjoy this stand of trees.

Don't be nearsighted? There have been some excellent alternative, informed suggestions made, that I believe to be a much better course of action.



4/17/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#164

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 12th 2019, 1:24:54 pm

## \* Name

John Stace

## Address

19 Shortland Place

Havelock North

4130

New Zealand

## Phone number

21679990.0

## \* Email

john@vexford.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

Hastings District Council has a significant responsibility as stated in its own Management Plan and that is "the protection, management and enhancement of the natural and historic values of Keirunga Gardens". The English and Red Oaks within Keirunga Gardens and particularly in Arthurs Path Gully are, and will be for another 100 years, a priceless asset. Any thought of culling those trees would be wonton vandalism and total irresponsibility on the part of our local Council who should be moving heaven and earth to make sure that every tree is saved and that knowledgeable and qualified arborists develop a plan for the Oak tree's ongoing good health and management.



4/17/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#165

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 12th 2019, 1:54:07 pm

## \* Name

Colin Shields

## Address

37 whakatomo place

Havelock North

4130

Hastings

New Zealand

## Phone number

68774849.0

## \* Email

geordies27@xtra.co.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

We live next to a small reserve at the top of Whakatomo place we have lost a lot of trees locally due to a new subdivision. I feel that more could be done to plant more trees to enhance the area and encourage more birds. There appears to be conflicting views to the health of the trees at Keirunga and unless it is proven that the trees in question are beyond help I would be against removing any if is necessary to remove any trees perhaps for every tree removed two new trees could be planted somewhere else





4/17/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#166

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 12th 2019, 2:08:27 pm

## \* Name

Jessica Maxwell

## Address

15 Glenpark Place

Havelock North

Hastings

4130

New Zealand

## Phone number

68774247.0

## \* Email

jessicamaxwell2017@gmail.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

4/17/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

**Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan**

Having read arborist Richie Hill's detailed report regarding the trees in Keirunga Gardens this morning, I wholeheartedly endorse his report and recommendations and am grateful for his expertise. I would urge councilors to make amends for council's past neglect, mismanagement and mutilation of valuable, heritage trees by engaging Richie Hill's services to advise and oversee the future management of all trees in the Arthur's path area, including new plantings.

My extra on-line submission needs to record my personal anger at this manager-induced fiasco, which has caused so many people so much distress, because it should NEVER have happened.

It beggars belief that managers Colin Hosford and Bart Leslie developed and promoted a Draft Tree Management Plan, one which would have virtually eradicated a much-loved woodland, based on the assessment of one individual.

Their line manager, Craig Thew, should have stopped the Draft Plan process before it started as there was no official arborist report, but he failed to do so. Only when council was read the riot act in January regarding the lack of an arborist report, did the council engage Arborlab. Its report did not corroborate the council's Draft Plan but now its findings have been critiqued and found wanting.

The decisions made by these managers were, in my view, absolutely reckless and showed a complete lack of due diligence.

It also needs to be recorded that Mayor Sandra Hazlehurst was 100% in support of the Draft Plan to virtually eradicate the woodland. When I asked her in writing in March how she could possibly have endorsed such a radical cull, she avoided answering the question.

I applaud the visionary efforts made by the Stand Up For The Keirunga Oaks campaign to save the heritage trees and help the council unlock the huge potential the area offers.

My submission asks the questions: Are these managers being held accountable for their poor decisions? Is the Mayor being taken to task for going along with the madness?

<https://app.wufoo.com/#/entry-manager/842/entries/166>

2/2

Item 6

Submission No. 166

**Bart G. Leslie**

**From:** Jessica Maxwell <jessicamaxwell2017@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 11 December 2018 10:11 AM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie; Sandra Hazlehurst; Ann Redstone  
**Subject:** Re: Feedback re Keirunga Gardens Draft Plan

Good Morning Bart

The most important concern I have, which you have not included in your summary of my concerns, is my strongly held view that council managers lack the ability to implement the proposed plan. Can you please confirm that you will include that feedback in your report to council?

Thank you.

Regards

Jessica

**From:** Bart G. Leslie  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 11, 2018 9:59 AM  
**To:** 'Jessica Maxwell' ; Sandra Hazlehurst ; Ann Redstone  
**Subject:** RE: Feedback re Keirunga Gardens Draft Plan

Good Morning Jessica,

Thank you for your written feedback on the draft Keirunga Gardens Tree Management Plan.

Your comments are noted and will be considered by Council along with the feedback of other members of the community.

These include concerns over a) noxious weed plant species and the replanting with native groundcovers, and b) the option of letting nature take control of the Oak trees rather than large scale tree removal.

I have discussed your issues with the track and drain condition with Russell Engelke who has been dealing with tracks and other issues in other nearby Havelock North Reserves. Clearing the drain is a regular maintenance task that requires ongoing care. I have discussed this with Russell and our operations staff and we will make sure its clear prior to Xmas.

We have a new contractor starting Feb 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 and we will ensure this is part of the new maintenance regime.

Regards,  
 Bart

**From:** Jessica Maxwell [mailto:jessicamaxwell2017@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, 10 December 2018 9:26 AM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie <bartgl@hdc.govt.nz>; Sandra Hazlehurst <Sandra.Hazlehurst@hdc.govt.nz>; Ann Redstone <councillor.redstone@hdc.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Feedback re Keirunga Gardens Draft Plan

Good Morning Bart

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Keirunga Gardens Draft Plan.

I do not share Chris Ryan's vision for the mass cull of oak trees and other trees in Arthur's Path and the proposed re-planting of that area. I would ask council to stop putting any more money into the current proposal which, in my view, council managers lack the ability to implement.

The draft plan was initiated because a number of Kopanga Road residents, whose properties are adjacent to the reserve, moaned to council about the trees shading their properties and leaves falling into their swimming pools. In response, council arborists mutilated a number of oak trees and removed others. If council panders to the whims of these people, neighbours beside all the other local reserves will want the same thing. The trees were there first.

I would suggest that Council's priority should be to eradicate the noxious ground weeds such as wandering Jew and ivy (plus the full range of other weeds which are out of control throughout the reserve) and replant with native groundcovers to prevent soil erosion. That is where I would like to see money spent with the same noxious weed-eradication policy and new native ground-planting adopted in Tainui and Tauroa Reserves. All the Havelock North reserves are weed-stricken following years of poor management and neglect. HDC managers produce expensive glossy brochures with lots of bureaucratic babble, photos and charts but when it comes to service delivery they Fail with a capital 'F'.

I base my view that managers are incompetent on the fact that over the past decades and to a greater degree during the past five years, the state of neglect in the Havelock North reserves while mismanaged by the Parks and Reserves department and Maintenance Group is absolutely appalling. With the current mayor, former mayor and former CEO, Ross McLeod admitting that council managers failed to deliver (but no-one held accountable), I would have no confidence that the same managers could either oversee contractors or carry out the necessary follow-up maintenance. In my view, all but one lack the ability, integrity or people skills required. I have evidence that there is also a very unhealthy and entrenched management culture in those two departments.

Recent mismanagement and poor decision-making in Tainui Reserve alone have cost ratepayers in excess of \$100,000 that I know about.

I would like to let Nature take its course with the oak trees in Keirunga and apart from any trees which are very sick which could be removed, the others should be left alone, in my view.

The neglected watercourse which blocks with debris, allowing flooding to wash the nasty grit off the path (grit which was put down without any consultation with users); the untidy mess of branches and trunks from felled trees which are left lying for months before being removed and grass which grows to almost a metre high before being cut (after numerous complaints from the public) are just three examples of the poor management so many local people are complaining about.



I reiterate that I have absolutely no confidence in council managers' ability to implement the grandiose draft plan. They can't even keep on top of basic maintenance.

My view is to let the trees in Arthur's Path have their day. You don't go into a rest home and euthanise everybody just because they have reached 80 years of age. Let them fall, revitalise the surrounding soil and then replant.

There are plenty of other areas in Keirunga Gardens that could benefit from improved maintenance, landscaping and some new planting for a fraction of the cost.

JESSICA MAXWELL  
10<sup>th</sup> December 2018

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**Bart G. Leslie**

**From:** Jessica Maxwell <jessicamaxwell2017@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 20 December 2018 3:28 PM  
**To:** Neil Taylor; Bart G. Leslie  
**Cc:** Ann Redstone; Bayden Barber; Damon Harvey; Eileen Lawson; George Lyons; Geraldine Travers; Henare O'Keefe; Jacoby Poulain; Kevin Watkins; Malcolm Dixon; Rod Heaps; Sandra Hazlehurst; Simon Nixon; Tania Kerr; Wendy Schollum  
**Subject:** Re: Feedback re Keirunga Gardens Draft Plan

Good Afternoon Mr Taylor

I raised three questions in my e-mail to Mr Leslie on 17th December. On his behalf, you have addressed two of them and you have advised that my feedback will be presented in full to councillors. However, I have received no response or explanation to the first which was:-

Could you please advise me, the acting CEO, mayor and councillors why you have not confirmed in writing, as requested, that you will present all aspects of my feedback? (See below). This included my strongly held view that you and your fellow managers (apart from one) lack the ability to implement Chris Ryan's radical and very expensive tree management plan. I also asked you to formally record that view in front of around ten witnesses during the escorted walk group but you appeared reluctant to do so and became petulant. You then excluded that part of my feedback in your e-mail summary.

I would be grateful if Mr Leslie would respond directly and let me know his reasons for not replying to this simple question as I remain unaware of why he chose not to.

Yours sincerely

Jessica

**From:** Neil Taylor  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 20, 2018 2:58 PM  
**To:** 'Jessica Maxwell'  
**Cc:** Ann Redstone ; Bayden Barber ; Damon Harvey ; Eileen Lawson ; George Lyons ; Geraldine Travers ; Henare O'Keefe ; Jacoby Poulain ; Kevin Watkins ; Malcolm Dixon ; Rod Heaps ; Sandra Hazlehurst ; Simon Nixon ; Tania Kerr ; Wendy Schollum  
**Subject:** RE: Feedback re Keirunga Gardens Draft Plan

Dear Ms Maxwell

Thank you for copying me into your email to Bart Leslie dated 17 December 2018. As the Council's Acting Chief Executive I am taking this opportunity to respond directly to you. I confirm that your emails dated 10 December and 17 December 2018 will be presented in full (as is) to the Council at the time any decisions are made relating to the Keirunga Gardens Draft Plan. I anticipate that will be in the New Year.

You raise two questions in your email of 17 December which I am responding to as follows :-

1. Yes, Mr Hosford read your email of 10 December 2018.
2. No, Mr Hosford did not know specifically who would acknowledge receipt of feedback. I note that acknowledgement is usually undertaken by the staff member to whom correspondence is addressed. However in the case of my email to you today I am responding to an email that you addressed to Mr Leslie so it is not always the case.

Yours faithfully  
 Neil Taylor



NEIL TAYLOR  
ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Phone 06 871 5072

Email [neilt@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:neilt@hdc.govt.nz) Web [hastingsdc.govt.nz](http://hastingsdc.govt.nz)

Hastings District Council, Private Bag 9002, Hastings 4156, New Zealand

**From:** Jessica Maxwell [mailto:jessicamaxwell2017@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Monday, 17 December 2018 9:13 AM

**To:** Bart G. Leslie <[bartgl@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:bartgl@hdc.govt.nz)>

**Cc:** Neil Taylor <[neilt@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:neilt@hdc.govt.nz)>; Ann Redstone <[councillor.redstone@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:councillor.redstone@hdc.govt.nz)>; Bayden Barber <[councillor.barber@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:councillor.barber@hdc.govt.nz)>; Damon Harvey <[councillor.harvey@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:councillor.harvey@hdc.govt.nz)>; Eileen Lawson <[councillor.lawson@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:councillor.lawson@hdc.govt.nz)>; George Lyons <[councillor.lyons@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:councillor.lyons@hdc.govt.nz)>; Geraldine Travers <[councillor.travers@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:councillor.travers@hdc.govt.nz)>; Henare O'Keefe <[councillor.okeefe@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:councillor.okeefe@hdc.govt.nz)>; Jacoby Poulain <[councillor.poulain@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:councillor.poulain@hdc.govt.nz)>; Kevin Watkins <[councillor.watkins@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:councillor.watkins@hdc.govt.nz)>; Malcolm Dixon <[councillor.dixon@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:councillor.dixon@hdc.govt.nz)>; Rod Heaps <[councillor.heaps@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:councillor.heaps@hdc.govt.nz)>; Sandra Hazlehurst <[Sandra.Hazlehurst@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:Sandra.Hazlehurst@hdc.govt.nz)>; Simon Nixon <[councillor.nixon@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:councillor.nixon@hdc.govt.nz)>; Tania Kerr <[councillor.kerr@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:councillor.kerr@hdc.govt.nz)>; Wendy Schollum <[councillor.schollum@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:councillor.schollum@hdc.govt.nz)>

**Subject:** Fw: Feedback re Keirunga Gardens Draft Plan

Good Morning Bart

You asked for feedback but it seems you only want to record selective comments.

Could you please advise me, the acting CEO, mayor and councillors why you have not confirmed in writing, as requested, that you will present all aspects of my feedback? (See below). This included my strongly held view that you and your fellow managers (apart from one) lack the ability to implement Chris Ryan's radical and very expensive tree management plan. I also asked you to formally record that view in front of around ten witnesses during the escorted walk group but you appeared reluctant to do so and became petulant. You then excluded that part of my feedback in your e-mail summary.

Other people have told me that during the walks you didn't want to hear about the shocking neglect all around and apparently some were so annoyed with your argumentative attitude and Chris', "It's my way or the highway" view that they walked away.

Your shifty e-mail reply bears the hallmark of evasive responses and deceitful behaviour I have encountered from your more senior managers, Colin Hosford and Craig Thew. Perhaps the similarity is no coincidence. It is my view that you work in a very toxic environment and toxins spread. Please advise:-

1. Did Mr Hosford read my feedback?
2. Did Mr Hosford know you were acknowledging receipt of my feedback?



Your poor decision making has backfired. Now, all councillors can read my unedited feedback, your bad attitude has been reported and they are also now aware that there is strong community resistance to the plan.

Yours sincerely

Jessica Maxwell

**From:** Jessica Maxwell  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 11, 2018 10:10 AM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie ; Sandra Hazlehurst ; Ann Redstone  
**Subject:** Re: Feedback re Keirunga Gardens Draft Plan

Good Morning Bart

The most important concern I have, which you have not included in your summary of my concerns, is my strongly held view that council managers lack the ability to implement the proposed plan. Can you please confirm that you will include that feedback in your report to council?

Thank you.

Regards

Jessica

**From:** Bart G. Leslie  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 11, 2018 9:59 AM  
**To:** 'Jessica Maxwell' ; Sandra Hazlehurst ; Ann Redstone  
**Subject:** RE: Feedback re Keirunga Gardens Draft Plan

Good Morning Jessica,

Thank you for your written feedback on the draft Keirunga Gardens Tree Management Plan.

Your comments are noted and will be considered by Council along with the feedback of other members of the community.

These include concerns over a) noxious weed plant species and the replanting with native groundcovers, and b) the option of letting nature take control of the Oak trees rather than large scale tree removal.

I have discussed your issues with the track and drain condition with Russell Engelke who has been dealing with tracks and other issues in other nearby Havelock North Reserves. Clearing the drain is a regular maintenance task that requires ongoing care. I have discussed this with Russell and our operations staff and we will make sure its clear prior to Xmas.

We have a new contractor starting Feb 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 and we will ensure this is part of the new maintenance regime.

Regards,  
 Bart

**From:** Jessica Maxwell [mailto:jessicamaxwell2017@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, 10 December 2018 9:26 AM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie <bartgl@hdc.govt.nz>; Sandra Hazlehurst <Sandra.Hazlehurst@hdc.govt.nz>; Ann Redstone <councillor.redstone@hdc.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Feedback re Keirunga Gardens Draft Plan



Good Morning Bart

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Keirunga Gardens Draft Plan.

I do not share Chris Ryan's vision for the mass cull of oak trees and other trees in Arthur's Path and the proposed re-planting of that area. I would ask council to stop putting any more money into the current proposal which, in my view, council managers lack the ability to implement.

The draft plan was initiated because a number of Kopanga Road residents, whose properties are adjacent to the reserve, moaned to council about the trees shading their properties and leaves falling into their swimming pools. In response, council arborists mutilated a number of oak trees and removed others. If council panders to the whims of these people, neighbours beside all the other local reserves will want the same thing. The trees were there first.

I would suggest that Council's priority should be to eradicate the noxious ground weeds such as wandering Jew and ivy (plus the full range of other weeds which are out of control throughout the reserve) and replant with native groundcovers to prevent soil erosion. That is where I would like to see money spent with the same noxious weed-eradication policy and new native ground-planting adopted in Tainui and Tauroa Reserves. All the Havelock North reserves are weed-stricken following years of poor management and neglect. HDC managers produce expensive glossy brochures with lots of bureaucratic babble, photos and charts but when it comes to service delivery they Fail with a capital 'F'.

I base my view that managers are incompetent on the fact that over the past decades and to a greater degree during the past five years, the state of neglect in the Havelock North reserves while mismanaged by the Parks and Reserves department and Maintenance Group is absolutely appalling. With the current mayor, former mayor and former CEO, Ross McLeod admitting that council managers failed to deliver (but no-one held accountable), I would have no confidence that the same managers could either oversee contractors or carry out the necessary follow-up maintenance. In my view, all but one lack the ability, integrity or people skills required. I have evidence that there is also a very unhealthy and entrenched management culture in those two departments.

Recent mismanagement and poor decision-making in Tainui Reserve alone have cost ratepayers in excess of \$100,000 that I know about.

I would like to let Nature take its course with the oak trees in Keirunga and apart from any trees which are very sick which could be removed, the others should be left alone, in my view.

The neglected watercourse which blocks with debris, allowing flooding to wash the nasty grit off the path (grit which was put down without any consultation with users); the untidy mess of branches and trunks from felled trees which are left lying for months before being

removed and grass which grows to almost a metre high before being cut (after numerous complaints from the public) are just three examples of the poor management so many local people are complaining about.

I reiterate that I have absolutely no confidence in council managers' ability to implement the grandiose draft plan. They can't even keep on top of basic maintenance.

My view is to let the trees in Arthur's Path have their day. You don't go into a rest home and euthanise everybody just because they have reached 80 years of age. Let them fall, revitalise the surrounding soil and then replant.

There are plenty of other areas in Keirunga Gardens that could benefit from improved maintenance, landscaping and some new planting for a fraction of the cost.

JESSICA MAXWELL  
10<sup>th</sup> December 2018

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Item 6

Submission No. 166

**Bart G. Leslie**

**From:** Jessica Maxwell <jessicamaxwell2017@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, 10 February 2019 6:33 PM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie; Ann Redstone; Bayden Barber; Damon Harvey; Eileen Lawson; George Lyons; Geraldine Travers; Henare O'Keefe; Jacoby Poulain; Kevin Watkins; Malcolm Dixon; Rod Heaps; Sandra Hazlehurst; Simon Nixon; Tania Kerr; Wendy Schollum; Neil Taylor  
**Subject:** Fw: Mutilated oak trees in Keirunga Gardens  
**Attachments:** P1000129.JPG; P1000131.JPG

Please print off and attach this e-mail, the two attached photos and the accompanying e-mail from 26th August 2017 with my feedback Bart.

What it shows is that these oak trees have been repeatedly butchered by unskilled council contractors over the years and that I have previously brought it to council's attention and complained about the disgraceful mutilation of beautiful trees. As per usual, nothing was done and, despite the eco-vandalism, council managers who, in my view are completely out of their depth, continued to employ these contractors.

Thank you.

Jessica

**From:** Jessica Maxwell  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 26, 2017 10:36 AM  
**To:** Ann Redstone ; Bayden Barber ; Damon Harvey ; George Lyons ; Geraldine Travers ; Henare O'Keefe ; Jacoby Poulain ; Kevin Watkins ; Malcolm Dixon ; Rod Heaps ; Sandra Hazlehurst ; Simon Nixon ; Tania Kerr ; Colin Hosford  
**Subject:** Mutilated oak trees in Keirunga Gardens

Good Morning Councillors

I had not been walking through Keirunga Gardens for a number of weeks as I had a bad dose of 'flu.

Distressed locals informed me that council's preferred tree services provider, Pro Arbore, had mutilated three mature oak trees along the path known as 'Arthur's Pass' in Keirunga Gardens. I view that as eco-vandalism and a crime. Those trees were absolutely beautiful. I understand that complaints have been laid with staff about the inexcusable damage to these three trees but it is important that you are aware of this disgusting and disgraceful work by council's preferred providers (I won't call them arborists because no arborist would do this). Two oaks have been hacked into stumps, the third left totally unbalanced. It is simply disgraceful.

Earlier this year, I drew your attention to the mutilated poplar in Tainui Reserve and another oak tree (close to these latest victims) which council had pruned at the request of a Kopanga Road resident. That resident then got 'someone' to cut the tree back further and mutilated it. He refused to co-operate with council to name the person who carried out the unsanctioned tree work and while I am told that council wrote to local tree felling businesses, I do not think that the home owner was penalised.

Despite a history of mutilating trees which are protected in council reserves, the Parks and Reserves managers continue to give contracts to Pro Arbore and they have clearly failed to tell Pro Arbore that they

are to stop destroying beautiful trees. This is just the latest in a long line of management failures by this under-performing team.

Regards

Jessica

Item 6

Submission No. 166





Item 6

Submission No. 166





Item 6

Submission No. 166

**Bart G. Leslie**

**From:** Jessica Maxwell <jessicamaxwell2017@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, 18 February 2019 1:34 PM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie  
**Cc:** Ann Redstone; Bayden Barber; Damon Harvey; Eileen Lawson; George Lyons; Geraldine Travers; Henare O'Keefe; Jacoby Poulain; Kevin Watkins; Malcolm Dixon; Rod Heaps; Sandra Hazlehurst; Simon Nixon; Tania Kerr; Wendy Schollum; Nigel Bickle  
**Subject:** Request for information on Keirunga  
**Attachments:** P1000081.JPG; P1010179.JPG; Talking Point on Keirunga Trees.jpg

Good Afternoon Bart

Please print off and include last Friday's Talking Point (attached) with my submission.

As you and Mr Hosford have been the managers responsible for Keirunga Gardens for the past number of years, I would appreciate answers to the following questions:-

1. Who gave Pro Arbore the instruction to initially pollard the two healthy oaks beside the Kopanga Road section and then subsequently remove them?
2. Who gave Pro Arbore the instructions to disfigure and unbalance so many of the oaks? Why were they allowed to continue as council's preferred provider of tree services after mutilating so many trees, not only in Keirunga but also in Tainui. (Photos previously supplied of the mutilated poplar in the Lower Grove)?
3. One large oak fell on the homestead side of the watercourse near the old wooden seat in a storm and the one lower down was removed at the same time. There are the remains of two large trunks close by on the same side, heading up the path away from the cemetery. When were those two trees felled, who by and what was the reason for felling them as their trunks are firmly anchored into the ground and they look healthy? Clearly they didn't fall over.
4. With regard to the oak tree next to Nigel Dawes' property which was left mutilated and misshapen (photo attached). My understanding is that, after council cut the tree back at Mr Dawes' request, he proceeded to engage Tree Monkey to carry out illegal treework and further mutilate the tree. What, if any action did council take against either Mr Dawes for engaging an unauthorised contractor to enter the reserve and damage a healthy tree or the Tree Monkey operator for using a chainsaw to illegally damage the tree?
5. In your report to the Landmarks Advisory Service in December 2017, regarding preliminary plans for Keirunga, you mention on several occasions that you have been liaising with the Keirunga Gardens Heritage Action Society (KGHAS). My understanding is that his group went into recess for many years after a difficult relationship with council. Can you please advise when it was reformed, who its current officers are and who you liaised with?
6. I met someone in Keirunga the other evening and they told me that council had planted a number of Pongas in the area of the wooden seat but that all had died due to lack of follow-up care. (Photo of one dead stump attached). Can you please advise who planted the pongas, when they were planted, how many were planted and why no follow-up care was given?
7. Can you also please advise why so much un-cleared debris has been left as both a fire hazard and Health and Safety issue in the reserve despite requests to remove it? Close to the Pufflet Road/Tanner Street entrance along the little top path there is a massive number of big trunk circles and branches on the slope; a large length of trunk is lying across the sloping path to the

watercourse in that area (where it had fallen down the bank) and, after the big gum fell close to the cemetery last year, an enormous amount of debris was left lying on the bank there. I asked you about this on the walk and you said you were happy with it. The mess is simply appalling.

8. Track expert, Trevor Butler, reported that it was bad practice to leave piles of mulch on slopes near paths. Why then are there in-numerable piles of old mulch dumped on the sloping banks which have been spilling onto the main path since last year?

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Jessica

Item 6

Submission No. 166



# Leave the trees alone

Hawke's Bay  
Today  
15.02.2019

Neglect has left Keirunga Gardens in a woeful state says Jessica Maxwell

Jessica Maxwell

**I**walk my dog Charlie through Keirunga Gardens almost on a daily basis and the area known as Arthur's Path offers a peaceful sanctuary through all four seasons.

In spring, the return of green leaves after the starkness of winter raises spirits in anticipation of long days, barbecues and holidays.

In summer, when temperatures can soar into the mid-30s, the canopy from the mature oaks offers welcome shade.

In autumn, the path is a joy to walk along, feet and paws rustling through a carpet of fallen leaves, and in winter, when the trees are laid bare, you know it's time to light the fire and settle down with a good book.

It was with dismay when, last October, I learned about council's draft tree management plan to cull over 100 mature trees in that area.

Over the years, I have communicated regularly with Hastings District Council's Parks and Reserves department complaining about neglect in the Havelock North reserves.

I had several Talking Points published in *Hawke's Bay Today* drawing attention to the weed-stricken state of Tairua, Tauroa and Keirunga.

Former mayor Lawrence Yule and his CEO both admitted publicly that council's care of the reserves was inadequate and promised better. Not unexpectedly, the neglect continued.

In August 2017, when I noticed that council contractors had pollarded (ie, cut back a tree so it is reduced to a short trunk) three of the oaks in Keirunga, I sent in photos to council protesting the eco-vandalism.

I was told that neighbours in Kopanga Rd had objected to leaves falling into their swimming pools.

Well, had luck... the trees were there first. It got worse. After council cut back another tree, a neighbour took the matter into his own hands, hired someone who entered the reserve and cut the tree back even further.

This action led to council discovering the same neighbour had drainage spilling into the reserve and he was ordered to remedy that.

While council gardeners do a good job around the homestead, managers have neglected the rest of the reserve.

Despite numerous requests to



Jessica Maxwell enjoys walking her dog Charlie through Keirunga Gardens.

tidy the place up and eradicate the noxious ground cover such as wandering Jew and ivy, the place is a mess.

The weeds could be eliminated and replaced with native ground cover to help prevent soil erosion.

In its draft report, council states there has been 'little proactive tree management'.

That is a

euphemism for the fact that council has totally neglected the trees and they have been regularly butchered.

My feedback to council, provided last December, is frank.

I pointed out that if council pandered to the whims of Kopanga Rd residents, that neighbours beside

The neglect in Keirunga is on permanent display with basic maintenance continually deferred.

other reserves will want trees removed to improve their view (and house values).

I also stated that I thought that managers lacked the ability to implement the proposed radical cull of 100 trees or carry out future maintenance, basing that assertion on the history of neglect previously mentioned.

The neglect in Keirunga is on

permanent display with basic maintenance continually deferred.

Through lack of follow-up care, the little watercourse which council put limestone rocks in to prevent erosion fills with debris and then floods over the path; the weeds proliferate, the ground is littered with trunks and branches large and small from fallen trees, the detritus becoming a Health and Safety issue and the grass can grow up to a metre high before complaints from the public eventually gets some action.

While I have no objection to any tree being removed if it is diseased or dangerous, I say, let the oaks in Keirunga have their day, care for them and let nature take its course.

After all, as I put in my feedback, you don't go into a rest home and euthanise every body just because they are 80 years old.

Jessica Maxwell lives in Havelock North and is a concerned ratepayer.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Email editors@hbtoday.com to have your say.

Item 6

Submission No. 166

**Bart G. Leslie**

**From:** Jessica Maxwell <jessicamaxwell2017@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 19 March 2019 1:37 PM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie; Ann Redstone; Bayden Barber; Damon Harvey; Eileen Lawson; George Lyons; Geraldine Travers; Henare O'Keefe; Jacoby Poulain; Kevin Watkins; Malcolm Dixon; Rod Heaps; Sandra Hazlehurst; Simon Nixon; Tania Kerr; Wendy Schollum; Nigel Bickle  
**Subject:** Re: Request for information on Keirunga

Good Afternoon Bart

Could you please answer my questions of 18th February without further procrastination? You indicated that you would reply by 4/5 March. We're now on the 19th.

Thank you.

Jessica

**From:** Bart G. Leslie  
**Sent:** Friday, March 1, 2019 12:10 PM  
**To:** 'Jessica Maxwell'  
**Subject:** RE: Request for information on Keirunga

Hello Jessica,

This email is to let you know I am working on a response to your email and will reply early next week. There is a lot on at the moment and we're busy getting our new maintenance contractor up & running so please bear with me as we work through this busy period.

NB: I have printed and included your article with your submission as requested.

Regards,  
 Bart

**From:** Jessica Maxwell [mailto:jessicamaxwell2017@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, 18 February 2019 1:34 PM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie <bartgl@hdc.govt.nz>  
**Cc:** Ann Redstone <councillor.redstone@hdc.govt.nz>; Bayden Barber <councillor.barber@hdc.govt.nz>; Damon Harvey <councillor.harvey@hdc.govt.nz>; Eileen Lawson <councillor.lawson@hdc.govt.nz>; George Lyons <councillor.lyons@hdc.govt.nz>; Geraldine Travers <councillor.travers@hdc.govt.nz>; Henare O'Keefe <councillor.okeefe@hdc.govt.nz>; Jacoby Poulain <councillor.poulain@hdc.govt.nz>; Kevin Watkins <councillor.watkins@hdc.govt.nz>; Malcolm Dixon <councillor.dixon@hdc.govt.nz>; Rod Heaps <councillor.heaps@hdc.govt.nz>; Sandra Hazlehurst <Sandra.Hazlehurst@hdc.govt.nz>; Simon Nixon <councillor.nixon@hdc.govt.nz>; Tania Kerr <councillor.kerr@hdc.govt.nz>; Wendy Schollum <councillor.schollum@hdc.govt.nz>; Nigel Bickle <nigelb@hdc.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Request for information on Keirunga

Good Afternoon Bart

Please print off and include last Friday's Talking Point (attached) with my submission.



As you and Mr Hosford have been the managers responsible for Keirunga Gardens for the past number of years, I would appreciate answers to the following questions:-

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3. One large oak fell on the homestead side of the watercourse near the old wooden seat in a storm and the one lower down was removed at the same time. There are the remains of two large trunks close by on the same side, heading up the path away from the cemetery. When were those two trees felled, who by and what was the reason for felling them as their trunks are firmly anchored into the ground and they look healthy? Clearly they didn't fall over.
4. With regard to the oak tree next to Nigel Dawes' property which was left mutilated and misshapen (photo attached). My understanding is that, after council cut the tree back at Mr Dawes' request, he proceeded to engage Tree Monkey to carry out illegal treework and further mutilate the tree. What, if any action did council take against either Mr Dawes for engaging an unauthorised contractor to enter the reserve and damage a healthy tree or the Tree Monkey operator for using a chainsaw to illegally damage the tree?
5. In your report to the Landmarks Advisory Service in December 2017, regarding preliminary plans for Keirunga, you mention on several occasions that you have been liaising with the Keirunga Gardens Heritage Action Society (KGHAS). My understanding is that his group went into recess for many years after a difficult relationship with council. Can you please advise when it was reformed, who its current officers are and who you liaised with?
6. I met someone in Keirunga the other evening and they told me that council had planted a number of Pongas in the area of the wooden seat but that all had died due to lack of follow-up care. (Photo of one dead stump attached). Can you please advise who planted the pongas, when they were planted, how many were planted and why no follow-up care was given?
7. Can you also please advise why so much un-cleared debris has been left as both a fire hazard and Health and Safety issue in the reserve despite requests to remove it? Close to the Pufflet Road/Tanner Street entrance along the little top path there is a massive number of big trunk circles and branches on the slope; a large length of trunk is lying across the sloping path to the watercourse in that area (where it had fallen down the bank) and, after the big gum fell close to the cemetery last year, an enormous amount of debris was left lying on the bank there. I asked you about this on the walk and you said you were happy with it. The mess is simply appalling.
8. Track expert, Trevor Butler, reported that it was bad practice to leave piles of mulch on slopes near paths. Why then are there in-numerable piles of old mulch dumped on the sloping banks which have been spilling onto the main path since last year?

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Jessica

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**Item 6****Submission No. 166**





Item 6

Submission No. 166



Item 6

Submission No. 166







Item 6

Submission No. 166





Item 6

Submission No. 166





Item 6

Submission No. 166





Item 6

Submission No. 166



# Leave the trees alone

Hawke's Bay  
Today  
15.02.2019

Neglect has left Keirunga Gardens in a woeful state says Jessica Maxwell

Jessica Maxwell

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It was with dismay when, last October, I learned about council's draft tree management plan to cull over 100 mature trees in that area.

Over the years, I have communicated regularly with Hastings District Council's Parks and Reserves department complaining about neglect in the Havelock North reserves.

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In August 2017, when I noticed that council contractors had pollarded (ie, cut back a tree so it is reduced to a short trunk) three of the oaks in Keirunga, I sent in photos to council protesting the eco-vandalism.

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Well, bad luck... the trees were there first. It got worse. After council cut back another tree, a neighbour took the matter into his own hands, hired someone who entered the reserve and cut the tree back even further.

This action led to council discovering the same neighbour had drainage spilling into the reserve and he was ordered to remedy that.

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Jessica Maxwell enjoys walking her dog Charlie through Keirunga Gardens.

tidy the place up and eradicate the noxious ground cover such as wandering Jew and Ivy, the place is a mess.

The weeds could be eliminated and replaced with native ground cover to help prevent soil erosion.

In its draft report, council states there has been 'little proactive tree management'. That is a

euphemism for the fact that council has totally neglected the trees and they have been regularly butchered.

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Through lack of follow-up care, the little watercourse which council put limestone rocks in to prevent erosion fills with debris and then floods over the path: the weeds proliferate; the ground is littered with trunks and branches large and small from fallen trees, the detritus becoming a Health and Safety issue and the grass can grow up to a metre high before complaints from the public eventually gets some action.

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After all, as I put in my feedback, you don't go into a rest home and euthanise everybody just because they are 80 years old.

Jessica Maxwell lives in Havelock North and is a concerned ratepayer.

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Email  
editor@hbtoday.co.nz  
to have your say

Item 6

Submission No. 166

**Bart G. Leslie**

**From:** Jessica Maxwell <jessicamaxwell2017@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 26 March 2019 2:01 PM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie  
**Subject:** Fw: Request for information on Keirunga

Good Afternoon Bart

I have added my comments in blue. Please print out this full e-mail trail and include it with other documentation in my submission.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Jessica

**From:** Bart G. Leslie  
**Sent:** Monday, March 25, 2019 9:16 AM  
**To:** 'Jessica Maxwell'  
**Subject:** FW: Request for information on Keirunga

Good Morning Jessica,

Apologies for the time taken to reply to your email. It has been an extremely busy period of late.

My replies are in red below:

Kind Regards,  
 Bart

Please print off and include last Friday's Talking Point (attached) with my submission.  
*Please be advised that Council will include a copy of the talking point article with your submission.*  
 Thank you.

As you and Mr Hosford have been the managers responsible for Keirunga Gardens for the past number of years, I would appreciate answers to the following questions:-

1. Who gave Pro Arbore the instruction to initially pollard the two healthy oaks beside the Kopanga Road section and then subsequently remove them? *The decision to pollard the two trees was made after and agreed to after discussion between myself, Russ Engelke, and Colin Hosford. It was based on the desire to reduce branches overhanging the neighbouring property by trees that were that were located very close to the boundary (1-2m) and the fact that their canopies were over the adjacent dwelling. It was thought the best long term approach was to pollard the trees and let them regrow back from the boundary thus reducing the risk of harm to residents & damage to property. Oak trees do not respond to being pollarded. Neighbours complained to Pro Arbore when they saw what they were doing and were told that it went against their ethos but that they were carrying out council's orders. The trees died and were later removed. This was a totally unnecessary loss of two valuable oak trees with instructions to Pro Arbore to pollard them coming*



*from yourself and Colin Hosford. I believe that their removal breached council's Tree Removal Policy.*

2. Who gave Pro Arbore the instructions to disfigure and unbalance so many of the oaks? *No instructions was given to disfigure & unbalance the oaks.* Why were they allowed to continue as council's preferred provider of tree services after mutilating so many trees, not only in Keirunga but also in Tainui. (Photos previously supplied of the mutilated poplar in the Lower Grove)? *A number of trees in Tainui and Keirunga have required work. These tasks have been undertaken by Council's own tree team and experienced external contractors. The external contractors are utilised because they have the correct equipment to undertake large fallen tree removal in a cost effective and safe manner, and where they are available to undertake work. The evidence that unskilled contractors, be they council staff or external contractors mutilated and unbalanced the trees is on permanent display for anyone walking through Arthur's Path to see for themselves. When I asked for accountability for the mutilation of the large poplar in Tainui by an unskilled person with a chainsaw, for example, nothing happened and the mutilation of other trees followed.*
3. One large oak fell on the homestead side of the watercourse near the old wooden seat in a storm and the one lower down was removed at the same time. There are the remains of two large trunks close by on the same side, heading up the path away from the cemetery. When were those two trees felled, who by and what was the reason for felling them as their trunks are firmly anchored into the ground and they look healthy? Clearly they didn't fall over. *Initially one tree failed and was removed and in a later event, a second tree fell over and damaged another adjacent tree damaging it beyond saving. All trees were removed and their trunks trimmed to the ground. Reports I have received regarding the upper two trees from regular walkers, is that one branch fell from one and the next thing the whole tree was removed. The view shared by walkers is that those two trees could have been trimmed and managed, as per council's Tree Policy Removal Flow Chart, rather than removed.*
4. With regard to the oak tree next to Nigel Dawes' property which was left mutilated and misshapen (photo attached). My understanding is that, after council cut the tree back at Mr Dawes' request, he proceeded to engage Tree Monkey to carry out illegal treework and further mutilate the tree. What, if any action did council take against either Mr Dawes for engaging an unauthorised contractor to enter the reserve and damage a healthy tree or the Tree Monkey operator for using a chainsaw to illegally damage the tree? *The work on the tree was carried out by firstly Council's arborists. After the tree was originally cut back to the boundary Council's, our then arborist recommended that the main branches should be cut back to the trunk. After investigation, it was clear that an ambiguous conversation between a land owner and Council's arborist has led to a contractor entering the park and carrying out work in excess of what was envisioned. Council's dissatisfaction with the work was relayed to both the owner and contractor, but because of the ambiguous nature of the conversation that led to the contractor's work it was decided that no further action was warranted. In a matter as serious as this, the initial 'ambiguous' conversation should have been followed up with a written letter.*
5. In your report to the Landmarks Advisory Service in December 2017, regarding preliminary plans for Keirunga, you mention on several occasions that you have been liaising with the Keirunga Gardens Heritage Action Society (KGHAS). My understanding is that his group went into recess for many years after a difficult relationship with council. Can you please advise when it was reformed, who its current officers are and who you liaised with? *Council has worked with the KGHAS over the last 10 years. If you want further information about the Society you should request that from the Society. Our discussions were with Berry Small and Chris Ryan. It is quite appalling that Chris Ryan, who had a serious conflict of interest was one of only two people, supposedly representing the Keirunga Gardens Heritage Action Group who you and Mr Hosford were liaising with. Until this enlightening information was dredged out, anyone reading the report, in my view, would have thought that you were liaising with a group of at least a dozen people.*



6. I met someone in Keirunga the other evening and they told me that council had planted a number of Pongas in the area of the wooden seat but that all had died due to lack of follow-up care. (Photo of one dead stump attached). Can you please advise who planted the pongas, when they were planted, how many were planted and why no follow-up care was given? *Approximately 12 ponga ferns were installed 8 years ago by Council. They didn't survive. In retrospect this was a poor selection for this location. The only reason the Pungas died was that they received no follow-up care or maintenance.*
7. Can you also please advise why so much un-cleared debris has been left as both a fire hazard and Health and Safety issue in the reserve despite requests to remove it? Close to the Pufflet Road/Tanner Street entrance along the little top path there is a massive number of big trunk circles and branches on the slope; a large length of trunk is lying across the sloping path to the watercourse in that area (where it had fallen down the bank) and, after the big gum fell close to the cemetery last year, an enormous amount of debris was left lying on the bank there. I asked you about this on the walk and you said you were happy with it. The mess is simply appalling. *As a natural area, often tree branches and limbs are left to rot and add nutrient to the soil. In addition, debris can be mulched to augment or nourish the soil for new plantings. This practice has been in place for decades across some of the Havelock North natural areas and rural reserves. The current mulch has been left for this reason. Our new contractor has been allocated additional hours to work in these reserves and is scheduled to spend time on removing limbs and branches from Keirunga Gardens. At the request of staff, Council has made extra funds available to undertake additional maintenance in these natural areas. This question does not refer to mulch. It refers to debris and branches from previously felled trees which are adding a significant fire risk to the area. Multiple requests to remove this unsightly debris over some 18 months were ignored, so it is well overdue that the new contractor may start removing it.*
8. Track expert, Trevor Butler, reported that it was bad practice to leave piles of mulch on slopes near paths. Why then are there in-numerable piles of old mulch dumped on the sloping banks which have been spilling onto the main path since last year? *There are approximately five piles of mulch left in Keirunga near paths. These have been retained with the aim to spread the mulch over the soil to improve soil conditions. As per the above comment about additional funding, our new contractor has been instructed to clear mulch away before winter. Please note that the new contractor has only been in place since the February 1<sup>st</sup> but they we have able to already dedicate considerably more hours to Havelock North's natural reserves than had occurred in previous years. The bad practice of leaving piles of mulch to fall over the paths was just done simply through laziness, in my view. The mulch could have been taken to one location and distributed from there, or being spread at the time it was created.*

*I apologise for the time it has taken to responds but with the recent moving on of parks staff and the challenges of bedding in a new contractor, and the priority given to the Draft Keirunga Tree Management Plan, it has taken a long time to respond. Again my apologies,*

*Regards Bart Leslie*

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4/17/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#167

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 12th 2019, 3:08:57 pm

## \* Name

Jan Wilson

## Address

12 Puflett Rd  
Havelock North  
4130  
New Zealand

## Phone number

68775981.0

## \* Email

janwilsonhb@gmail.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

I am not an Arborist but I do not believe that number of trees need removing after reading other reports- from arborists and people who know what they are talking about. yes, trees need pruning and some culling, but not total removal in huge numbers.





4/17/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#168

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 12th 2019, 3:28:28 pm

## \* Name

Caroline Rees

## Address

1 Glasgow Pl

Tamatea

Napier

4112

New Zealand

## Phone number

274878757.0

## \* Email

Seasidecaroline8@gmail.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan



4/17/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#169

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 12th 2019, 3:43:28 pm

## \* Name

Ngaire Mules (nee Bacon)

## Address

11A Birkley Road, Bayswater,  
North Shore City  
Auckland  
0622  
New Zealand

## Phone number

94459821.0

## \* Email

ngaire.mules2@gmail.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Neither Agree or Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

Submission in response to Arborlab Peer Review of Keirunga gardens Draft tree Management Plan.

While the Arborlab Peer Review represents an improved approach to the management of the Keirunga Arthurs Path woodland area compared with the initial Management Plan, I continue to have reservations in regard to aspects of its claims and assumptions as follows;

Does the forest need to represent a wide diversity of species when publicly accessible forests the world over are often dominant species focussed, lending them a unique character?

The original planting of the trees reflected an intention to create a predominantly oak species woodland. This intention needs to be honoured in the way the park is managed now and into the future.

No mention is made in the plan of the fate of the eucalyptus trees near the cemetery boundary. In the previous plan these were scheduled to be removed but as they are healthy it would be desirable for these to be retained since they provide a much-needed food source for tui in particular.

The number of trees to ultimately be removed seems excessive and the review of the necessity for removal needs to be rigorously examined at each stage of the management process.

<https://app.wufoo.com/#/entry-manager/842/entries/169>

1/1

Item 6

Submission No. 169



4/17/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#170

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 12th 2019, 4:08:20 pm

## \* Name

Roger Mulvay

## Address

48 Mclean Road  
RD 12  
Havelock North  
Hawkes Bay  
4294  
New Zealand

## Phone number

273649225.0

## \* Email

mulvay@xtra.co.nz

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Strongly Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

The Draft Reserve Management Plan is madness. It makes a mockery of management of the Arthurs Pass area in Keirunga Gardens. I fully support the view of Joe Leete in Hawkes Bay Today on 3 April 2019. I agree that the proposal is landscape vandalism and would be an insult to the man who established the site and gifted it to the citizens of Hawkes Bay.

The peer review by Arborlab Tree Management is a far better proposal with a balance between tree removal, height reduction, pruning and replacement planting. To make that alternative plan even better I would suggest extending the timeline for the proposed work. This would spread the cost over a longer time period. I would also reconsider the proposal to remove some of the existing mature healthy trees in the short term. A forest takes a long time to establish. The plan to modify it should take that into account.

I fully support the concept of maintaining the woodland atmosphere in the area. We have a beautiful reserve and should aim to preserve it. Once the work has been approved there is no need to rush into the making the changes.

Congratulations to the Hastings District Council for arranging the peer review. I was devastated by the first proposal, heartened by the alternative proposal and appreciated the comparison of the two. Thank you.



4/17/2019

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

COMPLETE

#171

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 12th 2019, 5:29:13 pm

## \* Name

Peter Egerton

## Address

65 Joll Road  
Havelock North  
4130  
New Zealand

## Phone number

211745457.0

## \* Email

arataki-orchard@outlook.com

\*

Please tick the box that best describes your thoughts on the Draft Tree Management Plan: Disagree

## Please share any of your thoughts about the Draft Reserve Management Plan

Before I retired I was an organic grower. We had one of the first certified organic properties in the district. General health of plants.

An unhealthy plant will not set viable seed. What seed they do set may not germinate and if it does the new plants will not thrive. I have been walking daily through Keirunga Gardens for the last 14 years. Every autumn I have seen the ground covered in acorns [oak seed]. Every spring I have seen a carpet of oak saplings. That is a sure indication that the Keirunga oaks are not only healthy but thriving in their environment.

Replacement Trees.

The replacement trees are already being self-selected. Saplings suited to the environment, the successors to the existing trees being grown from the seed of those trees. An illustration of this may be found in the area where a large oak by the railway viaduct split and fell in November 2014. The oaks downhill were severely damaged. Five years later the only evidence of this is the rubbish left behind by council contractor who 'cleared' the area—new oak saplings abound. All that needs to be done here and elsewhere is select the healthiest specimen replacement trees clear some space around them and let them get on with it.

I appalled at the proposal to clear whole areas such as Arborlabs area 58 and 55 when there are good semi mature oaks within them that should be saved and encouraged.

Peter Egerton  
0211745457  
Arataki-orchard@outlook.com

<https://app.wufoo.com/#/entry-manager/842/entries/171>

1/1

Item 6

Submission No. 171





**Bart G. Leslie**

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**From:** Angela Cottingham <lincslasnz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, 24 December 2018 10:54 AM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie  
**Subject:** Oaks

Dear Mr Leslie

I love walking in the Keirunga Gardens with the mature oaks, shade in the summer and beautiful autumn colours. They have a majestic beauty. I am, therefore, shocked and unhappy that the HDC has decided to remove them. Why would you do that when there is no need. Why not spend the money on tidying up the area known as Arthur's Path which has been neglected for years. This would be more effective at keeping the beauty of the area instead of creating a wasteland.

So my feedback would be NO to culling the oaks and YES to better maintenance.

Regards

Angela Cottingham

Item 6

Submission No. 172



**Bart G. Leslie**

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**From:** Ritasmall Small <ritaberrysmall@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, 16 December 2018 8:14 PM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie  
**Subject:** Keirunga Gardens,

Sorry this is late Dear Bart.

Please put me down for being in agreement with what The Council wants to do with the old trees in Arthur's Path.. I am totally in agreement with culling out all the old trees to make way for new plantings ASAP .

Berry Small Chair KG Heritage Action Soc.,

Item 6

Submission No. 173



**Bart G. Leslie**

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**From:** terry McGovern <noosatwo@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, 30 December 2018 6:56 PM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie  
**Subject:** Keirunga gds. Feedback

Hi Bart. We **strongly disagree** with the proposed tree management plan. In particular the removal of all the mature oak trees. We would prefer to see some other options presented rather than the "This is it , no other option" plan that's been given. There is nothing wrong with this plan in principal, but it may not be the preferred option of the majority. We believe there **are** other options and they need to be explored before any rash decisions are made. What about a second opinion from an independent arborist?

sincerely.

Terry and Steph McGovern.  
17b Kopanga road.

Item 6

Submission No. 174



**Bart G. Leslie**

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**From:** Lyn Flippard  
**Sent:** Friday, 11 January 2019 1:58 PM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie  
**Subject:** Keirunga Gardens Feedback

Hello Bart,

Please accept the following as my feedback on the Keirunga Gardens proposal. Whilst I would prefer to keep as many trees as possible, I am not against the redevelopment of the Keirunga walkway but am not comfortable with the proposal in its current form. The following are my thoughts ....

Regardless of the state of the trees, I feel the first question that should be answered is;

**"What is the look and feel that we trying to achieve for this area?"**

*Note: I think this was the focus of the first meeting but people wanted more detailed information first.*

My preference for the "look and feel" is:

- Based on its locality this area should **not** be designed for the few who look out **onto** the reserve but be focused on the users **within** the park. I believe that this is the largest stakeholder group.
- As described in the proposed plan, I would like this part of Keirunga to remain resembling a "woodland" with a very high canopy.
- The walkway should be open and uncluttered to allow kids to run free, provide good long distance visibility for those walking dogs off-lead and to ensure people are able to see who is there. Avoid clusters of low growing shrubs which provide spaces for people to hide away from the public view.
- Uniformity of planting. Plant big trees (at least the same height as the oak trees that are there now). I would also prefer these to be of all similar species whether it is what there is there now or something similar just not a cottage garden of "bits and pieces".

NB: Very disappointed that the proposed design has so many varieties of "prunus" - the world does not need more flowering cherry trees.

From a private person's point of view, I feel that many of the concerns raised by other neighbours hold merit and should be considered prior to proceeding. For example;

- **Planning and Transparency** - I do feel that Council should not have engaged a neighbour as the expert. Regardless of his experience and or qualifications, I believe there is a conflict of interest as he will have a bias especially given where he lives and his strong personal preference on plant species etc. I also think he shouldn't be trying to interpret the original owner's vision. Council should look at engaging an independent designer/consultant skilled at this type of project even if for a second opinion.

- **Proposed Planting** - Based on the proposed planting plan on Page 17, the height of the trees at maturity is relatively low and provides a concave planting scheme whereby the centre of the walkway **appears** to end up being lower than the right hand ridge. This layout appears to benefit neighbours who look down onto the walkway but perhaps not in the best interest of the users within the park. Why not more big trees?
- **Maintenance** – this matter has been raised by various members of the public at each meeting and initially I didn't think much about it until I looked around. There is a row of large trees that was planted close to our boundary 15-20 years ago by Council or "Society"? Not sure consideration was given at the time as to their long term effect and they don't appear to have been maintained well. Another example is the recent pruning of the Macrocarpa trees on Puflett Road – I don't know the brief given to the contractor but it doesn't look like a good job as not all the dead branches were removed (one of which inhibits the mowing of the slope).
- **Swimming pool drainage into the reserve** – throughout the process, concerned about erosion and tree health has been a major factoring driving this project. During the walk a member of the public advised that neighbouring properties had been seen draining their pools directly into the gardens. The chemicals and volume of water would cause erosion and effect the health of the trees. This should be investigated and addressed before any money is spent on this project. Has anyone advised Regional Council regarding the chemicals getting discharged into the waterways?

I feel we should focus on planning the redevelopment of the garden for the next 100 years and not to appease neighbour/s who want their pools up against the park boundary or don't like leaves – they can always move to Taradale...

Thanks for your time and effort that is going into this project,

Regards,



LYN FIPPARD  
CUSTOMER SERVICE OFFICER

Phone 5562

Email [lynf@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:lynf@hdc.govt.nz) Web [hastingsdc.govt.nz](http://hastingsdc.govt.nz) Feedback [hastingsdc.govt.nz/feedback](http://hastingsdc.govt.nz/feedback)  
Hastings District Council, Private Bag 9002, Hastings 4156, New Zealand



## NOTES

9.12.2018



From R.T. MOORHEAD.

23 KOPANGA ROAD 4130 EMMA INGLE & XTRA.CO.NZ.  
PH. (06) 877 8893.

I appreciated the walk through the Valley (Arthurs Path) in the Keirunga Reserve. Good to hear the reasons for some serious tree removal ie the Quercus Rubra. I did ask that the English Oak area at the Farmer St entrance end be kept, and properly maintained, and that the 10y grandaves on the banks be retained for mulch and moisture retention for these older trees. There are silver birches at the entrance that need removal and the two patches near the road need serious pruning to give the good things in there ie Magnolias - philadelphus; and silver spire and shape again.

I can see the need to remove the large grove of Quercus Rubra but hope enough shade trees will be provided near the main path, as the shady walk is the main attraction for walkers & dogs.

I like the varieties of flowering & fruiting trees suggested and certainly large groups would look great. I do believe that the maintenance of existing trees needs more care - and direction from someone who knows what to prune and take out to balance older trees. would be good. A job well done the first time, will save money in the long run!!

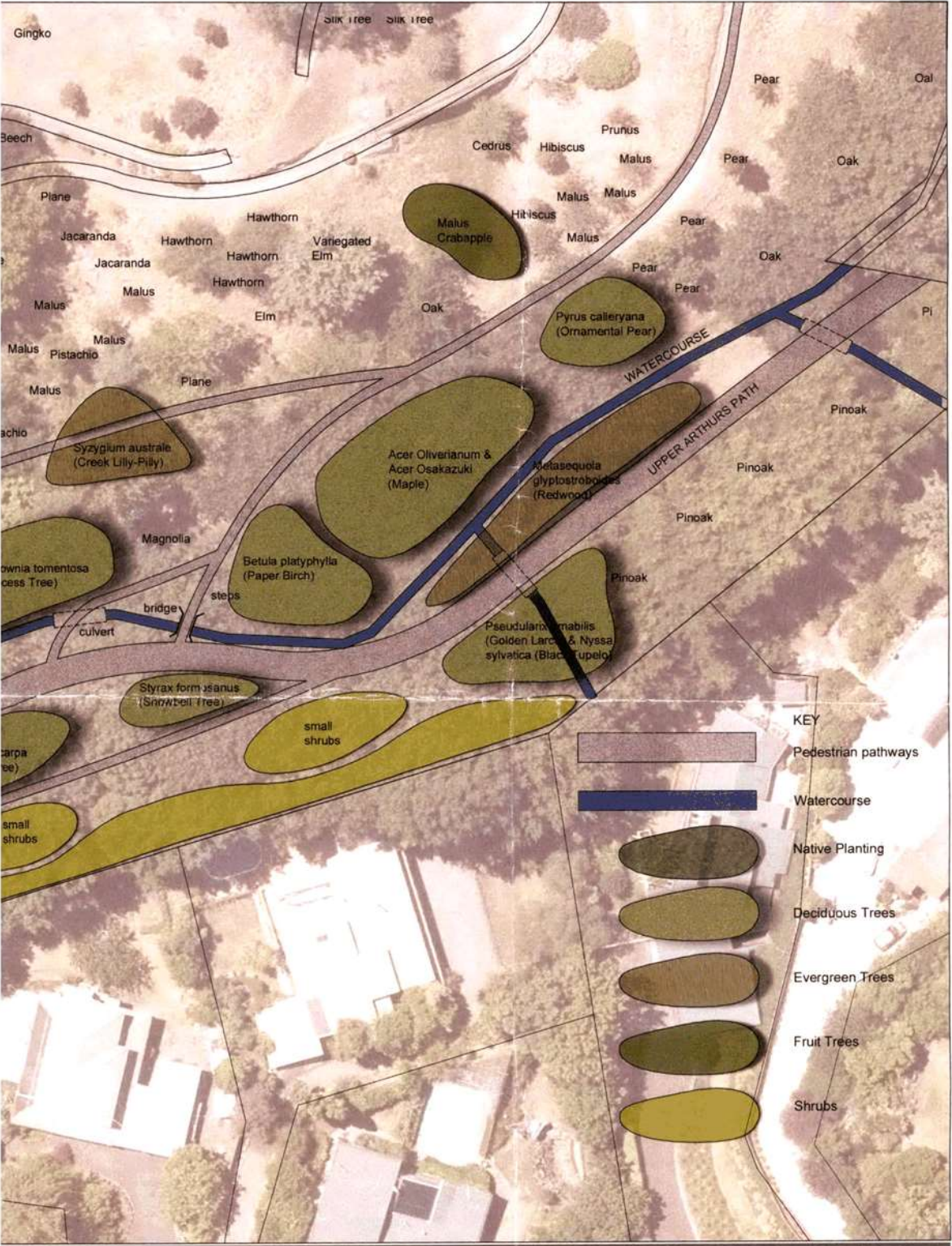
Sincerely,

R Moorhead.

Retired Farmer &amp; Garden Designer.

P.S. I could not find an explanation of the numbering on Page 6. Did find number 10. Thank you.





GARDENS anagement Plan	Plan Name: Upper Arthur's Path Proposed Tree Groups	Issue: CONCEPT
		Sheet No:
		KG 32

**Bart G. Leslie**

---

**From:** Stuart Sowersby <jassby@xtra.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Monday, 10 December 2018 7:21 PM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie  
**Subject:** Keirunga Gardens & Arthur's path

Hello Bart

(2)

We fully endorse Jessica Maxwell's letter.

Any money being used to destroy the forest would be better spent on the on-going care and maintenance of the area.

All large trees left untouched! (decades to establish)

Yours sincerely

Stuart & Jenny Sowersby

Item 6

Submission No. 177



**Bart G. Leslie**

**From:** Leigh Whitfield <landgwhitfield@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, 7 January 2019 3:56 PM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie  
**Subject:** Re Keirunga Gardens Draft plan feedback form

Leigh and Grant Whitfield  
 9 Kopanga Road  
 Havelock North  
 landgwhitfield@gmail.com

Thoughts on the plan...Agree

Hi Bart

Firstly thank you for arranging us to meet up and go through the gardens with you on the Sunday morning. Receiving a copy of the management plan was most helpful.

While we acknowledge that some of the trees will have to be removed in Keirunga close to us , we also would like a detailed framework as to when this is likely to occur.

It is VITAL that the council provide a commitment to put in a decent watering system and to continue to nurture and care for the new plants as they grow.

The removal of these trees are going to impact on our privacy and that is why we would like to be involved with the tree selection beside our boundary.

Is there an option when the red oaks close to us are removed that some trees on the opposite side are left to provide privacy?

We question if there is a need for the upper smaller pedestrian walkway close to our boundary needs to exist?

We wonder if some of the shrubs and trees suggested in the plan are appropriate...eg Feijoa...do we want to encourage people to collect off the trees and perhaps break branches etc? Rodents love these Bay laurel and mock Orange are both trees / shrubs that are prone to sending up suckers so not a good choice. Holly trees can be prickly and dry leaves can be unpleasant for walkers and pets alike.

Comparing to Tutira is fine however we have a different soil type in the gardens.

In the ground coverings under the oaks are many noxious weeds...including agapanthus, ivy, cotoneasters etc. Some of these need to be removed or controlled so they do not take over. We understand that some may have to be left for soil protection however leaving them in long term can also cause problems.

Tree sponsorship is something that would create community involvement eg schools, scout groups, orienteering groups etc could be involved in the planting.

Adopt a tree could be used. Families could purchase and plant a tree. A plaque could be used to acknowledge the family.

QR codes could be placed beside trees so information can be accessed. This information could include how the Maori used the trees, medicinal uses etc. The council could provide an app for people to download from a website , on their smartphones to give information about the trees.

There are some local trusts that could be approached for funding? What about the lotto commission??

- Tree size I understand will be quite small. Whilst we understand this is helpful for growing trees to establish a good root system we also wonder if planting a variety of tree sizes could be looked at as well. Some larger specimens could assist in the privacy of some of the home owners.

It was mentioned that the arborists would be chipping most of the trees. Oak trees are a popular wood for wood turning. Can some of the wood be offered for craft use?? eg the Keirunga wood turning group??

The soil below the present trees has become high in tannins due to the leaf litter from the existing trees. It would be beneficial to improve the soil before planting new trees. Just adding fertiliser may not be enough. Building temporary retaining areas would allow the top soil to stop moving whilst the new trees establish themselves.

We look forward to receiving a reply from you with some answers to our questions.

Kind Regards  
Leigh and Grant Whitfield

Sent from my iPad



Shirley Lammas & Tony Corbett  
9b Kopanga Road  
Havelock North  
Mobile: 0274 717 810

Submission in response to the Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan, Arthurs Path Gully - Exotic Woodland Area.

We are residents of Havelock North and our property boundaries onto Arthurs Path, so we are directly affected by the proposed changes in the Draft Tree Management Plan.

Whilst we agree that Arthurs Path requires some tree management we **oppose** the wholesale felling of all of the trees at one of the path currently marked for clearance. We believe it will destroy the special 'exotic woodland' character and features of the walk. We have seen no evidence to support that it cannot be managed in its present state. Brent Page an arborist/scientist formally of Plant and Food Research informally surveyed the oak trees and in his opinion they are still healthy however require some remedial work.

We also **oppose** the proposed planting plan as it looks markedly different from the current woodland features and is in contradiction of the heritage of the walk.

We **oppose** the proposed demolishing of the landscape in one hit as this will directly impact on us in several ways:

1. Significantly alter our outlook by visually opening the landscape that will take at least ten years to re-establish
2. There has been no impact study or analysis of the miniature railway (as verified in the Official Information Request response dated 16 January 2019).  
With the removal of the tress there will be full visibility into our properties along with the impact of the noise, especially the train horns. The activity of the trains has increased markedly over the last few years.
3. Potentially damage the current birdlife habitat, there is an abundance of tuis.
4. We **oppose** the upper path being formalised. Currently we have a wire fence that separates us from Gulley so this will directly affect our privacy and raise the risk of safety and security to our property. Neither of the mitigation strategies suggested by Council which are to wait till the planting is established or pay 50% to erect a fence at considerable cost to us is acceptable. (as verified in the Official Information Request response dated 16 January 2019).

We also note the following:

- a. That there has been minimal tree management historically which has exacerbated the condition the woodland is now in. There is no visibility in the proposed plan that it will be managed any differently other than changing the type of planting, i.e. lessen the tree management.
- b. That this plan would be contingent on funding in future budgets with no contingency plan if there is future budget constraints.
- c. That we were unaware of the public meetings called and received no written notice of the impending changes despite being directly affected. We received information from the neighbours.

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We would appreciate an opportunity should that be available to talk to our submission.

Yours sincerely  
SHIRLEY LAMMAS & TONY CORBETT

Item 6

Submission No. 179



**Bart G. Leslie**

**From:** Andrew & Cheryl Whitworth <whitworthit@xtra.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 11 December 2018 8:46 PM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie  
**Subject:** Keirunga Gardens feedback

>  
 > Hi Bart  
 >  
 > Thank you to you and Chris for your time on Sunday and for outing the proposed Tree Management plan in relation to the development of Keirunga Gardens.  
 >  
 > There is no doubt that some of the large trees in Keirunga Gardens (and in particular those on the southern boundary near the houses) are becoming extremely dangerous and something needs to be done in relation to these trees before they cause serious harm or damage.  
 >  
 > Provided that sufficient financial resources and expertise are allocated in relation to the removal of the dangerous trees and the redevelopment, planting and ongoing maintenance of the new trees to ensure their establishment then we fully support the draft tree management plan. However, there is no point proceeding if the redevelopment is not done properly and does not have sufficient funding- we would not want to see plants planted and then die without proper watering or care.  
 >  
 > Provided appropriate funding and expertise then the reasons for our support are as follows:-  
 >  
 > 1. Some of the trees are becoming dangerous - we are not comfortable walking in the Gardens in high winds due to potential tree failure and dropping branches;  
 > 2. If the large trees have reached maturity and are becoming dangerous then it makes economic sense to remove them all at once. If they continue to fail one by one then it just becomes a very expensive and piecemeal exercise to clean the area up. When the trees fail they could end up damaging other trees which are still in good health;  
 > 3. Chris obviously has expertise in trees and has been involved with the Guthrie Smith project in Tutira - we are excited we could have something like that developed in our own backyard for all to enjoy;  
 > 4. That a mix of natives and exotics will be planted to provide colour and interest all year round as well as providing feed for birds and insects all year round.  
 > 4. That within a few years we should see significant growth of plants.  
 >  
 > With trees having failed in the past 2-3 years the Gardens have a sense of being uncared for, untidy and overgrown. It is exciting that a plan has been carefully thought out to rejuvenate the Gardens.  
 >  
 > We have walked with our dog along Arthurs Path (we never knew it had a name) for many years and especially enjoy the canopy particularly in the summer. We spent many years when our boys were young walking through the leaves in the autumn and exploring the tracks around the gardens. While it is extremely sad to lose the canopy and see those large trees be removed we feel it is important to acknowledge they are now a danger and the need to move ahead. We also want to ensure that the Gardens remain a place which can be enjoyed and explored by many other adults, children and dog walkers for many years ahead.  
 >  
 > We would like to see this program have the funding approved by Council and the program be implemented as soon as possible as we imagine that come Autumn and Spring next year more trees will fail causing further damage to the grounds.  
 >  
 > Once again, thank you to you and Chris for your time on Sunday.  
 >

\  
> Kind regards  
! > Andrew & Cheryl Whitworth  
>

Item 6

Submission No. 180

**FEEDBACK FORM** **KEIRUNGA GARDENS**  
**KEIRUNGA GARDENS DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

RECEIVED  
25 JAN 2019  
HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL

NAME Sophie Lankovsky  
 ADDRESS 44 Muritai Crescent Havelock North  
 PHONE NUMBER 027 4889328  
 EMAIL ADDRESS slankovsky123@xtra.co.nz

PLEASE TICK THE BOX BELOW THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN?


☐ STRONGLY AGREE ☒ AGREE ☐ NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE  
☐ DISAGREE ☐ STRONGLY DISAGREE

PLEASE SHARE ANY OF YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

I am generally in favour of the plan  
laid out in the above document.  
Although it will be a noticeable change  
when the oaks are felled I think the  
idea of an arboretum is great.  
Please keep me in touch with  
developments. I am also aware that  
there is a group of people opposing  
your plans

Kind regards  
S. Lankovsky

Please leave form in the feedback box or you can email your feedback to [bartgl@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:bartgl@hdc.govt.nz) or post it to:  
 HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL  
 Attn: Bart Leslie  
 Private Bag 9002  
 Hastings 4156

 **HASTINGS**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Item 6

Submission No. 181





## Keirunga Garden Feedback

Darryl Mitchell

23 Tanner Street

HAVELOCK NORTH

Tel: 8774214

1.

I attended both meetings regarding the draft plan for Keirunga gardens, Arthur's Path at the community centre and the garden walk through with Bart Leslie and Chris Ryan. I am totally opposed to this draft plan. If it was to proceed in its current form in my opinion it is nothing short of sanctioned Council vandalism. To virtually clear fell almost two thirds of the trees, in particular the larger species would destroy what is a precious natural 'woodland walk', Arthur's Path is a beautiful gentle walk, enjoyed by young and old.

I understand from Mr Ryan's comments the area is struggling in terms of plant ecology, also Arthur's Path does not fit the original Keirunga "garden" concept, he also said that the plan was to introduce some tree and plant diversity into that area. I believe you can create that diversity in the whole of Keirunga garden by leaving Arthur's Path as a natural area and planting new species of smaller trees elsewhere in the gardens, up on the hill area above the model railway for example. If the trees fall over either through old age or storms in Arthur's Path then so be it. Replace them with large species of native trees, that will in time continue to provide that beautiful tall canopy.

2.

I have serious doubts that the Council or its parks and reserve contractors have the manpower or the ability to do the landscape work. It would take many years for the proposed mass planting to become established mature trees and shrubs. This is based on my observations of many years of the poor and minimal landscape maintenance in Keirunga Garden and some other reserves in Havelock North.

I also doubt that the Council will guarantee that future long term planning will prioritise ongoing budgets, necessary for years to come to pay for the extensive care and maintenance required for this current draft plan.

The garden maintenance on previous plantings in Arthur's Path has not been carried out and hence the failure of many of the new trees we see there today. Wasted ratepayer money. Another classic example of of zero maintenance is

the water course/drain along the length of the path after the upgrade a couple of years ago. The drain is now a mass of weeds and full of debris, consequently in heavy

Item 6

Submission No. 182

### Keirunga Garden Feedback

rainfall periods blockages in the drain cause water to spill over, onto the pathway and wash away the surface material.

Despite Mr. Leslie's assurances that money will be in the budget and new gardening contractors will be held to task is hard for me and many other ratepayers I have spoken with, to believe or have confidence in the Council.

3.

There is an existing cleared and unplanted area about halfway along the path after felled and fallen trees had been removed. I suggest that planting this area first, with tall canopy trees and Mr Ryan's "cherry" trees and implement ongoing maintenance of the new work and the new trees. This action to back up all the words and the glossy brochure would possibly garner better ratepayer support and acceptance for future draft plans.

4.

Dismiss the concerns and complaints from residents in properties adjoining this part of Keirunga, the trees in most cases were there long before they purchased or built their houses. They should have been aware of any implications large trees close to their boundary posed.

To mitigate any adverse risk to Council, for Council owned trees falling onto these properties, or in fact dozens of other properties in the HDC area, a notice should be placed on the property LIM report. Much the same as with properties in low lying areas that may have a potential flooding or inundation risk.

Item 6

Submission No. 182

### Submission on the Trees in Arthur's Path Gully

- . These trees should not be felled. They are a beautiful asset.
- . During the hot days this summer walking under their cool canopy was a great pleasure.
- . The thick leaf litter keeps weeds down, making the under-canopy tidy and pleasant. This contrasts with 2 areas where trees have been felled where grass is high, full of thistles and other weeds including woody weed shrubs.
- . Oak trees are very good for wildlife and abundant bird song is noted in Arthurs Gully.
- . The oak trees in Keirunga gardens are only 80 years old. The usual life span for these is 200 years.
- . Most of the trees in Arthur's Path Gully showed no sign of weakness, leaning trunks or danger of falling. If branches die, this can be managed. Conservative management of these trees should be easily possible as there are relatively few of them.
- . Risk management could include information notices and advice to stay out of the wood during storms.

Marion and Keith Carey-Smith





**Submission regarding Keirunga Gardens Tree Management Plan.**

From : Keirunga Gardens Heritage Action Group (KGHAS).

The KGHAS group has been involved with the gardens for 14 years. We have had positive interaction with HDC on many projects. These include: The Memory Garden, tree planting, & dog walker bags. The Tui Gates were done with interaction with EIT students, with both designs and implementation and we were consulted regarding the playground area and the Paint brushes and palette sculpture. Our last involvement was the water flow and drainage of the ditch in Authur's path.

**Arthur's Path.**

The initial planting in the 1930's by George Nelson was very limited with eucalyptus and conifers for shelter. Most of the gully was planted with three types of oaks.

To add variety, colour and interest David Bone of the H.D.C. parks planted a large range of trees throughout the district parks in the 1980/ 1990's. In Keirunga, these were mainly at the cemetery end and above the railway.

Our local group continued this about 12 years ago in filled gaps up with other different species.

The oaks have self-seeded in some places and it is some of these that are scheduled for removal to accommodate some of the more recent plantings.

The result of several large oaks (with severe root loss) falling, is that a large open area has developed in the centre area.

We suggest a start should be made in this area to remove a few more of the trees, such as Coprosmas, to create an area that can be used for new species. These will add considerable aesthetic value and allow the gardens to develop.

It is imperative that the necessary soil conditions, light and space be created prior to planting.

Previous attempts have been tried without proper preparation and so have failed (eg the Rhododendrons).

We realise that safety on any council property is of increasing concern and comes at a cost. We do not believe the pruning of some of the Red Oaks adjacent to the main path for safety reasons will be anything but a temporary fix. What would the cost of this be and how will all the weeds and plants now growing under these trees be managed? Also the trees would not have the appearance of a natural grove.

We would prefer the better solution of removing areas of these trees over a few years, to remove any risk, and save ratepayers considerable money.

Keirunga is a vital community hub for many activities and social centre.

We have a responsibility to improve its attractiveness and value for more people.

Keirunga should be a place to encourage a new generation to be involved in the learning about biology, biodiversity and how to manage the environment sustainably.

Your sincerely *B. Small*

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HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL  
SUBMISSION

KEIRUNGA TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN  
ARTHUR'S PATH EXOTIC WOODLAND AREA

This submission questions the reasoning behind the proposed felling of the Keirunga oaks.

American Oaks may not live as long as their European counterparts but 400 year old trees are not uncommon, using this as a benchmark the Red Oaks at Keirunga are teenagers.

I have spent my working life in horticulture in Hawkes Bay completing an apprenticeship at Wilsons Nursery Pakowhai over 50 years ago.

From there I established and ran a successful apple and stone fruit tree nursery for over 35 years supplying trees to orchardist throughout New Zealand.

I have always had an interest in large ornamental trees, about 50 years ago I attended a lecture by the internationally respected expert on tree management Dr Alex Shigo

Quote

Dr. Alex Shigo was widely considered the "father of modern arboriculture" and a university trained tree pathologist. Dr. Shigo's [study of tree biology](#) led to a broadened understanding of compartmentalization of decay in [trees](#). Shigo's ideas eventually led to many changes and additions to commercial [tree care](#) practices and the now accepted way to prune a tree.

After attending his lecture I bought several of his books i.e Modern Arboriculture, read many of his papers and put into practise his methods of tree care.

A few years later I was given the opportunity to implement Dr Shigo's methods of tree regeneration on the historic Pin Oak *Quercus palustris* (a member of the American Red Oak family )in front of the Anglican Church Havelock North, above picture.

The tree was planted in 1874 as a 3yr old,by Tommy Tanner.

About 40 yrs ago there was some concern about the risk to the public from falling branches.

Even though the tree had rot in the trunk The decision was made to save the tree by reducing the canopy which in turn reduced the loading on the branches.

As described by Dr Shigo lower branches were saved to maintain an even sap flow into the upper branches.

Forty years on the tree now 145 yrs old is still standing with healthy shoots and leaves appearing each spring.

The tree is a living example of what can be done to maintain the healthy life of an historic tree.



In comparison I am appalled at the proposed landscape vandalism of the 80 yr old Red Oaks at Keirunga which are just over half the age of the St Lukes Pin Oak.

The Keirunga oaks unlike the St Lukes Oak have no visible signs of internal rot, and very few falling branches.

These trees are healthy, to fell them would be an insult to the man who had the foresight to invest so much time and money into the site, planting the Oaks then gifting it all to the local population to enjoy.

All that is wrong with the Arthur's Path Exotic walkway is years of Council neglect, even basic management has been at the lower end of acceptability.

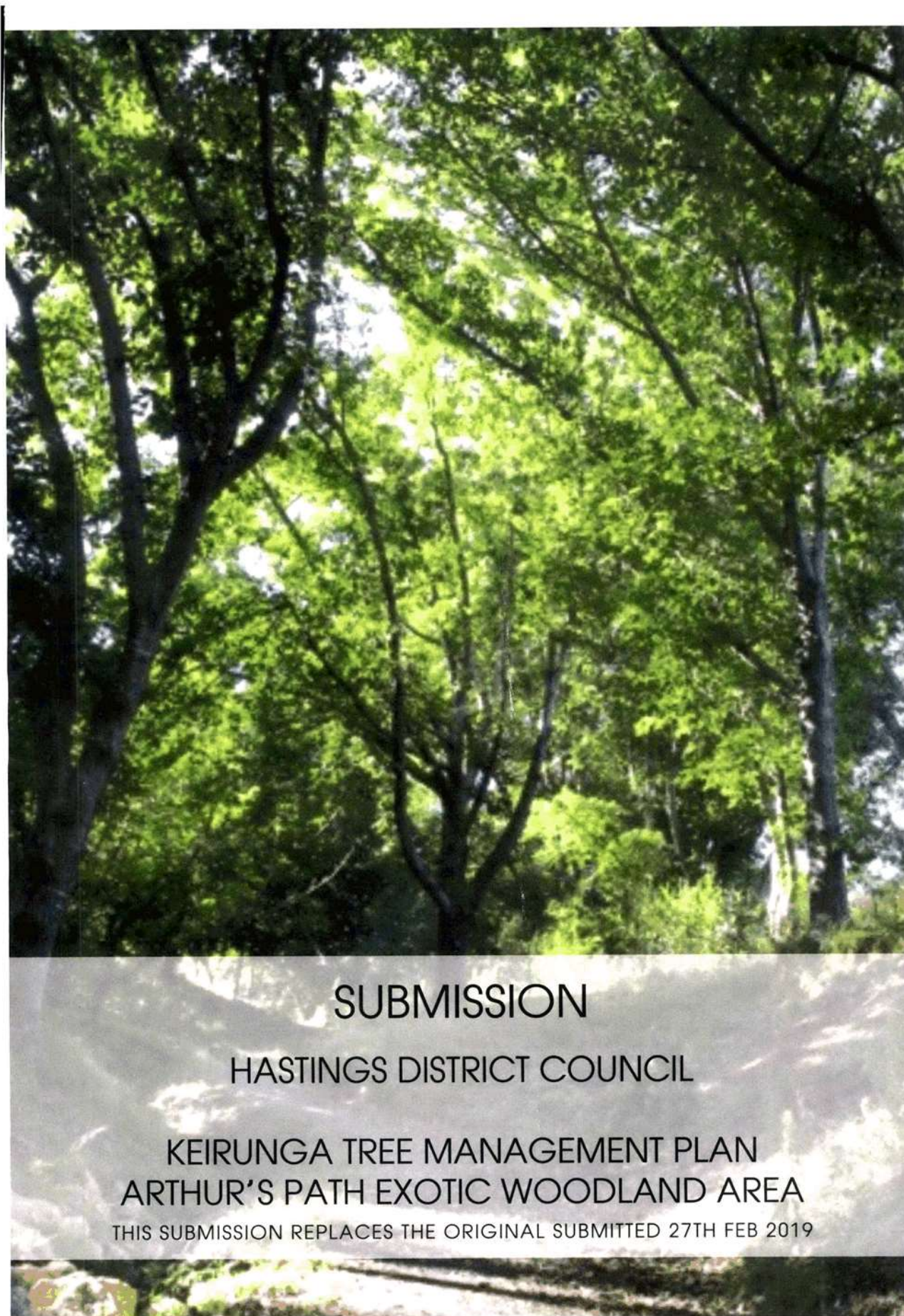
To destroy the site and replant with a debatable range of plants must not be allowed to happen, based on past history the HDC is not up to such a major redevelopment.

The site would quickly revert to nothing more than a wasteland.

I am prepared to speak to this submission.

Joe Leete.

PO Box 8082  
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CONTENTS

Introduction	4
Summary	5
Definition Of Woodland And Arboretum	5
Conclusions	9
Recommendations	10
Discussion Topics	11
A. Reason For Keirunga Oak’s Decline	11
B. Development	12
C. Drainage	12
D. Replanting	13
E. Safety	14
F. Climate Change – Oak Forests	14
Mature Oak Trees	14

## INTRODUCTION

The Arthur's Path Walk runs through a classic Woodland loved by many, over 6,000 individuals have signed a petition to retain and restore the woodland.

The Hastings District Council on questionable advice had come up with the plan to remove the Oaks (now revised to many) and convert the area into a palette of plant species, which they plan to name an Arboretum styled Woodland

Based on scientific consultation the author, and others, question the removal of the Red Oaks from Keirunga Gardens. The main premise for their removal has been identified as root decay undermining the health of the trees. With the added consequence of dying trees posing a risk to the public.

The object of this submission is to present a case for a rigorous investigation into the health of the trees; their retention through professional management, and suggestions as to how the area could be restored and enhanced.

The proposed palette of plants has some worrying features many will not flourish within close proximity of each other. Included species i.e Syzygium spp, commonly known as Lilly Pilly, the fruits easily spread by birds but is one of the most susceptible known hosts to myrtle rust. This tree borders on being classed as noxious in parts of New Zealand

This plus others make up a strange selection many of which are unsuited to the site.

The HDC plan for Arthur's Path on several grounds is ill conceived poorly researched, both from a financial and environmental perspective. The use of words such as could, recommend in the addendum referring to maintenance does not commit anyone to doing anything.

With the removal of trees and roots, (HDC plan) there is the potential for serious rain induced erosion of the light poor soil from the steep sloping ground above Arthur's Path.

A most important factor in the argument for the retention of this oak woodland is its historic relevance.

Planted in 1929 by George Nelson and gifted to HDC in 1961 it was conceived as a

woodland which comprised mainly oaks and deciduous northern hemisphere species. Arguably unique in the Hawke's Bay region, it is nothing short of aesthetic vandalism to replace this vision with the stamp collection of assorted trees/shrubs proposed in the HDC replanting plan.

This plan gives no consideration to the original intention of the Nelson planting.

## SUMMARY

1. From the HDC addendum there is clear confusion within HDC as to what constitutes an Arboretum Vs a Woodland.

Arborlab have clearly identified Arthurs Path as a woodland that must be retained and replanted with species sympathetic to a woodland.

## DEFINITION OF WOODLAND AND ARBORETUM

**Arboretum.** A modern arboretum is a botanical garden containing living collections of woody plants and is intended at least in part for scientific study.

Arboretums, due to the number of species involved require a constant high level of skilled horticultural management, for this reason they tend to be on flatter or easy access land, not the steep land as proposed in the Arthur's Path area.

**Woodland.** A low density forest generally including few species, the individual tree canopies generally overlap and interlink, often forming a more or less continuous canopy which shades the ground to varying degrees.

Woodlands are a harmonious grouping of similar species.

In the case of Keirunga an open, safe and restful area where people can walk, relax and enjoy the seasonality of the large trees.

Woodlands usually follow the contour of the land and generally comprise single trunk trees, making maintenance easier and more economical.



*A 25yr old woodland of Hornbeam carpinus betulus close to Havelock North*



As woodlands mature apart from some judicious pruning they tend to fend for themselves.

2. The extension of the existing walkway from the top of the path doubling back through the now almost vacant land to the lawn running back to Tanner St would improve the experience of visitors also making the establishment of new trees in this area more effective and efficient.

3. Keirunga Gardens was established by Mr George Nelson as a woodland who in 1961 gifted the site to the people of Havelock North, therefore we strongly believe that maintaining the spirit of the planting is paramount.

4. Subsequent maintenance of the area under Councils has been to a acceptable standard with the exception of the Arthur's Path Exotic Woodland. Invasive weeds such as, Ivy *Hedera helix*,

*Robinia Pseudo Acacia*, Green flowering *Aurum*  
*Lily Zantedeschia aethiopica*, Wandering Willy

*Tradescantia fluminensis*, plus various tall growing perennial weeds are indicative of a lack of quality care.

The large trees have over the years had some arbour care in branch removal but very little structural care is evident.

The number of younger seedling oaks (20yrs+) have had little or no arborist intervention which is critical in the development of a strong and safe tree.

The felling of oaks: two due to root rot (wet feet); three others for no apparent reason, plus the bare trunking of the oaks adjacent to the residential homes off Koponga road has opened the remaining trees to wind throw.

The fact that no scientific analysis of the site, or a qualified Arborists report was commissioned prior to tree removal reflects badly on HDC systems.

5. The soil type Class 10 & 11, overlaying the impermeable Havelock pan explains why two trees, below the break in the pan, allowed water to be released into the root zone subsequently killing them.

The scientific evidence proving that the root systems of the remaining trees are failing needs to be tabled by the HDC, unqualified opinion based advice is just not acceptable.

6. Realistically it would not be possible to establish the referred to arboretum/ woodland without the complete removal of the existing trees.

Removal of the well established Oaks including the root systems before replanting would be a major financial expenditure, the figure of \$200,000 has been tabled, this plus earthworks, tracks and replanting one could realistically more than double the HDC figure.

The establishment of an arboretum on such a small and difficult site such as the Arthur's Path area (under 4ha) would require huge financial and ongoing financial expenditure.

An arboretum to have any credibility would require the service of a curator, without one, it would just become a hobbyist collection.

7. The soil type class 10 - 11 a light highly erodible soil over pan without the current cover and more importantly the root systems holding the soil in place on the steeper areas, the removal of which would during heavy rain causing erosion and loss of topsoil is inevitable.

After deep ripping for root removal prevention of erosion due to rainfall of the exposed soil would require the laying of Coconut erosion matting (about \$1sq m) plus laying cost to secure and protect the thin layer of light topsoil.

8. Uncontrolled surface water running into the area from neighbouring properties would only exacerbate the situation
9. Dr Ian Horner a local resident, and a world authority on tree root disease particularly Phytophthora is leading the Government funded research into the Kauri root disease Phytophthora agathidicidia.

HDC would be well advised to consult with Dr Horner on the health of the Oak tree roots and the above ground health of the trees.

10. The stumps of 3 trees across the watercourse and adjacent to the path show no sign of internal decay. At least two are still alive, one has regrowth shoots.

The question remains as to why the trees were felled.

11. Storm water ingress from the Koponga Rd properties into the root zones of the oaks in question requires checking to ensure that all properties are compliant with HDC regulations.
12. Track safety requires attention, the steep well used track from the lawn area above the walk is frankly dangerous.



13. There are trees that could be removed as part of a regeneration plan, weak and unthrifty trees, a group of Casuarina glauca/cunninghamiana, one clothed in Ivy.

The two old Macrocarpa (Monterey cypress) could benefit from some serious arborist attention or removal.

The large now virtually bare area (potential fire risk) from the felled oak stumps up to and beyond the Casuarinas is the area that should, after suitable preparation be replanted with shade giving deciduous species.

14. Even without the removal of the oaks the regeneration of the Exotic Woodland Walk is a huge task., reading the HDC addendum regarding ongoing maintenance use of words such as should, recommends does not commit any one to do anything

A full and detailed responsibility action plan from the top down (personal) required otherwise it is worthless.



The first 3-5 yrs concentrate on arbour work on all trees, removal of weeds including the Pseudo Acacia which in itself will be a challenge as it spreads not only by seed but root suckers.

Year 4 on replanting coupled with ongoing arbour and weed control.

15. The restoration of the Exotic Woodland Walk has the potential to become a major community project due its location and history of the site.

The creation of a sculpture garden, similar to the one at Brick Bay Matakana would add immensely to the Arthur's Path area

16. Individuals approached have expressed interest under the right structure of becoming involved in the restoration, with either financial and/or material support.
17. Possibly the most important reason for the retention of the Oaks is Global Warming and the impact of trees on ameliorating climate change.

The oaks are still absorbing CO<sub>2</sub>, to fell them would release that stored carbon.

The 29th of January 2019 the temperature in the park area was 35 Celcius under the deep canopy of the oaks 28C, there was a light breeze moving down the walkway significantly lowering temperature.

18. An educative feature for the walkway could include a series of didactic panels highlighting aspects of the walkway's history; information on the trees; climate change and other suitable topics.

The HDC now has the opportunity to rectify the situation, not in isolation but with the support of the wider community



## CONCLUSIONS

1. The HDC addendum is nothing more than a cut and paste of compromise, lack of detail and accountability.
2. The use of words such as should and recommends does little to build confidence as such words do not commit HDC to actually do anything. One past history nothing but basic annual maintenance will result.
3. Keirunga's Arthur's Path Walk is a heritage site and must be given the respect and care that it deserves.
4. The Oaks against all odds are still in reasonable health, we owe it to them to reverse the situation by instigating a budgeted and well managed redevelopment scheme.
5. The author and others are not aware of the HDC undertaking any science based research proving that the roots of the Red Oaks are diseased.
6. The restoration of Arthur's Pass Walk is undertaken as a joint project between HDC and residents.

The project enabled through a practical and workable community inclusive plan.

7. An ongoing program of tree maintenance to be under taken by qualified local arborists.
8. The spirit of the Exotic Walkway to be maintained by the selection of new and replacement woodland species.
9. That the placement of didactic panels along the pathway, subjects

including:

- the history of Keirunga Gardens and George Nelson
- tree species
- Climate change and the role of mature of Oak trees in carbon sequestration.
- Consideration be given to the renaming of Arthur's Pass Walk to
- The George Nelson Walk.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the total area of land adjacent to Arthurs Path is removed from the HDC plan to replant with species from the HDC palette of plants.
2. That the Arthurs Path area is restored as a Woodland with the planting of Woodland species in the now vacant/lightly planted area.
3. The creation of a loop track from the top of Arthurs Path doubling back on a contour line on the vacant land (eastern side of Arthur's Path) to the lawn leading down to Tanner Street.
4. That support is sought from individuals to donate a tree (from a selected list) plus the maintenance cost for 10 years, est \$200 - \$250, this would effectively give ownership to those who have donated money for trees.
5. That the process is set in place to have the Arthurs Path area listed as a Heritage site.
6. That the in the main grassed area, vicinity of the railway to be used for planting of bird and bee suitable tree, included in the HDC palette
7. That Dr Ian Horner is contracted by the HDC to carry out a root analysis study. Until scientific proof can be tabled the trees remain.
8. That the placement of didactic panels along the pathway be initiated.  
 subjects including:
  - the history of Keirunga Gardens and George Nelson
  - tree species
  - Climate change and the role of mature of Oak trees in carbon sequestration.
9. Consideration be given to the renaming of Arthur's Pass Walk to The George Nelson Walk.
10. The restoration of Arthur's Pass Walk is undertaken as a joint project between HDC and residents.
11. The project enabled through a practical and workable community inclusive plan.
12. An ongoing program of tree maintenance to be under taken by qualified local arborists.
13. The spirit of the Exotic Walkway to be maintained by the selection of new and replacement woodland species.

## DISCUSSION TOPICS

### A. REASON FOR KEIRUNGA OAK'S DECLINE

Soil type has an effect on the size and efficiency of the tree with the largest specimens in the main on the deep alluvial soils of the Heretaunga plains.

The Keirunga Oaks are growing on sandy loam, class 10 and 11 which tend to be of lower fertility.

This overlays the deep almost impermeable Havelock Pan 30 - 40cm in depth resulting in perched water table with its consequent wetness, more of a problem on flatter land where the water cannot or is very slow to move.

The two Oaks that have failed are at the lower level of the planting, adjacent to the walking track.

The water has run across the higher level pan to where it has fractured allowing it to continuously seep out to the failed oaks root zone, causing root decay and ultimately their death.

Mycorrhizal fungi are needed by oaks and many other species to live; they form a tightly woven fungal sheath around the mycorrhizal roots making them less susceptible to soil borne pathogen, water logged soil is one of the biggest killers of mycorrhiza.

Replacement Oaks must not be planted in these saturated soils rather replanting in this area with deciduous trees such as Dawn Redwood and or Swamp Cypress. Here they would in time flourish, shading and enhancing the walking path.

Money spent on a qualified Arborists over a number of years would be an investment improving the quality of the Oaks prolonging their lives until the younger and well trained existing Oaks and or other species take their place in a managed succession order.

The author has visited the site on 2 separate occasions with two Arborists. Mr Darryl Judd, UK trained Arborist of 35 years experience, who was of the opinion the oaks were in good health and definitely worth saving.

Darryl indicated how several oaks, subjected to total branch removal, had now healed and were sprouting replacement branches. This is not behaviour indicative of a dying tree.

Darryl would be happy to discuss topics relevant to the dynamics of the oaks with HDC staff.

Mr Richie Hill, Consultant Arborist also UK trained, shared Darryl Judd's opinion on the health of the trees. He also considers the oaks under threat of felling, may not all belong to the genus *Quercus Rubra*.

HDC for this project should contract the services of local and qualified arborists, there are a number who carry out excellent work. Besides being domiciled in HB they are familiar with the local climate, soils and the way the trees perform.

## B. DEVELOPMENT

Before any consideration can be given to replanting a commitment to permanently rid the site of serious weeds will be required.

### ***Wandering Willy, Tradescantia Fluminensis***

A dense mat forming plant with a smothering habit, every stem node has the ability to sprout roots. One of the most difficult to eradicate.

### ***Robinia, Pseudo Acacia***

A fast growing tree that spreads rapidly by seed and root suckers making it difficult to eradicate. Green flowering Aurum Lily Zantedeschia Aethiopica

### ***Green flowering Aurum Lily Zantedeschia aethiopica***

A clumping growth habit that spreads by seed and if disturbed root tubers. Once established a difficult plant to eradicate.

### ***Ivy Hedra Helix***

Spreads over the ground climbs and suffocates trees, eradication difficult.

Subsequent to the felling of 3 oaks, the now exposed land has been colonised by a number of perennial weeds which have established themselves, giving this area an unkempt look as well as being a fire risk.

The above list illustrates that the site contains some of the most challenging and difficult weeds to eradicate.

The estimated time required to bring the area under control would be in the vicinity of 3 years.

This must be done with care, just not a matter of spraying with highly translocated chemicals that could seriously affect the woodland trees.

The recommendation would be that while weed control is taking place Arborists start the Herculean task of taming and training the existing trees old and young.

## C. DRAINAGE

Assumption, the exposed drain core was laid to help move water from the root ball of the lower oaks which have been removed due to root rot.

Uncontrolled storm water run off from the homes neighbouring the remaining oaks could create a risk to the roots especially during the winter months as the root ball would become saturated and cold.

The vitally important protectant mycorrhiza which form a sheath around the surface roots protecting them from fungal causing diseases cannot survive in water logged soil which is a major killer of mycorrhiza.

The storm water pipes of the neighbouring homes must be compliant with HDC regulations.



The soil type, water and root disease are the crux of the issue, qualified expert advice should be sought before any further tree removal is contemplated.

Dr Ian Horner a World authority on tree root disease particularly Phytophthora is leading the Government funded research into the Kauri root disease Phytophthora agathidicidia.

Dr Horner lives less than 10km from Keirunga, and is familiar with the site. Consideration by the HDC to employ Dr Horner to establish the health of the oaks in question is a priority.

## D. REPLANTING

Making the assumption that the existing Oaks and other suitable trees will remain, thought be given to replanting the now weed covered area above the pathway.

In keeping with the spirit of the original planting deciduous trees remain the backbone.

The wetter areas adjacent to the water course consideration be given to the Dawn Redwood,

*Metasequoia glyptostroboides* thought extinct until 1941 The included pic shows a local planting

in Autumn colour. Swamp cypress, *Taxodium distichum* flourishes in wet soil and could also be considered.

### ***Dawn Redwood, Metasequoia glyptostroboides Swamp cypress, Taxodium distichum***

Under the trees there are many shaded areas, mass planting of the Reinga Lily, *Arthropodium* as a ground cover would reduce/eliminate soil run off, it thrives in the shade and is untroubled by dry conditions.

There are plants available from a local specialist indigenous plant nursery whom collects seed locally.

The exposed banks above Arthurs Path must be planted in protectant (of the soil) ground hugging plants



***Dawn Redwood, Metasequoia glyptostroboides***



Swamp cypress, *Taxodium distichum*

## E. SAFETY

There is always danger that in extreme weather conditions trees may lose branches or fall. In the case of the Keirunga oaks this can be successfully mitigated through a professional management programme. There are qualified and experienced operators in the region.

Consideration could be given to placing signage at the park entry advising people not to enter during times of high wind. The track (well used) running from the lawn down to Arthur's Pass is of greater concern, unformed with uneven, exposed rock and tree roots.

## F. CLIMATE CHANGE – OAK FORESTS

There is now mounting evidence that the world's climate is changing, possibly faster than we will find comfortable. On this point alone saving and planting and or maintaining trees is about all most of us can do.

The proposed wholesale removal of Keirunga oaks without first thoroughly investigating causes impacting on tree health is illogical and unacceptable.

## MATURE OAK TREES

Theoretically, older forests reach an equilibrium, when carbon taken up into new growth is

balanced by carbon released through decomposition processes. This however has been proved

wrong. Even 800-year-old forests still continue to take up carbon while maintaining high growth rates. Old forests are not only large carbon reservoirs worth maintaining, but actively continue to capture atmospheric carbon.

The Keirunga Oaks fit the above, they deserve our protection not desecration



**David Cranwell**

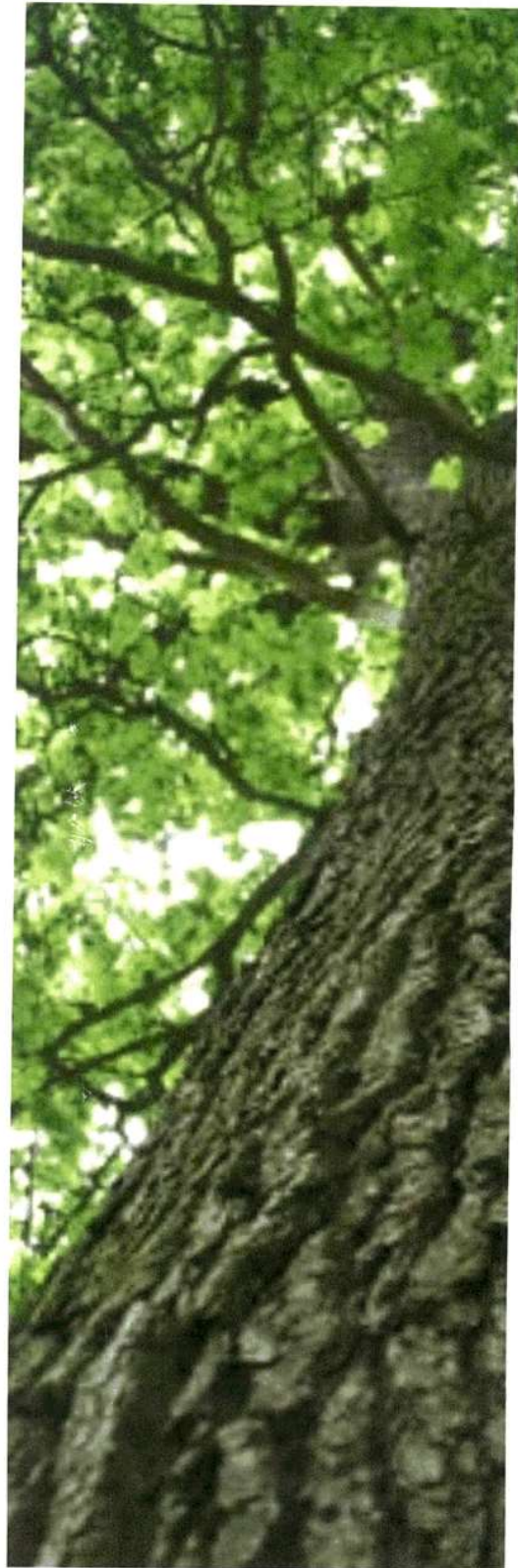
Founder of the Himalayan Oaks Trust

I am prepared to speak to the above submission.

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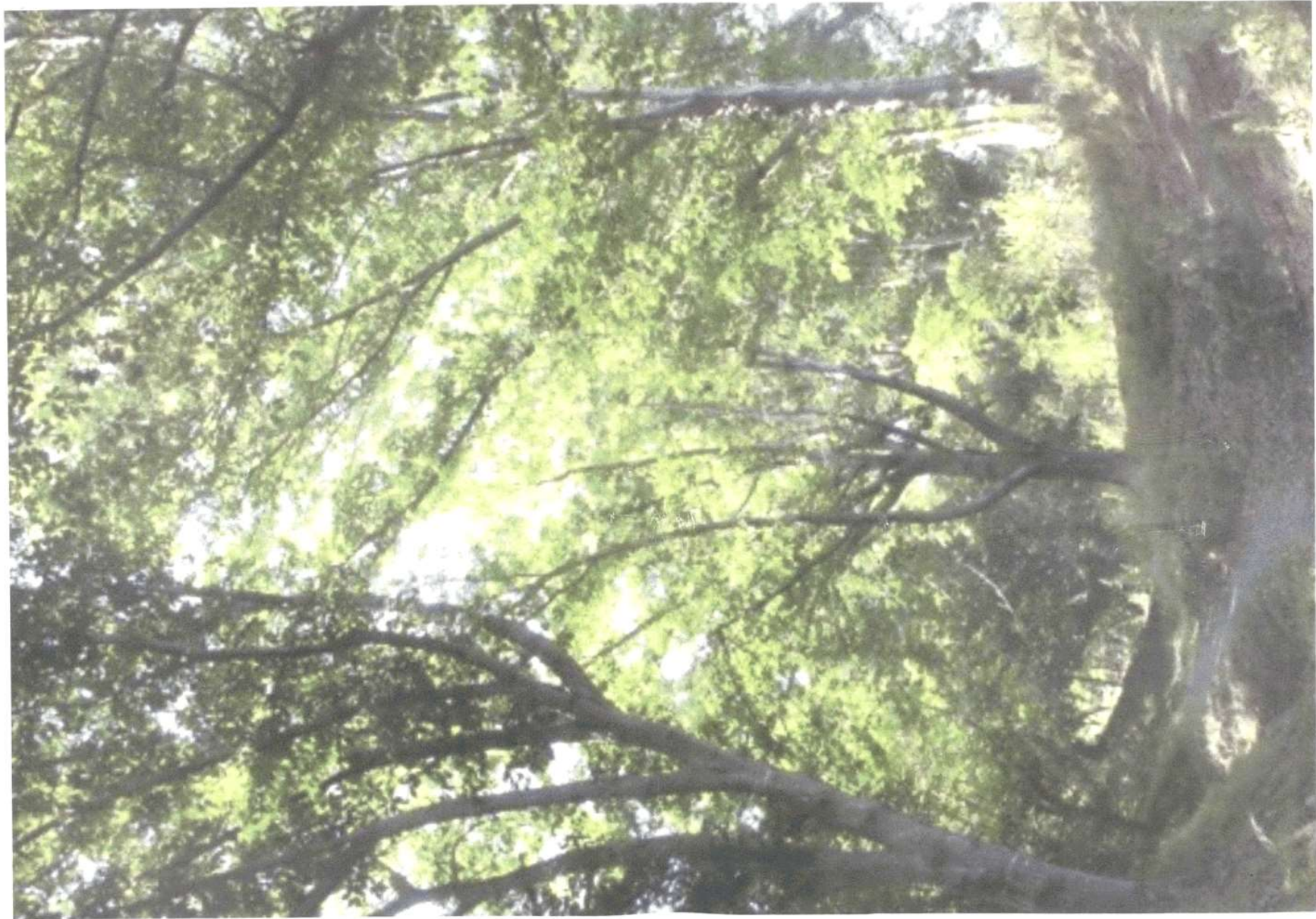


Page 15

Item 6

Submission No. 185





Item 6

Submission No. 185



TRIM REF: CFM-17-24-3-18-53

# FEEDBACK FORM

## KEIRUNGA GARDENS

### KEIRUNGA GARDENS DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN

NAME Anne Crutchley

ADDRESS 61 Joll Rd PO Box 8061  
Havelock North

PHONE NUMBER 8476530 0211012410

EMAIL ADDRESS annecrutchley302@hotmail.com

PLEASE TICK THE BOX BELOW THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN?

☐ STRONGLY AGREE ☒ AGREE ☐ NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE

☐ DISAGREE ☐ STRONGLY DISAGREE

PLEASE SHARE ANY OF YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

There needs to be ongoing, contractual  
arrangements with appropriate maintenance  
companies to manage the entire area.


Has sponsorship been thought of? Maybe  
corporate interests that ensure ongoing  
management; planting, structural requirements etc.

Maybe a public "subscription to buy a  
grove of trees" done?

Please leave form in the feedback box or you can email your feedback to [bartgl@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:bartgl@hdc.govt.nz) or post it to:

HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL  
Attn: Bart Leslie  
Private Bag 9002  
Hastings 4156

17 DEC 2018

 HASTINGS  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Item 6

Submission No. 186





## P Turley Submissions Keirunga

12 April 2018

### Submitter

I am a trees enthusiast and grower. I am also co-principal with Sue Turley of Turley & Co that is for 21 years is a Hawke's Bay-based property strategy and valuation company.

The firm is a regular provider to private and public land clients NZ-wide for over two decades including the Crown (LINZ Accredited for statutory land actions since 1998), and undertakes work for many Councils.

Turley & Co is regularly involved in Local Government Act 2002, Reserves Act 1977, Public Works Act 1981 and other statutory public land matters.

I am a trustee since 2009 and fifth term volunteer chair of the Maraetōtara Tree Trust's riparian plantings. My farming background includes pipfruit growing and forest harvesting in NZ and the UK. I grow exotic and native trees on rural land near Hastings.

My qualifications are cited at <http://turley.co.nz/tcl-people/our-people/#PatTurley>

### Stand-up for The Keirunga Oaks Campaign

I led the Stand-up for The Keirunga Oaks campaign with co-managers: David Cranwell, Jeff Whittaker and Johnno Ormond. We were actively supported by many others.

The Keirunga campaign at 12 April 2019 had raised \$5,688 from 29 donors, many of whom are retired. They include octogenarians locally.

Mid-January I engaged with leading NZ arborists and the campaign later commissioned an arboricultural review for the Keirunga trees by Richie Hill of the Paper Street Tree Company. The donors funded this report at a cost of \$5,520. Richie Hill has also worked substantially for free.

The volunteer work and pro-bono professional services for the campaign has been significantly expensive to many people and their businesses. This would have been unnecessary by a much better HDC pathway (refer later).

The Keirunga campaign summary:

- Campaign commenced 26 January with almost daily activity to 12 April
- Collectively hundreds of hours were invested by volunteers and professional pro-bono activity
- \$5,688 was raised from 29 donors to 12 April (with a fundraising shortfall)



- Well over Keirunga 100 submissions were received by HDC by about mid-March
- Campaign activity included:
  - a. 25 January HDC submissions close date shifted and subsequently extended several times by Council
  - b. HDC ongoing correspondence and queries (some remain unanswered)
  - c. Meeting with HDC Mayor and officers
  - d. Signs/ posters/ flyers printing and distribution (1 large sign, 20 signs A3, 40 posters A3, 2,000 flyers)
  - e. Facebook campaign for Keirunga by John Ormond
  - f. Change.org petition – over 4,000 signatures gained
  - g. Stuff article 11 Jan – Jeff Whittaker
  - h. HBT talking points x4 since 26 Jan 19
  - i. HBT other press x2 including a video article – both initiated by the campaign
  - j. Many HBT letters to editor and texts 20 or more
  - k. BayBuzz articles Feb-Apr issue and upcoming issue
  - l. Other direct lobbying and publicity
  - m. Meetings at Keirunga
  - n. Fundraising

#### Media Links

I refer to press and ordered most recent to oldest:

- o Talking Point Joe Leete: Keirunga oaks are only 'teenagers'  
<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/index.cfm?objectid=12218129&ref=twitter>
- o Talking Point David Trubridge: Keirunga oaks are an acceptable risk  
[https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=1503462&objectid=12216248](https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/article.cfm?c_id=1503462&objectid=12216248)
- o HBT: Keirunga Garden campaigners says alternative plan still not good enough  
[https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=1503462&objectid=12213809](https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/article.cfm?c_id=1503462&objectid=12213809)
- o HBT: Council backtrack mooted after new report finds Keirunga trees could be saved  
<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/index.cfm?objectid=12210804&ref=twitter>
- o BayBuzz: The Value of Trees  
<https://www.baybuzz.co.nz/2019/04/01/the-value-of-trees/>
- o HBT Local Focus Video: Fate of legacy oak trees in Keirunga Gardens divides Havelock North residents  
[https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=1503462&objectid=12205440](https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/article.cfm?c_id=1503462&objectid=12205440)
- o Talking Point Pat Turley: Overstated risk leads to 80-year-old oaks in peril  
<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/index.cfm?objectid=12196157&ref=twitter>
- o Stuff Jeff Whittaker: Proposal to fell dozens of old oak trees 'an absolute shame' says former Mayor  
<https://www.stuff.co.nz/environment/109860476/proposal-to-fell-dozens-of-old-oak-trees-an-absolute-shame-says-former-mayor?cid=app-iPhone>



## Appendices

Appended to my submission:

- Appendix 1 | Keirunga Land Image 1.8ha to Plant
- Appendix 2 | P Turley HBT Talking Point 26 Jan 19
- Appendix 3 | P Turley Select Correspondence HDC
- Appendix 4 | P Turley BayBuzz Article: The Value of Trees [Mar-Apr 19]
- Appendix 5 | P Turley BayBuzz Article: The Value of Urban Trees [to be published]
- Appendix 6 | Richie Hill Arboricultural Review Keirunga 12 Apr 19 [38 pages]

## My Talking Points for the Hearing

I will ask to speak at the HDC hearing for Keirunga. I propose to speak to the items above and points below. I estimate I will need:

- 1-1.5 hours for myself
- 1-1.5 hours for Richie Hill consultant arborist

- (1) Hastings District Council's management and treatment of the Keirunga woodland has been:
  - a. Inconsistent with HDC's own policies including:
    - HDC Facilities and Property Management – Trees and Planting, Street Gardens, Town Plots
    - Proposed New Tree Removal Policy November 2009
    - Other HDC items: refer to R Hill report para 1.3
  - b. Inconsistent with the law:
    - Reserves Act 1977
    - Local Government Act 2002 (consultation)
  - c. Possibly inconsistent with Resource Management Act 1991 law
  - d. Insufficiently considered/ advised/ professional given the significance of Keirunga
- (2) The Keirunga Gardens Tree Management Plan published by HDC "recommended" the removal of 89 trees and:
  - a. Was not:
    - Prepared by an independent expert
    - Peer-reviewed by an independent expert
  - b. Was radical in its recommendations to substantially rework a well-established healthy legacy woodland including removing 89 trees
- (3) The primary reasons given by HDC in support of its plan for Keirunga and "recommended" tree removals were false:
  - a. The trees are end-of-life (at the end of their useful lives) [this is false]
  - b. They are unacceptably dangerous [this is false]





- c. The neighbours requested trees felled and the woodland reworked [this is false]
- (4) HDC's consultation for its "recommended" radical rework of Keirunga:
- a. Posted just before Christmas with closing originally 25 January (holidays period)
  - b. Used an unrepresentative cover photo of the oaks woodland mid-winter
  - c. Was not accompanied by any publicity or news items notwithstanding HDC "recommended" the felling of 89 heritage trees including 43 oaks 80 years old in legacy woodland gifted to the community by George Nelson
- (5) HDC's consultation did not comply with the law regarding consultation information:
- a. Accuracy (veracity)
  - b. Independence
  - c. Expert input sufficiency
  - d. Expert review
  - e. Consultation principles
  - f. Local Government Act specifics (is possibly still not compliant with these)
- (6) HDC correctly extended its consultation close and retrospectively commissioned an arboricultural report by Arborlab that cost \$9,758 including GST, without it seems a well-defined brief for Arborlab or HDC pensive procurement process.
- (7) Arborlab's body of work:
- a. Says it has reviewed the HDC original plan but has not addressed this/ written on this specifically
  - b. HDC's published addendum says Arborlab peer-reviewed the HDC management plan for Keirunga that is untrue
  - c. Arborlab:
    - Provides a further report that is predicated on large numbers of trees removal and substantially reworking the woodland apparently in sympathy with (led by) HDC's original report that is substantially incorrect and misinformed
    - Has not justified or professionally qualified its proposals and tree removals recommendations
    - Has many errors
    - Has not been peer-reviewed externally to Arborlab expert or internal to Arborlab peer-reviewed
    - Proposes \$130,000 of mostly unnecessary tree works



- (8) Keirunga is a gifted woodland holding more than 100 heritage (legacy) oaks 80 years old. There is no other public land woodland like it in Hawke's Bay and it is rare in NZ. Keirunga is therefore substantially unique and a nationally significant heritage place. The current topic is not about one or two heritage trees – it concerns over 100 gifted legacy trees.
- (9) Adjoining landowners:
- Landowners who buy next to longstanding trees in public reserves have few grounds to complain. They could reverse their purchase and move elsewhere. There are no acceptable grounds for councils enabling private landowner property value potential windfalls or tree works priority at the expense of park users and the wider community. It is also potentially illegal (under the Reserves Act, Resource Management Act, etc).
  - There are 7 landowners adjoining the Keirunga woodland gully. Of these 5 have lived there since 2014 and 4 since 2015 – 4-5 years. The oaks have been over 80 years growing, therefore 16 times as long.
  - I understand none of the 7 landowners want further large trees removed.
- (10) Council's tree losses misinformation:
- In correspondence HDC said to me "... we lost six trees last year ..." This is untrue.
  - I was advised by neighbours a mature oak with an issue was proposed to be removed. The case was made, and people were unconvinced this was necessary but reluctantly accepted. The day of felling, two other healthy oaks beside it were felled. I was advised the reason given for the two additional oaks being felled was they "were too close to the track."
  - Three large healthy oaks were severely pollarded in 2017 and because they were destroyed, the trees were later removed.
  - Of maybe eight large oaks lost at Keirunga since about 2017, six were felled by HDC and at least five probably unnecessarily (and probably illegally). Refer to *Appendix 3*.
- (11) Trees risk is misunderstood and mis-stated by Council people relative to:
- In the past 24-years in NZ and outside of tree-cutting activities, there have been 10 tree-related fatalities. This included one on a Council reserve and one on DoC land. The others were road-related accidents such as trees striking cars. The chance of being killed by a falling tree in NZ is 1:10 million that is the same chance of being killed by lightning. The UK falling tree fatality risk is 1:20 million. UK citizens are 2,000 times more likely to die in another type of accident.
  - On 18 January Mr Colin Hosford for HDC wrote in reference to adjoining landowners: "I will note that their concerns of safety are taken seriously by Council as they do have every right to expect HDC to ensure they are not put at risk by unsafe trees." This statement is substantially misinformed and unsupported by statistical fact or expert advice.



(12) HDC for the community treasure that is the Keirunga woodland needs to:

- a. Pause
- b. Elevate the status and importance of Keirunga
- c. Rethink weighing best independent expert professional arboricultural advice
- d. Form a plan worthy for the legacy woodland that is Keirunga
- e. Consult the community and experts in respect of (d) above
- f. Ensure steadfast and careful execution of a revised plan for Keirunga by council people
- g. Sponsor and empower a community committee for Keirunga woodland planning and stewardship in partnership with council, e.g. not unlike Te Mata Trust Board
- h. Budget appropriately for Keirunga

(13) Council should consider expanding the Keirunga woodland by planting in oaks or other species on the 1.8 hectares of unplanted or lightly planted reserve next to Arthur's Pass Gully (refer to appended images).

(14) Council needs to consider and substantially improve its:

- a. Tree management and removal policies
- b. Staff training and support for the above
- c. Staff tree management education, care and deliveries
- d. Trees contractor instructions and supervision
- e. Foster a trees-as-assets Council and staff culture

#### Submissions Endorsed

I have read and endorse almost all aspects of the Keirunga submissions of:

- o David Cranwell
- o John Ormond
- o Joe Leete

By: Pat Turley | [pat@turley.co.nz](mailto:pat@turley.co.nz) | 021 33 33 93

Refer to appendices overleaf including the Richie Hill report of 12 April 2019.

19 04 12 Keirunga submission P Turley - F | Page 7 of 68



**Appendix 1 | Keirunga Land Image 1.8ha to Plant**

Attached:

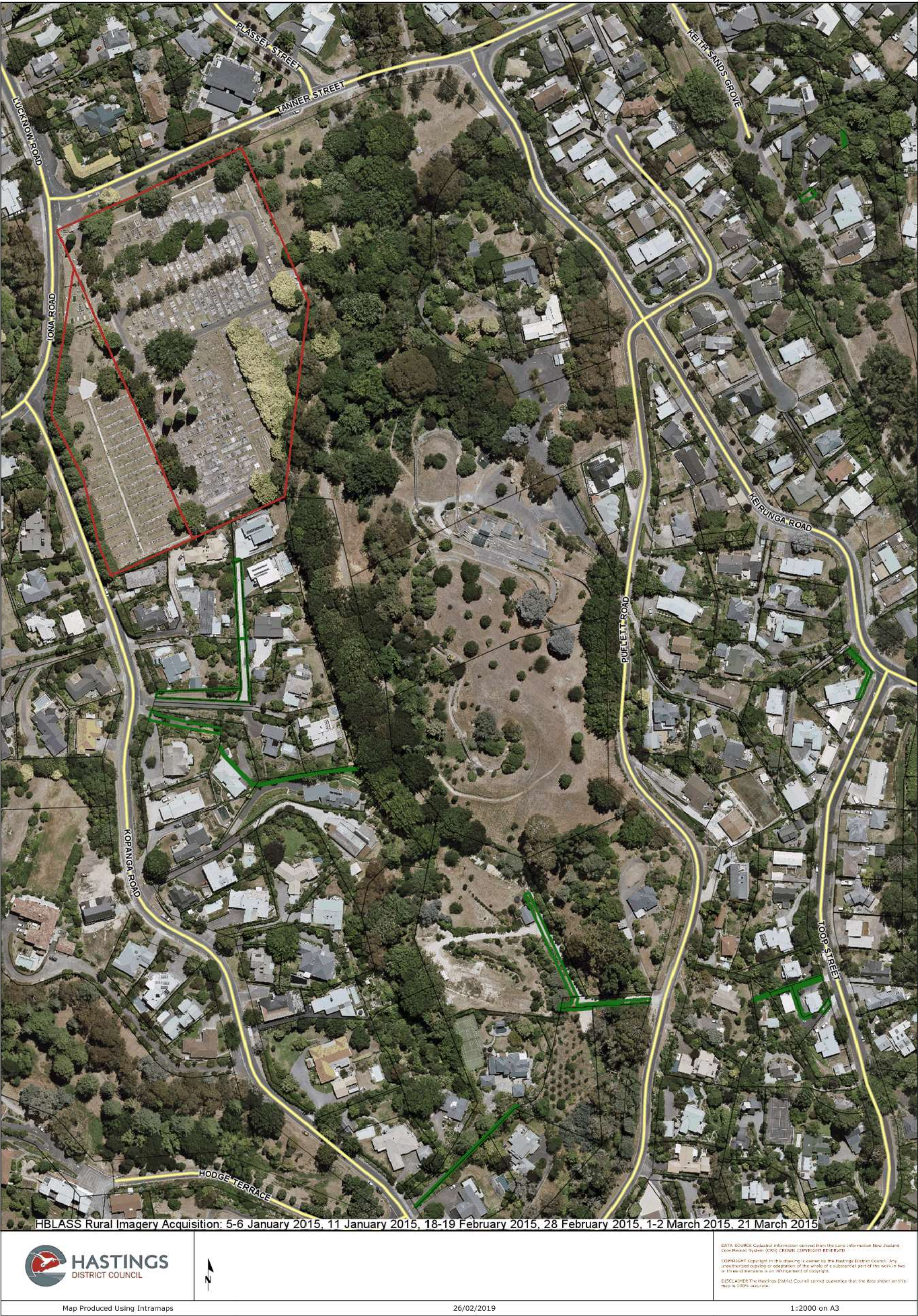
**Item 6**

**Submission No. 187**

Keirunga Submissions | P Turley 12 April 2019 | Page 7 of 12





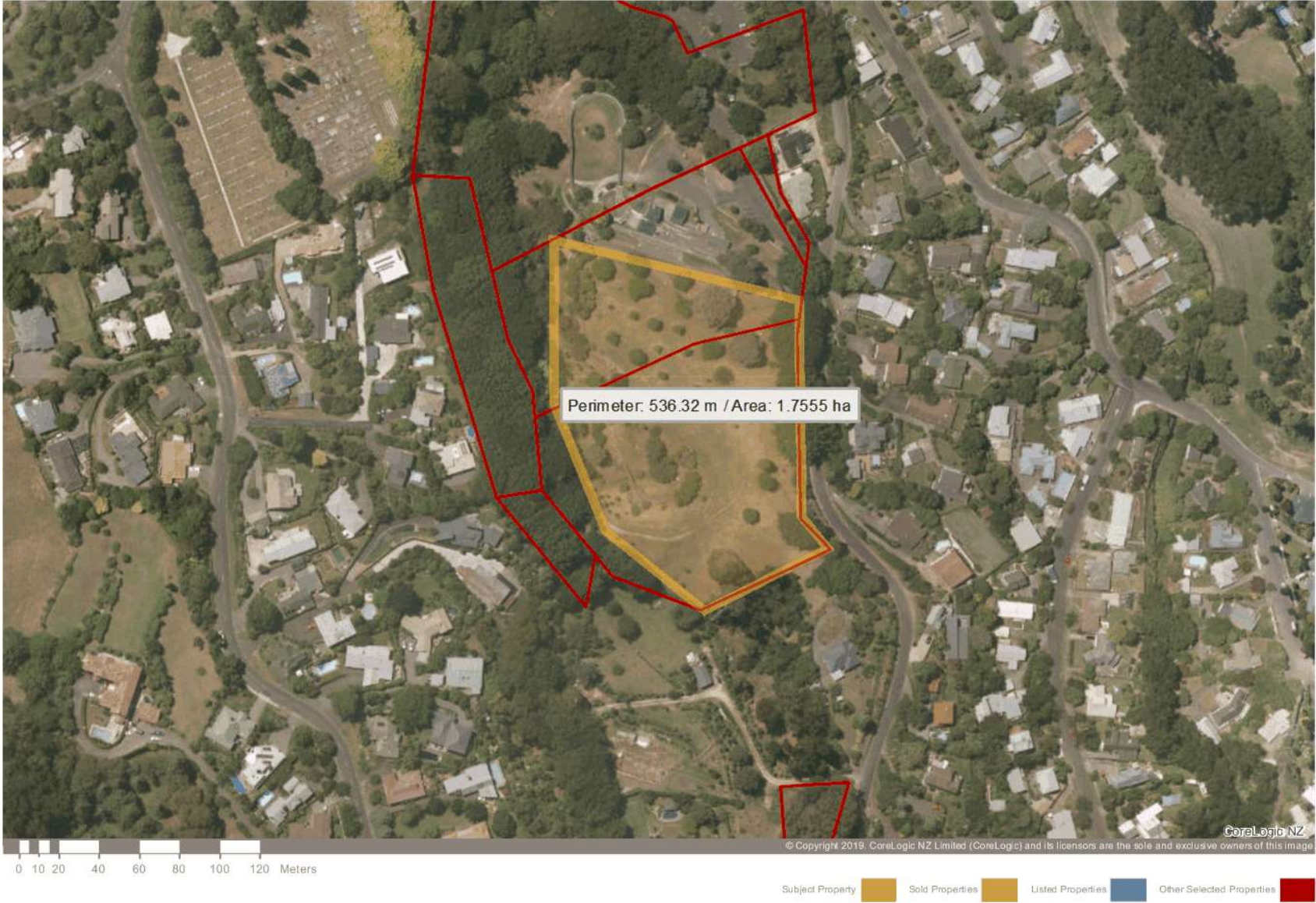


Item 6

Submission No. 187







Item 6

Submission No. 187

19 04 12 Keirunga submission P Turley - F | Page 10 of 68



Appendix 2 | P Turley HBT Talking Point 26 Jan 19

Attached:

Item 6

Submission No. 187

Keirunga Submissions | P Turley 12 April 2019 | Page 8 of 12



## Overstated Risk Leads to 80 years Oaks in Peril



Tim Whittaker photo Keirunga Oaks Autumn 2018

### P Turley for HBT 26 Jan:

Hastings District Council's proposed destruction of a Havelock North woodland by removing young oak trees, in the name of risk mitigation, is a shocker.

Hastings District Council's draft plan for Keirunga provides detail on the recommended removal, replacement and future management of the woodland known as the Arthur's Path Gully. The proposal is to remove around 40 oaks and 50 other trees. Many of the trees were planted by George Nelson in the 1930's. He gifted the land to the community.

Locals who visit the gully often say Council has undermanaged the oaks at Keirunga Gardens. But an expert view by an experienced Wairarapa based arborist Richie Hill says the oaks are not near end-of-life as Councils' draft plan says, and most can be successfully managed. He says the oaks at 80 years are just getting going, they are pups.

The expert view is the Keirunga oaks have at least another 50 years with low risks to people. Signage could be used to assist safety, alongside council inspections after storms.

Trees can be dangerous as are roads and bodies of water. People accept and manage risks every day. As an arborist friend says: "There is no such thing as a safe tree."

If felling 40 Keirunga Gardens oaks is justified in the name of risks management, then we should expect many fewer mature trees at Tainui Reserve, Tauroa Gully, Te Mata Park, Pakowhai Park, Frimley Park, Flaxmere Park, Hawke's Bays' Show Grounds and places like the Maraetotara Falls. These are only a few of the parks and public places with big trees – some are over 100 years in the making and some nationally significant.

The Hawke's Bay Regional Council, if following suit, may need to close public access to rivers or remove unsafe willows. DoC may need to close bush tracks on windy days. What a farce this would be. Maybe next would be pedestrian underpasses for CBDs.

19 04 12 Keirunga submission P Turley - F | Page 12 of 68

19 01 25 HBT Talking Point Keirunga Oaks - F | Page 2 of 2

Botanists say the oak has not reached old age until about 700 years and 1,000 years is the life potential. Parks and woodlands in England hold oaks 300 years old and older. They are frequented public places.

Landowners who buy next to longstanding trees in public parks have few grounds to complain. They could reverse their purchase and move elsewhere. There are no acceptable grounds for councils enabling private landowner property value windfalls at the expense of park users and the wider community.

Christchurch City Council tried this in 2016 proposing to delist 1,531 heritage trees on private and Council land. It failed because unprotecting significant trees was successfully opposed by public.

The transfer of community collective value to private landowners is something Hastings District Council ought to be keenly sidestepping.

Risk is a relative thing – how risky is too risky? Felling the 80-year-old oaks to replace them with 2-year-old trees is unjustifiable. The value of existing trees to biodiversity, the environment and people far outweighs the minute risks posed by a beautiful stand of historic oaks that are relatively young.

Submissions to Council on the Keirunga oaks' fate are now set to close 15 March. In the meantime, Council has commissioned an independent arborist's report.

Councils cannot do whatever they like because they work for us. It will be elections soon and we will be entitled to know how Councillors voted on the Keirunga oaks' future.

Pat Turley is current volunteer chair of Maraetōtara Tree Trust and principal of valuation and property strategy company Turley & Co.

Item 6

Submission No. 187

19 04 12 Keirunga submission P Turley - F | Page 13 of 68



**Appendix 3 | P Turley Select Correspondence HDC**

Attached:

**Item 6**

**Submission No. 187**



**TCL | Pat Turley**

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**From:** TCL | Pat Turley  
**Sent:** Friday, 18 January, 2019 8:47 AM  
**To:** Sandra Hazlehurst  
**Subject:** 40 Oaks re Stuff and Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

Dear Mayor Hazlehurst,

I read the stuff article yesterday:  
[Proposal to fell dozens of old oak trees 'an absolute shame' says former Mayor](#)

I have located today:  
[Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan](#)

The website consultation item does not provide a council contact. I imagine there could be a Keirunga Gardens woodland independent arborists report for HDC?

The draft management plan's sole reference to arborist is possibly:

- *Policies: To take a planned approach to the removal and replacement of trees, in accordance with the priorities identified by qualified arborists, landscape architects and tree specialists.*

If your office would please forward this communication to the relevant manager so that I can receive ideally before this weekend, any arborist's report for the Keirunga Gardens woodland. I would like to review this before (and potentially get this peer-reviewed), before probably making a submission by 25 January.

On the face of this HDC potentially destroying a unique woodland including 40 longstanding oaks would be totally outrageous.

The landowners who bought next to longstanding oaks have no grounds to complain. They can reverse their purchase and move elsewhere. There are no moral grounds for minority private landowner asset betterment gain enabled by HDC at the expense of the wider community. Christchurch City Council tried this in 2017 and failed.

Since yesterday I raised Keirunga Gardens' oaks possible destruction with several people who easily agreed. It includes a leading NZ arborist.

Sincerely,

Pat Turley  
The Turleys | Kenley Farm  
116 Te Mata Mangateretere Road, Havelock North  
RD 10, Hastings 4180

M +64 (21) 33 33 93 | [www.turley.co.nz](http://www.turley.co.nz)

**TCL | Pat Turley**

**Subject:** 40 Oaks re Stuff and Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

---

**From:** Colin Hosford <colinh@hdc.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Friday, 18 January, 2019 5:18 PM  
**To:** TCL | Pat Turley <pat@turley.co.nz>  
**Cc:** Sandra Hazlehurst <Sandra.Hazlehurst@hdc.govt.nz>; Neil Taylor <neilt@hdc.govt.nz>; Craig Thew <craigt@hdc.govt.nz>; Bart G. Leslie <bartgl@hdc.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** FW: 40 Oaks re Stuff and Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan

Good afternoon Pat,

Thanks for your email regarding Keirunga Gardens,

The draft tree management plan has been developed arrived at as a result of the input of various people knowledgeable in tree matters.

Firstly HDC's arborist and landscape officer have been responding to numerous tree failures in the reserve and the adverse impacts they have on park users and at times nearby properties.  
In recent times oak trees have fallen over paths and dropped branches on neighbouring properties.

Rather than take a knee jerk reaction, we employed local tree nurseryman Chris Ryan (ex Top trees and tree curator at Guthrie Smith Arboretum) to view the natural area and suggest a strategic way forward.  
We asked for a plan to stage the removal of aging and failing tree stock and recommend a new planting palette that will deliver a quality reserve for future generations to enjoy.

The draft plan identifies trees for removal and the new trees that would replace them.

While our own arborist has identified approx 25 very poor trees that are likely to cause failure issues sooner rather than later, this plan includes others as part of achieving the larger vision.  
We have employed an external arborist consultant to undertake a review of the plan and necessary inspections. Unfortunately this work is scheduled to commence late January. We will share it with you once the report is complete.

I understand your will comments about neighbouring properties and can assure you that their views will be shared with Councilors along with yours. They are treated the same as all other submissions. I will note that their concerns of safety are taken seriously by Council as they do have every right to expect HDCD to ensure they are not put at risk by unsafe trees.

There are a number of views in regard to this draft plan and Council will in time consider peoples' views and concerns and make a decision. The option range from do little to a large scale change.

If you would like to discuss this further don't hesitate to call me. If you need more time to make a submission, I am happy if you want to take until the end of January.

Regards  
Colin Hosford.  
8715031

**TCL | Pat Turley**

**Subject:** Midwinter 2017 Pollarded Keirunga Oaks x3  
**Attachments:** 19 02 10 Midwinter 2017 Pollarded Keirunga Oaks x3 (1).JPG; 19 02 10 Midwinter 2017 Pollarded Keirunga Oaks x3 (2).JPG; 19 02 10 Midwinter 2017 Pollarded Keirunga Oaks x3 (3).JPG; 19 01 21 Keirunga oaks adjoining landowners details.pdf; 19 01 21 Keirunga Gardens Aerial Map January 2019.pdf

**From:** TCL | Pat Turley  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 13 February, 2019 10:25 AM  
**To:** Colin Hosford <colinh@hdc.govt.nz>  
**Cc:** Sandra Hazlehurst <Sandra.Hazlehurst@hdc.govt.nz>; David Cranwell <david@temataconsultants.com>; Jeff Whittaker <jeff@airnet.net.nz>  
**Subject:** Midwinter 2017 Pollarded Keirunga Oaks x3

Dear Colin,

I refer to the attached photographs of oaks works at Keirunga taken 26 August 17.

**Presumably the tree works near the reserve boundary for x3 oaks were landowner/s requested and undertaken at the Council's parks department's request?**

By a well-qualified arborist who has seen the photos: "... council bowing to the pressures of someone who has some higher leverage within the council possibly, as typically a council wouldn't carry out or advocate this type of works as it sets a worrying precedent, as it communicates to the public, especially anyone who has a tree issue with a council owned tree, that this is a legitimate remedial option."

Referring to attached public reserve adjoining landowner information (for seven only Kopanga Road landowners); six have purchased in the last 8 years – five in the last 5 years. The oaks are 80 years growing so at least 10 times as long as householders adjoining the reserve. The landowners are subordinate.

The very well-qualified consulting arborists I have shared the photos to say the works shown in the photos is (a) poor practice and (b), an arborist would have only done this if directed by a client – HDC as the public land manager?

**What independent expert professional advice was gained by HDC prior to the midwinter 2017 severe tree works? What was the extent of park users and public consultation by HDC before three 80 years oaks were severely pollarded?**

It is a possibility that the tree works by HDC were illegal? Probably inconsistent with Council consultation obligations under the Local Government Act and Council's obligations for a gazetted reserve under the Reserve Act (and maybe other law)?

The trees are public assets and add value as real estate improvements. The tree works diminished a public land asset without community-wide consultation by HDC? Many people were and are upset with the tree works by HDC, and about Keirunga oaks unnecessarily felled (possibly illegally).

If there is any missing information, or a good explanation; please share this ASAP. The attached photos may be published this week by the Stand-up for The Keirunga Oaks campaign.

The HDC draft plan for Keirunga cites mostly unqualified justifications for Council's 'recommendations' for felling around 90 trees including: "There have been a number of requests to remove trees that shade and impact on the adjoining properties along the Kopanga Road boundary." Two of seven landowners say they are opposed to oaks felling. Possibly others?

HDC's document says: "Most of the mature trees in the Arthur's Path area have been left to develop naturally with little proactive [by HDC] tree maintenance." Given the significance of the trees and the gifted land status, is this Council stewardship responsibilities good enough?

19 04 12 Keirunga submission P Turley - F | Page 17 of 68

Council has legal responsibilities and a duty of care to the whole community first and not particularly a few landowners, whom in relative terms have neighboured the oaks for a very short period. They could reverse their purchase and move elsewhere. The significant trees cannot be reinstated in less than 80 years.

I am connected to the Keirunga oaks: my family has visited Keirunga and the oaks regularly for 20 years. Our children's great grandmother lived at Tainui for decades and is buried next to the Keirunga oaks.

Turley & Co is LINZ Accredited for Crown land actions and has a continuously active public land consultancy including Council clients NZ-wide. I am familiar with reserves land law and the statutes mentioned.

I look forward to your reply please Colin.

Kind regards,

Pat Turley  
The Turleys | Kenley Farm  
116 Te Mata Mangateretere Road, Havelock North  
RD 10, Hastings 4180

M +64 (21) 33 33 93 | [www.turley.co.nz](http://www.turley.co.nz)

Item 6

Submission No. 187





Item 6

Submission No. 187



19 04 12 Keirunga-submission P Turley - F | Page 19 of 68



Item 6

Submission No. 187





Item 6

Submission No. 187



Appendix 4 | P Turley BayBuzz Article: The Value of Trees

Attached:

Item 6

Submission No. 187



IDEAS AND OPINION  
PAT TURLEY

## The Value of Trees

The social, environmental and economic value of trees can be thought of as a closely intertwined network of roots in a vast forest. Human sustainability cannot exist without environmental sustainability, and the value of trees extends considerably beyond their direct economic benefits.

Most New Zealand buildings are constructed from timber, our food and beverages would be nutritionally more impoverished without tree-based foods, and the overall health of the planet and the wellbeing of people rely on trees, plants, and healthy water ecosystems.

New Zealand has grown by extracting native timber allowing for farming and plantation forests. During that process, the forestry and orcharding production rotation mindset have sometimes led to poor decision-making for non-commercial trees.

The economic value of trees is straightforward.

Hawke's Bay accounts for about 65% of NZ apple exports exceeding \$700 million annually; meanwhile forestry makes up about \$5 billion (3% of GDP). Commercial forests occupy 1.8 million hectares (7% of total NZ land area), with 90% planted in a monoculture of *Pinus radiata*. Napier Port exported 2 million tonnes of logs in 2018, which is projected to increase by 50% within eight years. Trees are big business for Hawke's Bay.

Tree industries employ large workforces, with forestry alone directly employing around 20,000 people. Add to this considerable investment in land and buildings, plant and equipment, all supported by and benefiting many sub-industries. There are less direct 'socio-economic' benefits as well.

Urban greening is proven to increase workplace productivity, social wellbeing, and health. Lead researcher Daniel Cox (University of Exeter), who references studies by Dr Margaret Stanley

(University of Auckland), published on the matter in *Landscape and Urban Planning* 185 (2009).

The research finds that people working indoors focus their attention on specific tasks and "the presence of a window with a natural scene allows micro-restorative experiences". The more interesting these experiences are, the "more restorative". Researchers say that there is "robust evidence" that indirect experiences with nature have health and wellbeing benefits, including "increased psychological wellbeing, improved cognitive function and concentration, reduced healing times", and better workplace outcomes.

**Notable and heritage trees are many decades in the making and not easily replicated, unlike reinstating a destroyed building. When felled, these trees often leave a hole environmentally and socially, that is not easily backfilled.**

Their studies and others add weight to why heritage and notable trees should be protected and highlight why trees in general need to play a significant role in towns and cities.

High stature trees on private land have community collective value, not dissimilar to significant landscapes like Te Mata Peak. Treasured landscapes, including privately-owned land, are subject to rules that allow for public benefit. Trees of significance (individual trees or groups) are partially owned by everybody.

Private landowners accept

stewardship responsibilities, like being unable to legally pollute air or water, carve up a treasured mountain-side, or destroy a protected building. Unfortunately, necessary rules impinge upon private rights. Landholders contract with the community to foot the related costs, including maintaining protected trees.

Land use rights are always partially subordinate to community rights - a limited bundle of rights that governments, councils and the courts may occasionally modify, with landholding constraints and liabilities ultimately adjusted for in property values.

In 2016, Christchurch City proposed to delist 789 private land heritage trees and 742 public land trees. However removing the protection from these significant trees was firmly opposed by the public, led by Christchurch Civic Trust, the NZ Notable Trees Trust, and Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture. The submissions made by volunteer campaigners successfully persuaded the Council to reverse its decision, and the listed status of the trees was reinstated under the District Plan.

Turley & Co gave land economy evidence in support of protecting these trees. Our evidence indicated that private landowners could make a considerable profit from the removal of these trees, should the trees lose their protection status, because of the land's increased potential for higher density housing. The evidence established that environmental values and the collective value of the trees to the community far outweighed that of the individual property owners.

The relatively young heritage trees of NZ and Hawke's Bay include beautiful trees 100-160 years in age. The wildlife habitats, carbon sequestration and broader ecological benefits of older trees are significant. The value of existing trees to birdlife, the environment, and people usually far outweighs the





minute risks of properly-managed older trees. Every well-grown tree within a public place poses its problems, but the key is to manage these problems and approach them sensibly.

While oaks tend to grow quickly in New Zealand, their life potential is unknown because exotic trees in New Zealand are in their infancy. Parks and woodlands in England hold oaks at least 300 years old - 1,000 years being their life potential. It is less for North American oaks, and this longevity is still being tested in New Zealand.

The Frimley Park black poplar in Hastings, at 144 years old, is the largest specimen in the world. It is also New Zealand's largest deciduous tree at 42 metres tall and 10 metres girth. Last year it was initially proposed to be felled due to risk. Council was dissuaded by tree experts, and the poplar was instead trimmed.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Aerial view of part of 5ha of *Cedrus deodara* planted in 2000 on the right, and native trees planted in 1986 on left of farm pond; close up of a Tasmanian blackwood; Bruce and Jane Mackinnon's Tasmanian blackwoods in Bay View; Philip Holt of Maraetotara Trust. Photos: Tom Allan.



There were similar risk concerns in 2011 for the 159-year-old, 36-metre-high Tasmanian blue gum, next to St Columba Church in Havelock North. The tree was preserved by independent expert arborists' knowledge and the tree retained with risks managed at acceptable levels.

The Havelock North Keirunga oaks planted by George Nelson on gifted land have triggered the latest local debate. Council proposes felling about 46 oaks, many of which are over 80 years of age, plus another 43 deciduous trees within the Keirunga woodland. HDC's proposal is made in the name of risk management, prior undermanagement, a view the trees are end-of-life, and "a number of requests to remove trees that shade and impact on the [seven recent] adjoining properties along the Kopanga Road boundary".

However, others believe that cutting down these trees could be an irreversible mistake. Experts are assessing the wood and public submissions now close mid-March ... robust debate is underway!

The NZ Notable Tree Trust maintains the online New Zealand Tree Register that holds a growing list of the country's notable trees, 165 of which are in Hawke's Bay. Hastings District Council is a longstanding annual supporter. Turley & Co and others are register sponsors. The public can submit new trees on public and private land for addition to the register.

At the same time, Hawke's Bay has one of the most denuded landscapes in New Zealand. This is mainly attributed to the use of fire to clear cutover bush to bring land into pasture.

In 2018 Hawke's Bay Regional Council and Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi signed the Kahutia Accord, which set a framework for co-investing in re-cloaking Hawke's Bay's vulnerable landscapes. If HBRC's proposed investment is ratified following public consultation, Kahungunu and the Council will set out to plant 100,000 hectares of Hawke's Bay land by 2030 - 1,000 square kilometres, or 247,000 acres, in re-established multispecies and native forests ... 'the right tree in the right place' the Council promises.

The ecological drivers are to curb erosion and silting of waterways and coastal environments, counter the adverse effects of forestry harvesting, protect landscapes against extreme weather events, increase carbon sequestration, and significantly bolster biodiversity. The economic and social drivers include revenue; new industry,



Pat Turley at Keirunga Wood in Havelock North with his dog Flynn. Photo: Tom Allan

skills, employment; and reconnecting people with natural places.

The regional council has already confirmed a \$30m budget over the next decade for riparian planting, to protect the water quality of streams and retain soil on private farmland by co-funding partnering. Maraetōtara Tree Trust's partnership with HBRC and landowners has been achieving this on the Maraetōtara River for 17 years. Over one-half of 86 kilometres both sides have been reserved and planted in native species.

Hawke's Bay's overall tree cover is set to be significantly improved, its native birdlife and other fauna further repopulated, and its waterways and coastal ecosystems made much healthier.

It is easy to make a case for planting more trees in Hawke's Bay, and it is equally important that we keenly protect longstanding existing trees that offer possibly centuries of value to generations of people, and the environment.

Notable and heritage trees are many decades in the making and not easily replicated, unlike reinstating a

destroyed building. When felled, these trees often leave a hole environmentally and socially, that is not easily backfilled.

Certain trees in New Zealand have reached incredible ages, such as Tāne Mahuta, the largest living kauri. Tāne Mahuta has a girth of 14 metres and is estimated to be an astonishing 1,250 to 2,500 years old. Unfortunately, the Lord of the Forest could one day be threatened by the current challenge of Kauri dieback infection.

Maybe the trees we plant or keep alive today will eventually grow to be as great as, or even greater than the mighty Tāne Mahuta. Certainly, this would be a great legacy for Hawke's Bay. ●

Pat Turley is current volunteer chair of the Maraetōtara Tree Trust's riparian plantings and principal of Hawke's Bay valuation and property strategy company Turley & Co. His farming background includes pipfruit growing and forest harvesting in NZ and the UK and he grows exotic trees.



19 04 12 Keirunga submission P Turley - F | Page 25 of 68



Appendix 5 | P Turley BayBuzz Article: The Value of Urban Trees

Attached **embargoed** until published by BayBuzz:

Item 6

Submission No. 187

19 04 01 Turley Trees 2 - BB47 - Final - Copy embargoed | Page 1 of 4  
**FINAL EMBARGOED until published in BayBuzz**

## The Value of Urban Trees

By Pat Turley

Urban trees offer a sense of place and a connection with the past. Environmentally crucial and a cultural touchstone, they have a massive role to play in urban New Zealand.

In terms of their environmental benefits, trees provide habitat, sequester carbon, mitigate stormwater runoff, cool the air and surfaces, and reduce solar radiation by up to 90%.

Manchester researchers in *Research Gate 2014* reported: “The physical benefits of urban trees are well known ... they intercept airborne particles, thereby reducing pollution levels, they provide shade and cooling, and they intercept rainfall, reducing runoff and surface flooding.”

They found that trees “reduced runoff by 60%”, their shade cooled urban populations by up to 4-7°C, and cooled surfaces by 15-20°C. The study reported that trees evapotranspiration (whereby trees release water into the air) “removed up to 50% of the energy from incoming radiation.” Shading by trees is the other cooling effect.

Trees that are well-placed reduce building air-conditioning costs by 20-50%. In climates characterised by cold winters and hot summers, deciduous trees near homes and other buildings offer cooling in the summertime, and solar gain in winter.

## Well-being

In terms of human benefits, increasing evidence indicates that trees considerably improve our mood, sociability, well-being and health. Trees are shown to help reduce stress, improve our attention capacity and assist illness recovery.

An article on human health effects in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* (2013) said there was a “convincingly strong” connection between 100 million Michigan trees decimated by an invasive beetle, and the coinciding increase of heart disease and pneumonia for populations nearby. It is surmised that people’s health deteriorated due to tree losses and the connected adverse well-being effects.

The research review *Metro Nature, Environmental Health, and Economic Value* by Kathleen Wolf and Alicia Robbins suggests urban green or “metro nature” places have significant linkages to a community’s economic outcomes via well-being and prosperity effects. Wolf

and Robbins suggest improved valuation tools are necessary for making better decisions about metro nature investment. This theme includes creating and preserving urban parks and woodlands, and in general growing and nurturing urban trees.

The effects of trees are significant, and our knowledge of trees and their benefits is ever-developing. What we do know so far makes a compelling case for increased urban trees and greening.

Yet urban tree losses in NZ are widespread. For example, the Waitematā Local Boards conducted a recent study for the following suburbs: Arch Hill, Freemans Bay, Grey Lynn, Parnell, Ponsonby, Western Springs and Westmere. The report shows a canopy loss of 61 hectares in 2006-16, which is represented by 12,879 identified individual tree removals. The actual total is likely considerably greater.

### Economic value

University of Washington research indicates larger trees on residential properties, as well as street trees, can add 3-15% to market values. Homes adjacent to “naturalistic parks and open spaces” transact at 8-20% greater market value than homes not near trees.

Softening tree protection rules might have gains for an individual property owner or developer, but a corresponding greater economic loss to the neighbourhood – before any accounting for environmental damages.

In cases of insurance claims, the monetary value of trees lost must be established. The Standard Tree Evaluation Method uses an assessment score and considers costs to buy and plant trees, as well as maintenance costs and tree age. The STEM valuation, in one example, assesses \$9,000 for a Hastings single amenity tree 25 years of age.

The STEM valuation finding may not coincide with a real estate market valuation before and after trees, given property sales evidence.

The City of Melbourne tree valuation method is an alternative to STEM. The Melbourne method is based on trunk diameter and considers a tree’s amenity setting. In one example an inner-suburb pin oak (*Quercus palustris*) age 30-years with a trunk diameter of 0.53 metres, is valued at \$32,200. Urban tree values climb considerably for larger and older amenity trees.

The added market value of orchard trees to land is considered alongside other development including power and water installations, fencing, roadways, buildings, and housing. Similar to the STEM and the Melbourne method, the basis for assessing the value of an orchard tree involves evaluating its qualities and the stage of its development.

The cost of reinstating trees and other land improvements has an influence on market values. But cost and market value rarely coincide, indicating either a development profit or loss. Such as for apple varieties now fashionable versus trees no longer in vogue.

Heritage values that communities ascribe to heritage buildings, artworks and unique trees usually exceed cost-based or market economic factors by a considerable margin. Hastings has a Gingko tree, about 140 years of age, that has a unique whakapapa. The irreplaceable female Gingko and its history are highly-treasured, notwithstanding the seasonal stinky tendencies of the tree. It can be fairly said that all trees are unique.

#### Keirunga oaks

Arthur's Pass Gulley oaks at Keirunga in Havelock North are a community treasure. Keirunga is a gifted woodland holding more than 100 legacy trees including 80-year-old oaks. There is no other public land, oaks-dominant woodland quite like this in Hawke's Bay. Keirunga is a unique and nationally significant heritage place. Hastings Council is the custodian of this intergenerational community asset.

The STEM and Melbourne valuation methods would determine the collective value of the Keirunga woodland trees of at least \$2,000,000 if not \$5,000,000, or possibly greater.

The Keirunga oaks are by any measure a significant public asset and they are non-replaceable. Their planter and benefactor George Nelson is deceased, and his generosity and legacy was a one-time gift.

The value of trees to our planet and people is multifaceted. The well-known plea "Save the trees" is increasingly appreciated – over 4,000 people signed the save the Keirunga oaks petition.

In the past 24-years in New Zealand there have been 10 tree-related fatalities not involving tree-cutting. This included one on a Council reserve and one on DoC land. The others were road-related accidents such as trees striking cars. The chance of being killed by a falling tree in NZ is 1:10 million – that is the same chance of being killed by lightning.

Council thinking needs to shift away from seeing trees as a problem and cost, and instead seeing them as an asset that is worthy of investment. The costs of properly managing well-grown trees are usually justified by the benefits these trees deliver. There is also the massive costs and lead-time necessary to establish significant trees.

Councillors need sound information and they need to ensure staff are properly accountable for our public and urban places trees.

Hawke's Bay's heritage trees that represent our local communities, their stories and whakapapa are very valuable, and these trees are irreplaceable. Like artworks and treasured buildings, they tell a story – our very old trees are part of us.

Urban trees offer incalculable benefits and value to everybody. The injudicious cutting of public trees should always be firmly opposed, and the felling of amenity and heritage trees should be the absolute last resort – surely this is something we can all agree on.

*Pat Turley is current volunteer chair of the Maraetōtara Tree Trust's riparian plantings and principal of Hawke's Bay valuation and property strategy company Turley & Co. His farming background includes pipfruit growing and forest harvesting in NZ and the UK, and he grows exotic trees.*



19 04 12 Keirunga submission P Turley - F | Page 30 of 68




**Appendix 6 | Richie Hill Arboricultural Review Keirunga 12 Apr 19**

Attached 38 pages:

**Item 6**

**Submission No. 187**

19-04-22 Keirunga submission P Turley - F | Page 33 of 68



## TREE MANAGEMENT & PLANS REVIEW

PREPARED BY  
**PAPER STREET TREE COMPANY**

*For*  
KEIRUNGA GARDENS  
SPECIFICALLY FOR TREES WITHIN  
ARTHURS PATH GULLY, HAVELOCK NORTH,  
HASTINGS

**REPORT COMMISSIONED BY:** Pat Turley, David Cranwell, Jeff Whittaker, Johnno Ormond  
and co-funders (29)

**REPORT DATED:** 12 April 2019

**REPORT BY:** Richie Hill



ARBORICULTURE CONSULTANCY

Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1 INTRODUCTION

2 TREE VALUE

3 SITE INSPECTION

4 REVIEW OF DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLANS

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

6 CONCLUSIONS

Attachments

APPENDIX 1 RICHIE HILL CV

APPENDIX 2 HDC HISTORIC DETAILS KEIRUNGA GARDENS

APPENIDIX 3 HDC TREE REMOVAL POLICY

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

I have inspected the oaks that stand either side of Arthur's Path. English oak (*Quercus robur*) and red oak (*Q. rubra*) are the dominant species, which gives the wood its unique character. The trees are considered to be of local heritage, and due to the oak woodland character are of high amenity landscape value. Therefore I consider the oak woodland is a significantly valuable public asset.

Significant tree works have taken place along the boundary with Kopanga Rd, including ground modifications. These works are considered to have had a detrimental effect on trees. There are open spaces between trees from tree removal/failure where weed colonisation is beginning to take effect. There is evidence that trees have failed, or have been removed. In terms of tree condition, on the whole the trees display good health, but some trees, especially the trees adjacent to Kopanga Rd, display structural issues. However, all structural issues observed can be remediated by good tree management works.

Both plans fail to adhere to one of the key main objectives within the Hastings District Council's original Management Plan for "*the protection, management and enhancement of the natural and historic values of Keirunga Gardens*". The Draft Management Plan provides no details for justification of significant tree removal, or credible evidence to justify/support its recommendations. The plan would have significant adverse effects on the values of the site and is therefore is commented on only in part. The Arborlab report includes a number of inaccuracies and a focus which contradicts the key objective for the Gardens.

In light of these findings recommendations have been provided within this assessment to protect and preserve the woodland and historic values of Keirunga Gardens. Additional recommendations are also included to develop policies that will ensure robust decision making, which will offer greater protection, lead to improved management outcomes for all Hastings District Council trees and ensure Council can realise more value from its tree-related assets.

Richie Hill

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Page 3 of 38

Item 6

Submission No. 187

## 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 I have been engaged by Pat Turley on behalf of members of the local community to carry out a tree management review for the trees that stand adjacent to Arthurs Path, Keirunga Gardens in Havelock North. Specifically to:

- Review Hastings District Council (HDC) Proposed Draft Management Plan findings for Arthurs Path Gulley and the Arborlab Arboricultural Review and Tree Survey for Arthurs Path Gulley.
- Provide recommendations for the maintenance, protection and enhancement of the trees within Arthurs Path Gulley.

### 1.2 *Layout of assessment*

In order to make the main text as concise as possible, additional details, background information and explanatory notes have been attached as appendices, and should be referred to where necessary.

**Section 2      Tree Value:** Assesses the value trees hold within a community context

**Section 3      Site inspection:** Observations noted from site inspection

**Section 4      Review of Draft Management Plans:** Review of the plans in respect to the value trees hold and observations noted from site inspection

**Section 5      Recommendations:** Details for any recommendations made from the findings

**Section 6      Conclusions**

### 1.3 *Information reviewed*

I have reviewed the following plans and policies as part of this process:

- HDC Facilities and Property Management- Trees and Planting, Street Gardens, Town Plots. Proposed New Tree Removal Policy November 2009 (Provided to me by email by Bart Leslie on the 2.04.19)
- HDC District Wide Reserve Management Plan
- HDC Keirunga Gardens Management Plan No.2 (2009)
- HDC Keirunga Gardens Draft Management Plan: Exotic Woodland Area – Arthur's Path Gully
- Arborlab Arboricultural Review and Tree Survey for Keirunga Gardens 26.02.19
- HDC Keirunga Gardens Draft Management Plan Addendum Report
- Reserves Management Act 1977

### 1.4 *Limitations*

This review has been carried out by reviewing the above documents and from observations made on site. No discussion with HDC has been carried out during this report, and therefore I am unaware of any background information. The views contained within this report are made in the context of my qualifications and experience, a summary of which is attached in Appendix 1.

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Page 4 of 38



## 2 TREE VALUE

### 2.1 *General*

Managing trees in a public space can be a complex issue due to the myriad of factors involved, especially when considering that certain species have the genetic characteristics to potentially live for hundreds, if not thousands of years, and the fact that most assessments are based on a snapshot in time. In that context, having clear management strategies to protect tree values is important if trees are to reach their full potential. Taking an asset management approach is a pragmatic solution. Trees however differ from most fixed assets, as they appreciate over time and are dynamic in terms of condition (health and structure). Therefore, any management approach requires flexibility, but with clear objectives to safeguard trees from insufficiently qualified and subjective opinion.

- 2.1.1 Efficient asset management is defined by ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) thus: asset management coordinates the financial, operational, maintenance, risk, and other asset-related activities of an organisation to realise more value from its assets. Within that context, it's important to establish a tree's value to ensure the financial investment (maintenance/retention) is in proportion to the value that trees deliver.

### 2.2 *Tree value*

Value is a tricky thing when it comes to trees, as value is often associated with a monetary figure, and due to every tree being different, and no fixed market place value for a mature tree, assigning a monetary value is often fraught with subjectivity. Trees provide intangible values that increase over time. We value of intangible items on a regular basis, as these items are generally linked to some of our most important connections, and in turn improve our wellness. Trees also improve social and environmental wellness by making our urban environments better places to live. Trees provide both environmental and social benefits. They provide environmental benefits by storing and actively sequestering carbon dioxide, stormwater mitigation, cooling (via evapotranspiration) and reducing harmful ultraviolet radiation by up to 90% (Ennos *et al.* 2014). But it's the social benefits that trees provide which are lesser known. These benefits arguably hold the most value within an urban setting. There is an ever increasing body of compelling evidence to show trees, and green spaces, improve human wellness and sociability (Wolf and Robbins, 2015). Trees can also provide cultural value, which provides a sense of place or a connection to the past. Passive exposure to landscapes has also proven to reduce stress, improve attention capacity, facilitate recovery from illness, improve physical well-being, and promote behavioral changes that improve mood and general well-being. (Velarde *et al.*, 2007). But despite the proven tree benefits, widespread loss of trees within urban environments is often reported, especially of large trees, as urban intensification increases. Large trees provide significantly more benefits than small and immature trees (Gill *et al.*, 2007; McPherson *et al.*, 2007). Trees, especially mature trees, cannot be simply replaced. So for trees that are identifiable as being of cultural, biological or aesthetic public interest, these should be considered as significantly valuable public assets.

2.2.1 Tree value of the trees adjacent to Arthur's Path

Keirunga Gardens Management Plan 2 provides a detailed summary of the historic value of the site (attached as Appendix 2). An excerpt from Plan 2 is shown below to provide a brief summary:

- a) *"On 15 August 1910 the Gardiners sold 'Stadacona' to Charles Ord Tanner and his wife Mary Davina Ann Tanner. It was the Tanners who changed the name from 'Stadacona' to 'Keirunga', which translates as 'house on high'. In 1929, after Charles Tanner's death, his widow sold the property to George Nelson. George Nelson was born in England in 1871 and came to New Zealand as a young engineer. Mr Nelson had a fascination with Kew Gardens in England and this influenced his development of the Keirunga grounds. He collected oaks from all over Hawke's Bay and spent a great deal of time landscaping the area. In 1961 Mr George Nelson decided to gift 18 acres 1 rood and 37 perches of Keirunga Gardens to the Mayor, Councilors and Citizens of the Borough of Havelock North, to include the house and its garden after his death. Council accepted the gift and in 1964 when George Nelson died, a condition in his will stated that the homestead and the remaining two and a half acres was to be offered to the Havelock Borough Council for a nominal sum. Running along the western side of the gardens, following the waterway is Arthurs Path, an informal walkway set among a woodland of old oak trees. The path was named after the man who drained the lower part of the gully and formed the path". But the plan also states "It is assumed that the trees throughout the Keirunga Gardens gully were planted by Mr and Mrs Reginald Gardiner."*

2.3 ***Summary of tree value of the trees that stand adjacent to Arthurs Path***

The oaks that stand either side of Arthurs Path are predominately English oak (*Quercus robur*) and red oak (*Q. rubra*). This provides the woodland its unique character. Whilst I was on site, a number of members of the public using the walk spoke fondly of bringing their children and now grandchildren along the walk, and reflected on its unique character. This is a similar sentiment shared by many. The woodland is considered to be of local heritage, and due to the oak woodland character offers high amenity landscape value. As highlighted in section 2.2, any tree that has high public cultural or aesthetic interest should be considered as a significantly valuable public assets.

### 3 SITE INSPECTION

#### 3.1 *Summary*

Significant tree works have taken place along the boundary with Kopanga Rd. Ground modifications have also taken place within the root zone of these trees. These works have clearly had a detrimental effect on trees. There are open spaces between trees from tree removal/failure where weed colonisation is beginning to take effect. There is evidence that trees have failed, and trees have been removed. In terms of tree condition, on the whole the trees display good health, but some trees, especially the trees adjacent to Kopanga Rd, display structural issues. However, all structural issues can be remediated by good tree management works.

#### 3.2 *Site inspection*

I visited the site briefly on 1.02.19 and in more detail on the 27.03.19 to inspect the site and the trees in respect to the proposed plans (Draft Management Plan and the Arborlab Review Plan). When inspecting the trees, I carried out a visual tree assessment (Mattheck & Breloer, 1994) where I inspected each tree from ground level, using a photographic zoom lens as an aid where necessary.

#### 3.3 *Vegetation summary*

The path is best described as a small gulley with established trees located on both banks forming a narrow established oak woodland. The northern section of the path however, is more typical of a woodland. This area appears to have had minimal intervention, natural regeneration for successive canopy coverage is occurring, forming a continuous canopy which is synonymous with a woodland. In contrast, mid to northern parts of the path are more open. Here substantial tree works have occurred and trees have been removed. No evidence of replacement planting is apparent and invasive species are beginning to colonise vacant areas. Various other tree species also stand within the surrounds of the path.

#### 3.4 *Summary of tree condition*

The majority of the trees are in good health, although there are certain trees which are beginning to be shaded out. Despite this these trees provide additional habitat opportunities, which will further enhance the value of the woodland.

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#### REFERENCES

Mattheck, C., and H. Breloer. 1994. The Body Language of Trees. HMSO, London, UK

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Page 7 of 38

### 3.5 *Summary of structure*

Significant tree works on certain trees have reduced their ability to dissipate wind loads by excessive removal of lower and mid canopy limbs. This appears to have increased the likelihood of tree failures within the group, especially for oaks that stand midway along the path. Soil disturbance has occurred where the effect of these works cannot be anticipated. There are also a number of semi-mature trees that exhibit some structural defects that stand adjacent to the path. However, all the structural issues viewed can be remediated with good management practices.

### 3.6 *Pruning/removal of red oaks adjacent to Kopanga Rd*

The Draft Management Plan states as one of its issues; *"There have been a number of requests to remove trees that shade and impact on the adjoining properties along the Kopanga Road boundary"*. It also states *"Significant soil erosion has occurred following the loss of trees in the area, resulting in the canopy becoming more open, allowing high winds through and the high likelihood of increased tree loss along the Arthur's Path track in severe weather events"*.

- 3.6.1 A significant amount of tree work has taken place within the upper reaches of Arthurs Path behind the properties of 7A- 17 Kopanga Rd. These works have resulted in the loss of the western canopy edge (figs 1-8) of the group. The prevailing wind direction is predominately from the west. Trees buffer wind loads by dissipating the force via movement of leaves and branches which act as dampeners (shock absorbers).
- 3.6.2 Sudden changes to a tree's environment can have an impact on trees, such as the removal of shelter, which exposes a tree to loads which it has not been able to compensate for. Trees grow to adapt to the environmental extremes which they are subject to. This occurs gradually over time. If significant screening is suddenly removed, and the tree is subjected to high wind loads, this can lead to branch breakages, or even whole tree failure if there is a sufficient weakness in a tree's root system.
- 3.6.3 The western canopy of the trees was pruned in 2017. Sometime following this pruning, Tree A (located east of the group pruned) uprooted. Trees B and C were also removed - stumps remain, and there is no decay, or evidence to suggest windthrow. See following images.





Fig. 1 2016 (Google Earth) aerial image of site prior to the 2017 works.

Fig. 2 2018 (Google Earth) aerial image of Arthurs Path after the works.

Item 6  
Submission No. 187

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Page 9 of 38



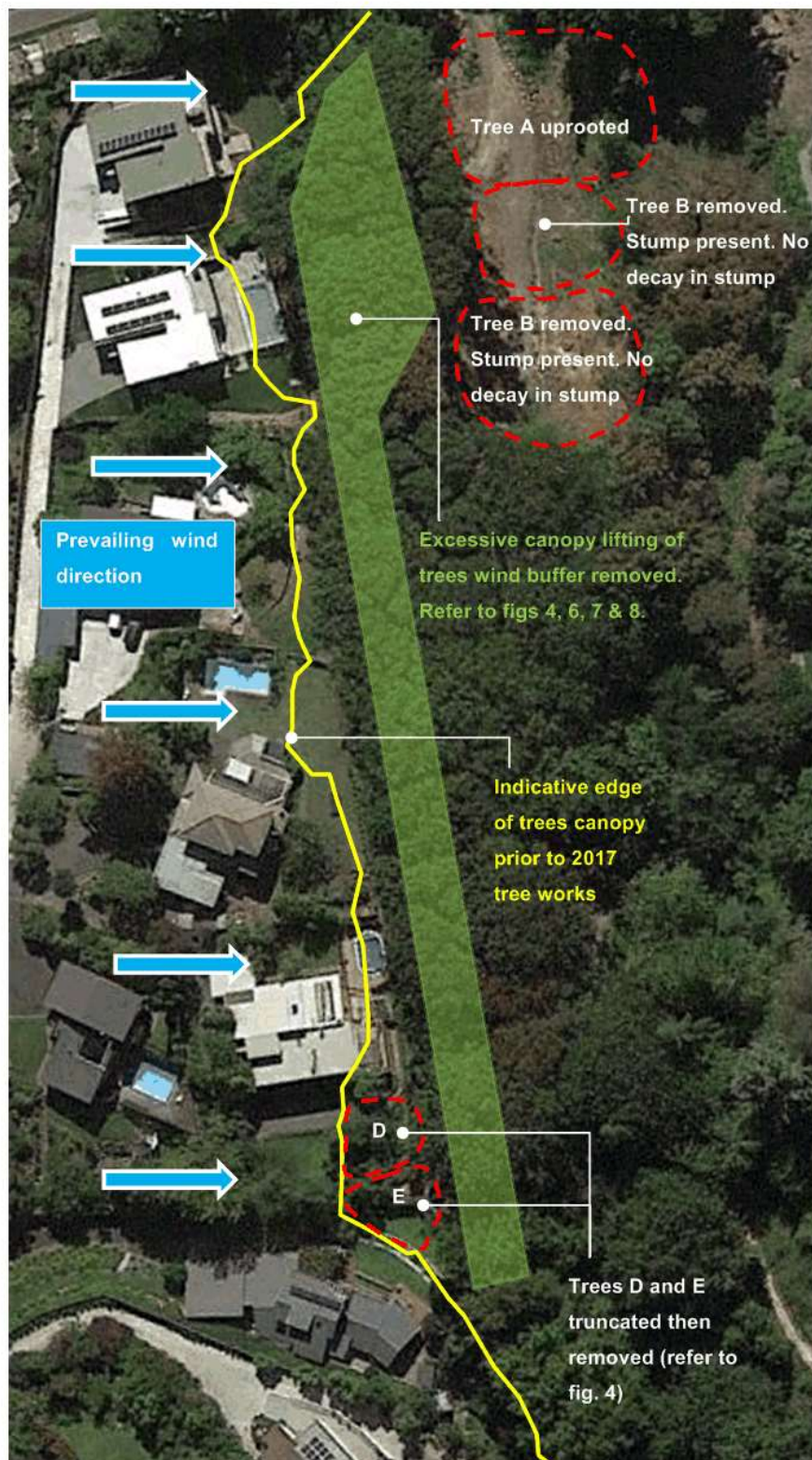


Fig. 3 2018 Aerial image of site (Google Earth) with discussion points overlaid

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Page 10 of 38

Item 6

Submission No. 187



Fig. 4 Image of pruning works (2017) looking down the western boundary with Kopanga Rd. Trees D and E, were subsequently removed. (Image taken by Terry McGovern looking north)

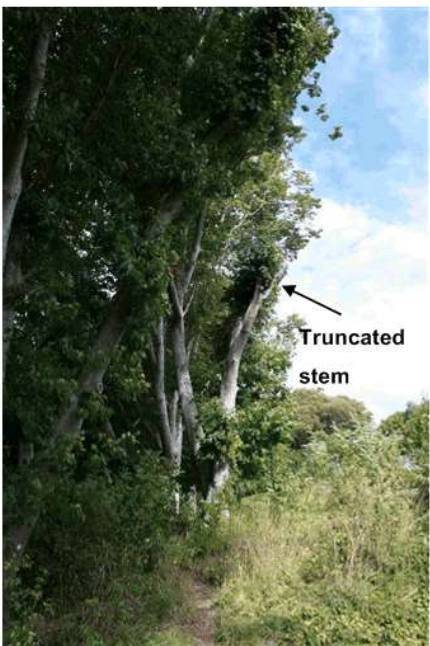


Fig. 5 2019 looking south down the western boundary with Kopanga Rd. Black arrow indicates truncated stem as shown in fig. 4. Note increased epicormic growth (stress; branch sprouting) and increased weed activity.



Fig. 6 Excessive canopy lifting and thinning of tree adjacent to western boundary with Kopanga Rd

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Page 11 of 38



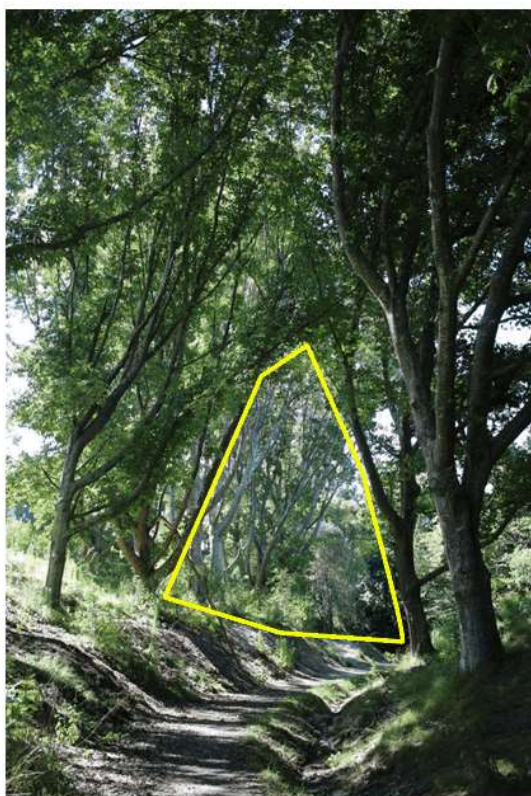


Fig. 7 Image taken on 20.2.19 (Pat Turley) at 4pm. Sun shining from the left top corner of image showing lack of canopy density (highlighted in yellow).



Fig. 8 Another example of excessive lifting/thinning. Epicormic sprouting, stress, as the tree attempts to recover from canopy loss. Note soil level change also (new retaining wall).

- 3.6.4 Fig. 4 shows two healthy trees truncated which were later removed (Trees D and E) these trees stood directly adjacent to the western boundary with Kopanga Rd.
- 3.6.5 No pruning policies appear to be in place. The tree works carried out in 2017 would not comply with any international pruning standards, as the works would increase the likelihood for limb and possible tree failure, not just for trees adjacent to the boundary but for trees within the group.
- 3.6.6 It is important to acknowledge the role that trees have in slope stabilisation and rainfall mitigation. Trees are very effective at mitigating high rainfall events by intercepting rain. Removal of such a significant amount of canopy would have increased surface runoff and therefore exacerbated the erosion issues already present in the woodland.

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Page 12 of 38

- 3.6.7 Areas that have been opened up by tree removal are largely being colonised by invasive species. It would appear that some maintenance has been carried out. But no proactive management appears to have taken place within the Gardens for a while, considering the size of some of the weeds and their spread. This scenario appears to be consistent along the path where trees have been removed or have failed.

3.7 ***Policies and plans***

The pressure for tree removal and the need for ongoing maintenance of trees can be expected where established trees are present beside residential properties.

- 3.7.1 HDC have a Tree Removal Policy, (Attached as Appendix 3). The policy is essentially a flowchart where the outcome reached within its structure would be highly dependent on the input; e.g. the experience and knowledge of the user. Within the flowchart it does state "*Where there is any doubt or likely to be significant public interest, a report should be taken to Council for consideration*". I do not know if such a report was requested for the removal of the oak trees or if arboricultural expertise is a requirement of the process. It is of my opinion the policy is in need of critical review, as premature tree removal is highly likely to occur, or has occurred, under this process.
- 3.7.2 It is important that effective strategies and policies are in place to guide sound planning and tree management practices. This safeguards trees to ensure tree longevity is achievable within the landscape, and provides clear guidance to the public of what the council will and won't do.

3.8 ***Tree root plate failure***

Tree A failed (uprooted). An uprooted tree stump is left further up the path, which may be Tree A, as it is a red oak stump. There is an inherent degree of subjectivity when assessing the cause for tree failure, especially where no information is at hand of the trees condition at the time or what the weather conditions were at the time of failure. However looking at the tree stump it does show some clear causal factors as to why failure occurred.



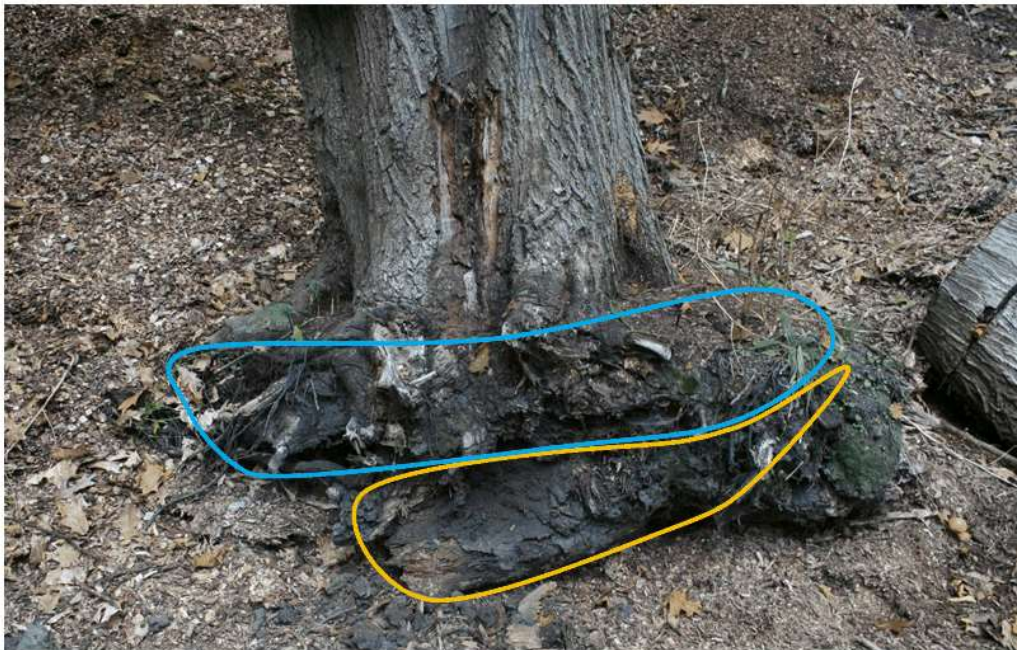


Fig.9 Uprooted red oak stump. Note the discoloration in the wood of the large root – heart root (highlighted in orange) to show how much further decayed the wood material is compared to the upper roots; the wood within the heart root crumbles whereas the wood of the upper roots is still solid (highlighted in blue).

- 3.8.1 The heart root of the root plate was significantly decayed (highlighted in orange in fig.9). This is a substantial root which would be vital for tree stability. An event has occurred where this root has become dysfunctional, but due to the size of the root this is considered to have happened in the later life stages of the tree. The tree, if it has the energy resources available (the aerial fig.1 suggest no discoloration to canopy to indicate decline if this is Tree A), will start to compensate for the root loss; as seen with the formation of roots above (see fig. 9). Even though the heart root would have been dysfunctional, it would still provide a great deal of stability until such a point where, due to wood degradation, the root would no longer provide any structural support. At which point the upper roots would take the load, and if those roots have not fully formed to compensate for the additional load the tree would be highly susceptible to windthrow. So if this is Tree A, sudden changes to its environment i.e. the tree was not able to compensate for the sudden increased loads from the removal of the group's western canopy, causing it to fail at its weakest point.
- 3.8.2 Root damage, or dysfunction, can be caused by numerous factors, e.g. a girdled root, a past wind event could have fractured the root, or it could be related to mechanical damage. A stormwater channel is dug adjacent to where Tree A stood (fig.10), and earthworks has also been carried out within the root zone of trees alongside Arthurs Path. Evidence further along the track also shows historic damage of roots being ripped out (fig. 11).





Fig.10 Arrow referenced as A indicates the location of where Tree A would have stood. Laughing Gym (*Gymnopilus junonius*), highlighted in orange dashed lines, is present adjacent to the stormwater channel (highlighted by a blue line) feeding off decayed wood material. Stump of Tree B located far right of the image. Area now being colonised by brush wattle (*Paraserianthes lophantha*).

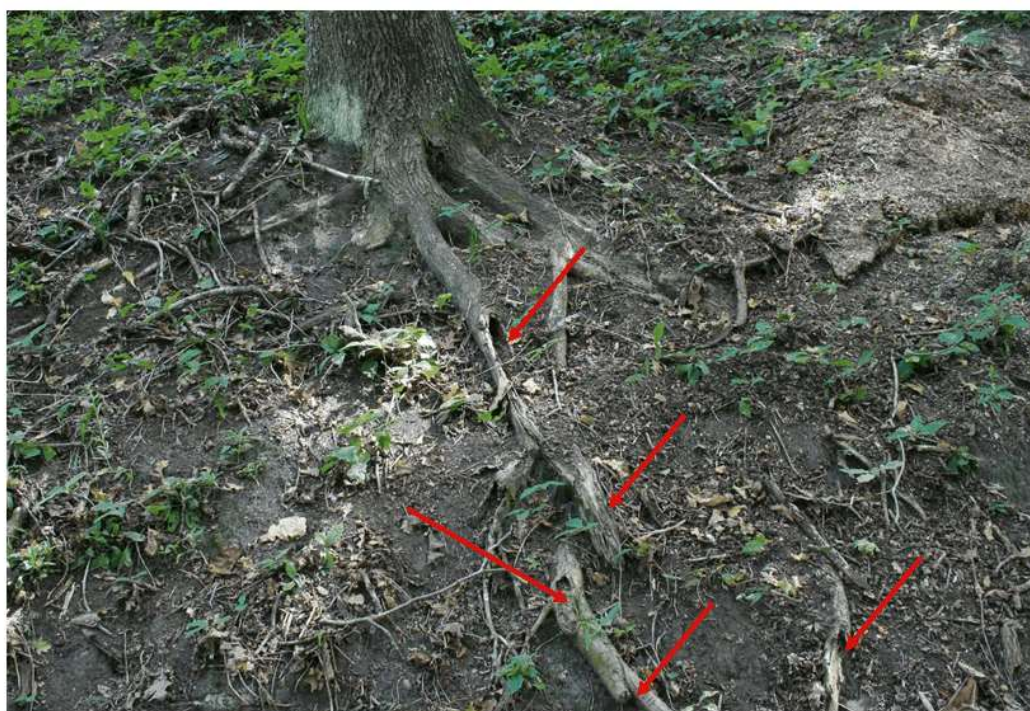


Fig.11 Red arrows indicate points where roots have been damaged. On an oak that stands adjacent to Arthurs Path

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Page 15 of 38



- 3.8.3 The stumps of Tree's B and C show no signs of decay, the aerial image (fig. 1) shows no signs of canopy discoloration from either tree that would suggest the trees were in ill health. However, it is suspected that the failure of Tree A may have resulted in damage to adjacent trees, but as seen in fig.5 of the truncated tree, they appear healthy enough to have responded with fresh growth.
- 3.8.4 The formation of residential lots on Kopanga Rd have resulted in a significant change to the soil level where a retaining wall has been constructed. Tree roots typically occupy the top 50cm of soil, where 80-90% of the root biomass would be expected, and as a general rule roots would spread well beyond the canopy line. In addition to this, path modification has also occurred adjacent to a number of trees. There are a couple of points along the path where nova coil pipes exit the bank adjacent to the Kopanga Rd (fig.12). These appear to have been dug into the bank through the tree's root systems. It is unclear why these pipes are present but it is possible that may come from adjoining properties. The result of root damage on tree health can take years to take effect dependent on the amount of roots affected, the health energy reserves of the affected tree and a tree's tolerance to such disruption.



Fig. 12 Location of Nova coil exiting western bank below Kopanga Rd lots (Highlighted in green). Likely constructed mound for new footpath (highlighted in yellow). Tree 28 noted refer to section 3.9 and approximate location of Tree A shown for reference. Blue area highlights stormwater channel.



3.9 *Tree 28*

Buttress damage is apparent on the Tree referenced as 28 in the Arborlab report. Damage may have occurred from the failure of an adjacent tree, or by mechanical means. But what is clearly apparent is the fungi *Ganoderma australe* is present at the base of the tree, along with Laughing Gym. *G. australe* is a common fungus associated with root and butt rot, mostly considered a saprophyte of dead wood, but also as a (weak) parasite on living trees (Manaaki Whenua/Landcare Research). Heinz Butin (2002) also defined the fungus as weakly parasitic. However, careful consideration is still required due to its association with root and butt rot. Species, tree health, the site, extent of decay and compensatory growth are all factors to consider. Laughing Gym is a common saprophyte of dead wood and is often found on decaying wood material this time of the year.

- 3.9.1 The presence of the fungal fruiting bodies indicates decay within the root buttresses, especially on the southern eastern side of the tree's root plate where damage has occurred. The canopy is turning autumnal early, likely indicating a degree of stress, die back is present also which further indicates a tree that warrants further inspection. This was missed in the Arborlab report.



Fig.13 *G. australe* is present in four locations at the base of Tree 28 (red oak) on the South eastern buttress root. Note damage to buttress. Damage to buttress extends just below the soil surface.

REFERENCES

Butin, H. (2002). Tree diseases and disorders. Oxford University Press (reprint).

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Page 12 of 38





Fig.14 location of Laughing Jim eastern side of root plate of Tree 28.



Fig. 15 Tree 28, turning autumnal indicator of stress, dieback present.



Fig.16 Location of Tree 28, refer also to Fig 8. Tree located to bank edge. If any soil re-profiling occurred within this area then root damage would have occurred.

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Page 10 of 38

Item 6

Submission No. 187

4 REVIEW OF DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLANS

4.1 *Summary*

Both plans fail to adhere to one of the key main objectives within the original Council Management Plan for “the protection, management and enhancement of the natural and historic values of Keirunga Gardens”. The Council’s Draft Management Plan provides no details for justification of significant tree removal, or credible evidence to justify/support its recommendations. In my opinion the plan would have significant adverse effects on the values of the site and is therefore not considered any further. The Arborlab report shows a number of inaccuracies and a focus which is at odds with the key objective for the Gardens. The main discussion points are shown in detail below:

4.2 *Exotic Woodland the trees value*

The area adjacent to Arthurs Path is described as an Exotic Woodland. This is an important description as it defines how the area is to be managed. A woodland is best described as a transitional ecosystem where trees dominate as the primary vegetation type. A feature of a woodland is where canopies of individual trees typically overlap and interlink, often forming a more or less continuous canopy which shades the ground to varying degrees. These types of ecosystems generally feature a dominant species, which gives each woodland a distinctive character. Once these ecosystems have established they become self-sustaining and naturally manage successive species via canopy competition. Tree health and structure are dynamic, and is highly changeable. This is an important genetic trait that enables trees to survive through varying environmental extremes, especially for species that have the capacity to live for hundreds of years.

4.2.1 The land gifted to the Council was planted primarily as an oak woodland and provides a local heritage connection. The woodland is not sick or in any state of decline, quite the opposite. There is a mix of tree ages from self-seeded trees, which have established to provide the continuous canopy coverage that is synonymous with a sustainable woodland. The area where failure and most of the tree problems have occurred appear to be the result of misguided management decisions.

4.2.2 Overall neither plan takes into account the unique oak woodland character, and that this is what was gifted to the people.

4.3 *Arborlab Arboricultural Review*

The Arborlab report states within the Executive Summary “Arborlab have been engaged to peer review the draft tree management plan”. No review of the Draft Management Plan is contained within the Arborlab document.

4.3.1 Arborlab surveyed 149 trees where 96 trees are proposed for removal (error in Arborlab report 95 stated) this results in 64% of trees surveyed would be removed under this proposal.



4.4 *Focus on biodiversity*

The Arborlab report lacks detail and contains numerous errors. It appears not to have been tailored to the concept of managing an oak woodland, nor in relation to “*The protection, management and enhancement of the natural and historic values of Keirunga Gardens*”. The report’s particular focus is to increase diversity within the oak woodland (and thus has similarities with the Council’s Draft Plan).

4.4.1 Santamour’s theory is used to support their recommendation. Santamour’s theory is “*a guide to urban foresters and municipal arborists for tree diversity within their areas of jurisdiction: (1) plant no more than 10% of any species, (2) no more than 20 % of any genus, and (3) no more than 30 % of any family” (F. Santamour. 1990). It is not for the purposes of managing a woodland nor is it intended to support the removal of healthy established trees. This theory is aimed at large urban tree populations to ensure a degree of resilience is established within a district’s tree stock in case a targeted pest or disease affects a particular species. In addition to this, it is worth noting that various authorities have challenged Santamour’s ‘rule of thumb’ (Kendal, Dobbs & Lohr, 2014. Global patterns of diversity in the urban forest: Is there evidence to support the 10/20/30 rule?).*

4.4.2 Additionally this “theory” is only applicable if there is an accurate account of the tree stock in the area. In this instance only trees adjacent to the path have been recorded. Species have been missed and groups of trees not accurately recorded e.g.:

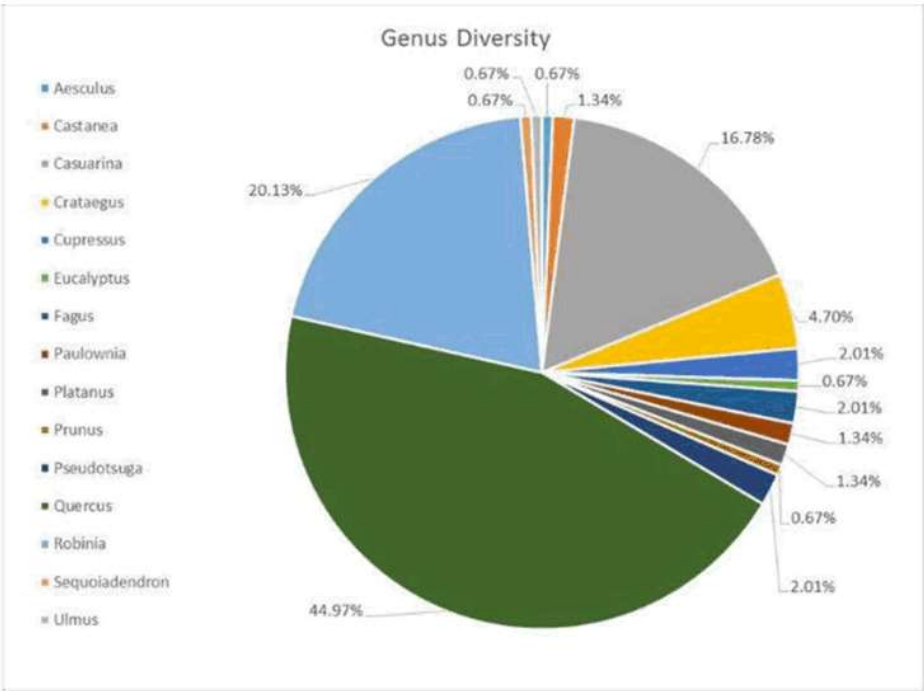
- Tree group 55 states Robinia as the predominant tree and records 30 Robinia, but the Draft Plan shows magnolia, plane, pistachio, malus, jacaranda, Catalpa and gum.
- Tree group 58 states 25 sheoak trees, but only 10 trees are in the group, the rest are gums, cedars, oaks and a walnut.

4.4.3 Not including these different species and all the other trees adjacent to the path provides a misleading overview of tree diversity within the area, which means the Arborlab diversity charts and statements from those charts are not accurate, and should therefore be dismissed.

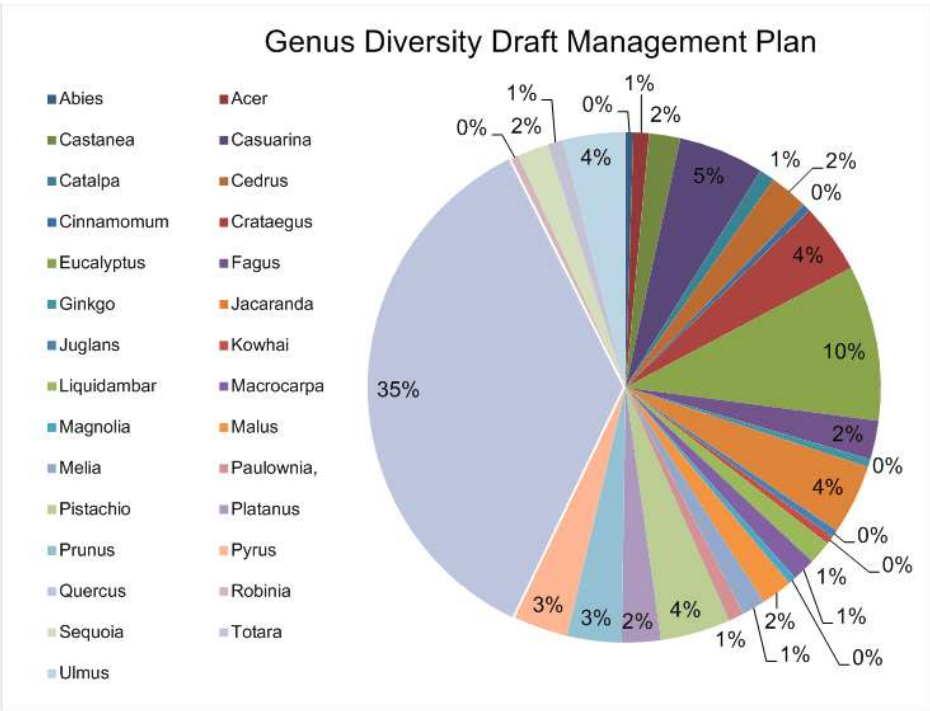
4.4.4 Evidence of the inaccuracy can be seen by analysing the genus of trees recorded in the Draft Management Plan, and then comparing it to the Arborlab report as seen below:

REFERENCES

S Santamour, Frank. (1990). Trees for urban planting: Diversity, uniformity and common sense. Proceedings of the 7th Conference of the Metropolitan Tree Improvement Alliance



Graph 1 Chart 1 taken from the Arborlab Peer Review report highlighting genus diversity based on their survey of 149 trees Arthurs Path.



Graph 2 Data taken from the Draft Management Plan highlighting genus diversity based on its survey of 203 trees in Arthurs Path including 2 Paulownia missed from survey.

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Page 21 of 38

4.4.5 The Council's Draft Management Plan recorded more trees, but if diversity is to be assessed then it is essential that all trees are recorded within the Gardens to provide informed guidance. Neither surveys record all trees within Arthurs Path. If Santamour's theory were to be applied it could be achieved by planting alternative species in the numerous vacant areas within Arthurs Path.

4.4.6 Therefore I do not support the removal of Groups 55 and 58 as within each group there are established specimens that warrant consideration for retention.

#### 4.5 *Survey errors omissions*

The Arborlab report maps are missing Trees 17, 33, 35, 53, 60, 61, 72, 73, 74, 89, and 81. During the site visit it became apparent that there are trees missing completely from both the survey and the maps. Tree 21 is unidentified despite the draft plan showing the correct species. Similarly for tree 51, the wrong species is recorded yet the Draft Plan is correct.

4.5.1 Tree 28 has structural issues at its base, clearly shown by fungal activity in a number of areas around its root plate. *G. australe* would have been present at the time of the Arborlab inspection, but was either not commented on, or missed entirely, this is a large tree adjacent to the path.

4.5.2 Tree 79, a large red oak, has a significant over extended limb (west) over the path and a progressively downward bending limb (east) over another path both of which would benefit from end-weight reduction in my opinion. Neither structural issue was noted within the Arborlab survey.

4.5.3 The Arborlab survey provides very little information and is over simplified to such an extent that it provides no justification for significant tree works or any detailed information where it would be useful for future monitoring.

#### 4.6 *Tree risk*

The Arborlab report uses the QTRA risk assessment method. Like many approaches, the method provides a framework to guide/teach practitioners, and inform decision makers, that the risks from tree related failure are far lower than what is generally perceived.

4.6.1 The report assesses the risk for the trees as "broadly acceptable" which is the lowest risk threshold within the method. The report states: For action; "*Risks of harm is already broadly acceptable. No further works required*". Yet significant remedial works are recommended, for crown reduction. The report states "*it will have the greatest benefit by significantly reducing the likelihood that these trees will fail onto the path*".

4.6.2 In my opinion the risk of harm or death occurring as a result of tree failure would also be classed as "broadly acceptable" due to the very low likelihood of a person being present beneath a part when failure was to occur. However, certain trees do exhibit structural issues where stem tree failure is foreseeable and therefore intervention is required.

#### 4.7 *Red oak reductions*

The Arborlab report states "*There is a recent history of failure of some large oak trees within the reserve alongside Arthur's Path. These failures have occurred in a localised area, approximately half way along the path near trees 22 to 29 and tree 57*". The report proposes a canopy reduction of Trees 22-31 and 57. This is the area where significant pruning works have occurred, which is not discussed within the Arborlab report and therefore seems to be a significant omission.

- 4.7.1 In terms of tree preservation, the reduction works would be considered as beneficial to alleviate the loading on stems and at the base of the affected trees from the recent tree works. But further discussions should occur for the oak trees that stand adjacent to the boundary. The trees will flush with growth and therefore the shading issues will occur again if not addressed. Canopy restoration works can take place, over time, reducing gradually the canopy spread across the boundaries. However the recent pruning would make these types of works even harder to efficiently carry out.
- 4.7.2 Managing this area requires a special focus and a specific plan which should also include planting and weed management. Current pruning practices appear to have led to tree failures, increased weed spread within the reserve and as a consequence major reduction works are now required. This is where well-qualified expert advisory based specific policies will be needed to clearly show what the Council will, and will not do.
- 4.7.3 For tree preservation I would support the reduction of trees 22-27, 29-31 and 57. But further discussions are needed to address how these trees are to be managed. The trees are likely to flush with growth after the pruning works, so canopy densities will increase and therefore shading issues will reoccur.
- 4.7.4 Tree 28 is singled out (refer to section 3.9). The tree was turning autumnal early, which can be an indicator of ill health. This tree needs to be reevaluated when in leaf, if the tree exhibits good vitality and vigour the indicative reduction of 20% would be sufficient, but if not a heavier reduction may be required. I do not however consider that the tree should not be removed. This is an important structural issue for a large tree that stands adjacent to the path and needs to be noted for future monitoring works to be effective. The Arborlab survey provides very little to support meaningful ongoing monitoring. Simple details such as accurate girths can be re-measured to evaluate growth and tree health. Unfortunately all girth measurements given by Arborlab are estimated. In future this means trees will once again be assessed as a snapshot in time. It is important for tree managers to have the right information in order to make good management decisions. Tree surveys provide a great opportunity to support decisions, review management practices and to allow for the efficient allocation of resources.



4.8 *Removal of semi mature oaks*

The Arborlab report states that many of the semi-mature oaks are poorly formed, and recommends removal. These are trees which are all healthy trees and have successfully established with no irrigation or assistance. Therefore it makes no sense that these trees (Trees 1, 2, 5 (10 of), 11, 12, 13, 15, 19, 45, 46, 48, 49, 50, 63, 64) be removed and replaced with another species. They will need to be irrigated and maintained, with the hope that they will establish, but with no guarantee they would ever reach the same dimensions as the trees they replaced.

4.8.1 Trees 16, 56, 66 and 67 are all mature oaks proposed for removal. They are assessed to be of poor form, fair structure but in good health. Trees 42, 32, 34, 36, 25, 31 and 57 are all mature oak trees to be retained, yet are also assessed to be of poor form, fair structure, and good health. The report provides no details as to why healthy mature trees are to be removed. The Arborlab report lacks the foresight to look at the natural process of woodland development and how dynamic trees are. Below is a good illustration of that point.



Fig.17 Tree referenced as 64 in Arborlab Report classed as Good Form, Fair Structure and Good health. Proposed for removal.

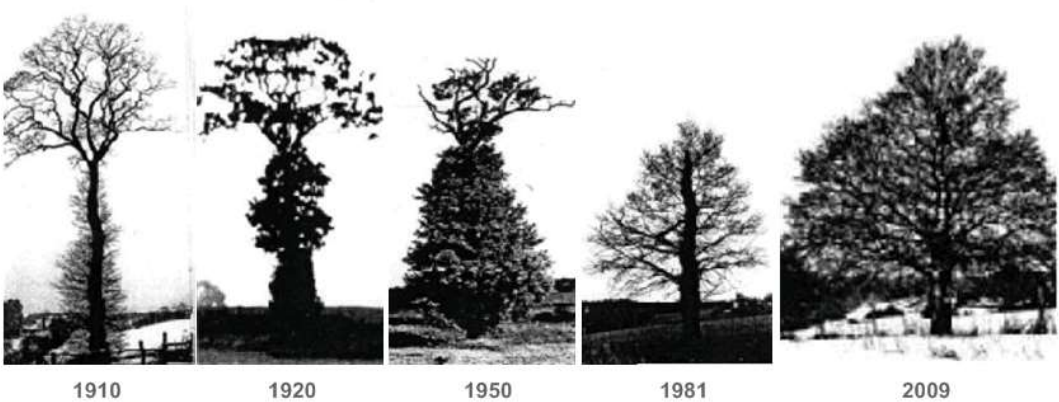


Fig. 18 "The Arthur Clough Oak – a hundred years of aging: It is hard to imagine this is one and the same tree. Without harnessing our arboricultural imagination we are limited in interpreting how trees will respond over 'tree time', naturally and with intervention. Probably most of us would not have imagined even the next stage of growth and the trees rejuvenation response. By developing this faculty, working with the principles of conservation arboriculture, observing natural processes, we can build up techniques for reversing the age clock, when attempting to enhance tree longevity. (Phillip Stewart, Boars Hill provided images.).". Neville Fay. Conservation Arboriculture Learning from old trees, artists and dead poets. Arborist News (2011).



4.9 ***Removal vs Retention***

As previously discussed Arthurs Path was planted with oaks which have naturally evolved into an environment which has become highly valued. As shown in Fig 18 it is important, especially within a woodland environment, to consider how trees naturally evolve and how that process may take many years. Red oak have been reported to live over 600yrs, and over a thousand for English oak. We do not know how long these exotics will live within the NZ context. In terms of growth and from some basic research comparing NZ's largest English oaks with those in the UK show a 20% increase in girth to trees of similar ages in the UK. This is likely due to NZ having extended growing seasons to that of the UK. However this does not mean NZ grown trees have shorter lives, which is often speculated on. There is no reseach that supports this view.

- 4.9.1 What this does reliably inform us is the predominant oak species along the path has the genetic capacity to live for centuries without intervention. In simple terms, two parents are needed for an oak seed to germinate. Oak can self-pollinate but rarely do as the combination of two different parents create different variation within species and therefore greater diversity within the species. This variation can be shown as different leaf colour / size of leaf, or greater resilience to drought or improved ability to extract nutrients from the soil.
- 4.9.2 To maintain a canopy continuum in a woodland environment, trees need to produce abundant amounts of seeds to increase the likelihood of successful establishment. Establishing trees compete and the strongest trees prevail. This natural evolution ensures only the strongest and healthiest trees survive where they have become specifically acclimatised for that environment.
- 4.9.3 There are clusters of trees which have been recommended for removal in the Arborlab report. If these were left they would naturally evolve over time and the strongest tree would become the dominant specimen. Arborlab has not explained or justified its recommendations.
- 4.9.4 In consideration of the above, proposing to remove naturally established hardy, site-specific trees with nursery grown trees is counterintuitive as the naturally established trees will be far superior.
- 4.9.5 In my view trees adjacent to the path proposed for removal should be selectively structurally pruned, whilst the others are left to develop naturally. Therefore I would not support the removal of any oak tree.
- 4.10 ***Other trees proposed for removal***
- Trees 7 and 8 are proposed for removal by Arborlab. Tree 7 shows retrenchment and some reduction in vigor. It has a cavity at its base. This tree provides an opportunity for habitat, and does not exhibit a large canopy where it is effecting surrounding vegetation. It is not considered a risk and therefore I do not see any benefit in removing this tree. Tree 8 stands further upslope where I assume removal is proposed to allow for the development of the horse chestnut. Canopy competition is inevitable within these types of environments, so I see no benefit in the removal of this tree and therefore I do not support the removal of either tree.

- 4.10.1 Tree 10 is seven Hawthorne proposed for removal by Arborlab. I would support the removal of these trees.
- 4.10.2 Tree 18 elm is noted for a canopy lift. There are numerous slips around this tree and therefore a focus on planting should take place within this area. I see no benefit for canopy lifting this tree unless there is planting that will take place within its surround. Lower canopies can inhibit invasive weed spread adjacent to trees and precludes the need for maintenance.
- 4.10.3 Tree 20 and 21 are proposed to be formatively prune and their canopy lifted. Tree 20 shows tight attachment points, suppressing certain leaders would be beneficial for the tree. I support formative pruning but canopy lift only if the area beneath the tree is to be planted. I consider Tree 21 has typical structure for the species and therefore in my opinion no pruning is required.
- 4.10.4 Trees 76, 77 and 78 are proposed for removal by Arborlab. I support the removal of these trees on the condition replacement planting plan is established.

Item 6

Submission No. 187

## 5 RECOMMENDATIONS

### 5.1 *Summary*

The following recommendations are provided to protect and preserve the values of the Gardens. Further recommendations are also included for the protection, management and enhancement of all Hastings District Council trees.

### 5.2 *Opportunity for improved outcomes*

Our knowledge and research on tree importance has increased significantly over recent years resulting in many towns and cities adopting bold policies to challenge declining canopy coverage in urban environments, and to meet growing public expectations to preserve and create sustainable environments for us to live. Auckland Council is the first Council in NZ to launch such a strategy Urban Ngahere (forest) Strategy<sup>1</sup> where it highlights that “*successful development requires careful planning; intensification and growth needed to complement the protection and planting of trees and vegetation to create liveable neighbourhoods.*” This is an opportunity for HDC to develop tree policies to assist departments within the organization to protect, manage and enhance its tree population land assets to prevent the likelihood of trees and green spaces assets mismanagement events reoccurring.

#### 5.2.1 Broader recommendation details

Having a clear strategy is important if the local needs and aspirations for tree assets management and protection are to be met. This can be achieved by adopting, or reviewing, tree strategies of other local authorities that have been successfully implemented, or establish/engage a working group with the necessary experience. Designating residential areas at close proximity to the trees necessitates foreseeable ongoing maintenance, and increase pressures for tree removal. Strategies need to be designed and implemented at a high level to be effective across all departments. It also requires well-qualified and current best arboricultural knowledge expertise.

5.2.2 For a strategy to be effective it needs to be measured, and in terms of efficient management, having an accurate account the Council's tree stock is vital. This data can then be used to ensure resources are allocated to where they are most needed. This additionally provide a monitoring base for progress and for tree management to be assessed. This data would also provide evidence to support the need for any policy change, landscape protection or for development controls.

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## REFERENCES

<sup>1</sup> <https://ourauckland.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/articles/news/2019/03/knowning-growing-and-protecting-a-flourishing-urban-forest-for-auckland/>

5.2.3 Operation policies are also needed to show what councils will and won't do when it comes to its trees. Having sound policies for working on, and around, Council trees are vital if trees are to be safeguarded. These types of policies go beyond just pruning specifications, but also need to be implemented within a planning context. Expert review should be sought for such policies to ensure the appropriate guidelines are set. The following standards provide a good basis for consideration:

a) Pruning works

- BS3998: 2010 Recommendations for Tree Work
- AS 4373-2007 Pruning of amenity trees

b) Construction activities in proximity to trees

- BS5837: 2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction
- AS 4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites.

5.3 *Keirunga Gardens specific recommendations*

5.3.1 Survey

As per section 5.2.2 an accurate survey of the trees needs to be carried out if any meaningful monitoring is to be carried out. The original survey provides the best basis for a survey in terms of tree locations.

5.3.2 Policies Public consultation

Refer to 5.2.3 in terms of policies.

5.3.2.1 Improved public consultation is needed for tree related operations within the Keirunga Gardens woodland, such as the formation of a tree committee/group to ensure the community values of the canopy coverage within the woodland Gardens are preserved. Committee/group members must be suitable for the role.

5.3.2.2 A plan of action needs to be developed to manage trees along the boundary, which is to include a planting and weed management plan. This will be a sensitive area and should be carried out in consultation with the residents affected, and with other community groups to ensure the character of the woodland Gardens are not adversely affected. Having clear pruning specifications and policies would assist in these areas.

5.3.3 Weed management

For successful plant establishment to take place a clear weed managing plan needs to be carried out. This should take into consideration the environment being managed to ensure that so that non-target emerging regenerating seedlings within the woodland remain unaffected.

5.3.3.1 A List of invasive plants for control is to be created, to include species such as:

- *Prunus* (*Prunus sp.*) seedlings
- *Elaeagnus x reflexa*
- Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*)
- Wattle (*P. lophantha*)
- Ivy (*Hedera helix*)
- Stinking iris (*Iris foetidissima*)

5.3.3.2 The weed management plan must show how those invasive species are to be controlled, including details on all chemical agents that are to be used. The misapplication of herbicide within amenity areas is often carried out where non targeted trees are adversely affected. Careful consideration and adherence to the safety label is needed. A log for spray records should be created as part of the weed management plan that can be easily accessed by the public.

5.3.3.3 Once a weed management plan has been created, it should be reviewed by an arboricultural expert who has knowledge in the effects of herbicide damage and the mode of action of chemicals that are proposed to be used.

#### 5.3.4 Planting

A planting plan needs to be devised with the community to ensure the values of the woodland Gardens are not adversely affected, and to also ensure plants are suitable for the planting locations. It is considered that there is strong community value with the integrity of retaining the oak woodland. So this could be allowed to extend naturally, where invasive specimens are managed to allow for natural emergence of oaks to take place, or the area is zoned:

- Vacant areas from tree failure/removal  
Introduction new species
- Demarcate oak woodland areas  
Demarcate to what extent natural emergence of self-seeded oaks is to take place.

5.3.4.1 Devise a planted specification for the area adjacent to Kopanga Rd in respect to section 5.3.2.2.

#### 5.3.5 Trees for removal

Tree reference numbers are taken from the Arborlab report.

- a) Trees 10 (7 of) to be removed and trees 76, 77 and 78.
- b) Planting plan to be devised for the removal of Trees 76, 77 and 78.
- c) Replant for the removal of Tree 10 or allow for the natural emergence of oaks to take place.

#### 5.3.6 Trees to be retained and structurally pruned

- a) Deadwood should be pruned or made safe on all trees that overhang footpaths.
- a) Tree 11 reduce overextended northern limb.



- b) Tree 16 exhibits a codominant union where one stem is to be reduced/suppressed.
- c) Tree 51 Codominant stems reduce/suppress northern stem.
- d) Tree 46 carry out structural pruning.
- e) Tree 79 End-weight reduction on northern downward bending limb, and reduce overextended southern limb.
- f) Reduce Trees 22-27, 29-31 and 57 back to suitable pruning points
- g) Tree 28 health needs to be examined prior to reduction works, if the tree exhibits good health the tree is to be reduced as adjacent trees otherwise harder reduction should be carried out
- h) All works are to be carried out as per AS 4373-2007 Pruning of amenity trees, and in a controlled manner so not to impact vegetation that is to be retained.

#### 5.3.7 Monitoring

Meaningful monitoring is essential if management plans are to be improved, and management efficiencies are to be maximised. A Monitoring schedule should be determined once the appropriate policies and plans are put in place. A project arborist should be engaged to assist with these works and provide expert input where required.

#### 5.3.8 Woodland Expansion

The Keirunga Gardens reserve has approx. 1.7 hectares of lightly planted or unplanned ground next to the gully that consideration should be given for planting in oak or other tree species to extend the woodland property asset of Hastings District Council for the community.

## 6 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The trees that stand adjacent to Arthurs Path, predominately consist of English oak (*Quercus robur*) and red oak (*Q. rubra*) where the trees are documented to be of local heritage importance and, due to its unique oak woodland character, considered to be a significantly valuable public asset.
- 6.2 Significant tree works have taken place along the boundary with Kopanga Rd where tree failure has occurred. There are open areas amongst the oaks, where trees are no longer present. Some trees have failed, and on site observations suggest some tree failure is a direct result of the significant works. However, there was no information for tree management works was at hand during this review.
- 6.3 Overall the trees adjacent to the path display good health. Some trees display structural issues, but they can be easily remediated by good tree management works. Ground modifications have taken place within the root zone adjacent to where tree failure has occurred.
- 6.4 The Draft Management Plan and the Arborlab Plan do not, in my view, meet the aim and objectives of the HDC original plan for "The protection, management and enhancement of the natural and historic values of Keirunga Gardens".
- 6.5 I consider the Draft Management Plan a radical approach and provides no details or justification for significant tree removals. It does not provide credible evidence to justify/support its recommendations. The Arborlab report shows numerous inaccuracies and a focus which is not consistent with the key aims and objectives described in the Keirunga Gardens Management Plan No.2 (2009).
- 6.6 I observed very little evidence of ongoing maintenance and care of the reserve over recent years. The Reserves Management Act states:
- 41.8 *Where in terms of its responsibilities under this Act the administering body of any reserve resolves to undertake a comprehensive review of its management plan.*
- 6.7 Current Hastings District Council policies appear to be ineffective, as significant tree works have been carried out which appears to be at odds with the Management Plans objectives. Additionally it appears that the works undertaken have not complied with Section 42; of the Reserves Act where it states:
- (3) *Where in the case of any recreation reserve or government purpose reserve or local purpose reserve the administering body is satisfied that the cutting or destruction of trees or bush is necessary for any of the reasons mentioned in subsection (2), the administering body shall not proceed with the cutting or destruction and extraction except in a manner which will have a minimal impact on the reserve and until, as circumstances warrant,*

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Page 31 of 38

*provision is made for replacement, planting, or restoration; and the administering body shall not proceed to authorise the cutting or destruction, except subject to conditions as to the method of cutting or destruction and extraction which will have minimal impact on the reserve and, as circumstances warrant, replacement, planting, or restoration; and any other conditions which the administering body considers to be appropriate in the circumstance*

- 6.8 From my site observations I consider that the works have had much more than a minor impact on the public land reserve, where significant works are now required to remediate the impact. No replacement planting or restoration works have taken place.
- 6.9 There appears to be no Council guidelines or appropriate approach for the significant tree works that took place along the boundary. HDC provided a Tree Removal Policy which appears to be inadequate in consideration to the works that have been carried out, and offers little protection for the trees.
- 6.10 In light of my findings, recommendations have been provided within this assessment to protect and preserve the values of the oak within the Gardens. Additional recommendations are also included to develop policies that will ensure robust decision making, which will offer greater protection, lead to improved management outcomes for all HDC trees assets and ensure Council can realise more value from its assets for the public and the environment.
- 6.11 I am available to discuss details of this report with the Hastings District Mayor, Councilors, Council staff and council's arboricultural advisers.
- 6.12 I give permission for this report or be in the public domain.
- 6.13 Before adopting information and recommendations herein please refer to the report's author.

RICHIE HILL  
PAPER STREET TREE COMPANY

Attachments

APPENDIX 1	RICHIE HILL CV
APPENDIX 2	HDC HISTORIC DETAILS KEIRUNGA GARDENS
APPENIDIX 3	HDC TREE REMOVAL POLICY

## APPENDIX 1

## RICHIE HILL CV

**Formal qualifications**

I have a Telford Diploma in Arboriculture, qualifications as a IRATA Rope Access Technician, technical qualifications such as Use of Specialist Arboriculture equipment 2 (Cranes and Helicopters), and NPTC National Proficiency Tests Council (United Kingdom) qualifications in arboriculture. I'm also an approved QTRA assessor.

**Practical experience**

I started out in arboriculture in England in 2000 as an apprentice arborist progressing to lead arborist, where my duties primarily were to manage and carryout complex/emergency tree works. I was also responsible to carry out sensitive pruning works and resolve contentious tree problems with members of the public. I moved to New Zealand in 2008 and worked for Wellington City Council where my practical duties involved carrying out all aspects of tree management including working within the botanical gardens. In 2010 I decided to undertake the diploma in Arboriculture where on recommendation by the lecturer to an arboricultural consultancy company in Auckland. In 2011 I relocated to Auckland to become focused on consultancy where I became self-employed and sub-contracted to other consultancy companies to further my development. In 2013 I traded as Paper Street Tree Company (PSTC) and in 2015 registered PSTC as a company.

**Professional experience**

I have been dealing with the assessment of trees and tree management for most of my career, from carrying out physical works through to providing consultancy services. As an arborist I have covered all aspects of tree work. As a consultant I initially subcontracted to established consultancy companies to hasten my development and experience within this area. This enabled me to experience a wide range of different projects, methods and expertise. I have carried out works for Auckland, Wellington, Masterton and South Wairarapa District Councils. I have been engaged to process consents for Auckland Council. My main driver for forming my own company is to innovate and provide pragmatic solutions for all tree issues from;

- Assessments for development proposals; providing arboricultural guidance during a development process from identifying important trees and liaising with the design teams to find practical solution to retain or mitigate important trees, through to providing management recommendations to ensure trees are successful retained during the development works.
- Tree assessments/management plans; assessing tree condition, value prescribe management options and analysis of costs versus value. Providing detailed maintenance schedules and specifications.
- Heritage tree evaluations carryout heritage tree assessments using the Standard Tree Evaluation Method, where I have carried out over 600 assessments for local authorities.
- Planting prescribing planting specifications including tree planting pit designs.

Other works in include tree projects which involves liaising with multiple organisations to increase canopy coverage/ tree value within urban areas, by providing detailed information and guidance on tree benefits and how the strategic placement of trees can increase environmental and societal wellbeing.

FOR THE GREENER GOOD

021.0229.1586 richie@paperstreettree.co.nz paperstreettree.co.nz

Page 33 of 38

## APPENDIX 2

## HDC HISTORIC DETAILS KEIRUNGA GARDENS

1 pages of 4

Excerpt taken from pages 4 &amp; 5 of the HDC Keirunga Gardens Management Plan No.2 (2009)

## TANGATA WHENUA HISTORY

*The people of the land have occupied this area since time immemorial – since Tane Mahuta separated Papatuanuku and Ranginui. The cosmos, the environment – land and water – and the people are integrated, here, and throughout the region. Whatonga, a descendant of Toi, established himself in Heretaunga when the hapu living here were generally known as Ngati Awa. Whatonga's eldest son, Tara, was born in Matau a Maui. His descendants were known as Ngai Tara and most of them migrated south to Te Upoko oTe Ika (Wellington). Rangitane and Ngai Tara were the main people through vast tracts of the North Island and the top of the South Island. Kahungunu and Taraia were the last migrants to Heretaunga, displacing the dominance of Rangitane.*

*Now the people of the area are of Ngati Kahungunu and Rangitane descent – and hold the mana whenua. Keirunga Gardens and Havelock North township are within the boundary of the Karanema Reserve. The original boundary of this Reserve was set out in the Te Mata Purchase by Donald McLean on 13 April 1855. The boundary of the Karanema Reserve is from Te Karituwhenua and on to Te Hau along the ridge of Te Mata to Kahurangi, here it turns to Te Ngakau o Hape and on to Ototara, until it comes out at the Ngaruroro and along the river until it joins again to Te Karituwhenua. The Crown paid £500 in April 1855; and later G. S. Cooper, the District Commissioner paid a further £500 on 17 November 1856 as a full and final payment. The signatories to the purchase were Te Paratene Te Akonga and 9 others witnessed by Te Hapuku Ika o Te Moana. Karanema Reserve was set aside for the descendants of Heipora. McLean agreed to pay £800 for the reserve. On 5 March 1858 he paid £400 to Te Hira Te Ora and to others on 20 September 1858. On 5 March 1858 G. S. Cooper paid a further £400 to purchase the reserve and this was signed by McLean to Te Hapuku Ika o Te Moana and 7 others. It is notable that the interests of Heiporo's descendants were overridden in a transaction that preceded the establishment of the Native Land Court in 1865. The mana whenua of Karanema Reserve is the legacy of the descendants of Heiporo maintained by the hapu, Ngati Mihiroa. The marae is Mihiroa at Paki Paki.*

## EARLY SETTLER HISTORY

*John Chambers, originally from Derbyshire, arrived from Australia. He belonged to the Society of Friends, and after viewing the West Coast of the South Island, then Nelson, decided to settle in Hawke's Bay. He and his wife Margaret had 8 children. Chambers was awarded a Pastoral Occupation Licence on 1 January 1858 for fourteen years, on the Te Mata Block, which originally excluded Karanema Reserve. In 1863, merely 9 years later, after applying for a run, Crown Grants were issued to confirm the Chambers' ownership of the land. The title comprised Te Mata (north run) and Mokopeka (south run) shown as one block of 'about 11,500 acres'. Thus forming Tauroa Station. New Zealand Gazettes record that planning for the township of Havelock North began in 1859. Thomas Mason Chambers planted all the gum trees, including wattles to shelter the saplings, in the block of Tauroa Station which reaches from Arden Street to Tanner Street.*

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Page 34 of 38



## APPENDIX 2

## HDC HISTORIC DETAILS KEIRUNGA GARDENS

2 pages of 4

*The surveyor Guy Rochfort subdivided in 1906, to form Section Number 40 sold to Reginald Gardiner. The transaction was managed by Gardiner's brother, the vicar of St Luke's, the Reverend Allen Francis Gardener, as he and his wife were in Canada where he had worked for his father in law Mr Scott who owned a railway company in Quebec.*

*It is alleged that the homestead – 'Stadacona' - was built by Holt for Thomas Henry Reginald Gardiner and his wife Ruth Sophia Louise Gardiner in 1906. At the same time a chalet was built in the gardens for his sister Emily Rose Gardiner. The Gardiners became the pivot of a cultural wellspring in the Havelock North settlement. 'Stadacona' is an Iroquois word, named after an Iroquois 16th century village near Quebec, recorded by explorer Jacques Cartier in 1535-1536. The use of the name reflected Ruth Gardiner's (nee Scott) family settlement in Quebec. Their newspaper, The Forerunner, was produced in the chalet until 1914 to communicate the ideas and discussion that abounded with the formation of the group called Havelock Work.*

*The Gardiners were the leaders in the Inner Circle of this group. They became more and more involved in the spiritual dimension of the Stella Matutina and the Smaragdum Thalasses (Emerald of the Sea) temple of the Order set up in Havelock North in 1912, by Dr Robert Felkin. During this period it is alleged a Mr Harold Large lived in the chalet, and was equally involved in the Gardiners' spiritual movement. The movement had its roots in the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn whose ancient history included the Egyptians, the Knights Templar (Order of the Round Table) and the Masons. Altogether, it was a case of second generation settlers having the time and the resource to consider the spiritual and cultural direction of a new community at the height of the European arts and crafts movement to which it also related. The formation of the Southern Cross group finds its roots in the guidance of Mr Harold Large. He had spent time in England and Edinburgh where he had been active in the Theosophical Society. His influence was to develop a daily routine of prayer and meditation with the Gardiners. As a result, the relationship between the Anglican Church and the Inner Circle strengthened.*

*Dr Robert Felkin first visited New Zealand in 1912 at the invitation of the Society of the Southern Cross. He was already a 32° Freemason. During this visit Dr Felkin established the Smaragdum Thalasses Temple of the Stella Matutina. He came increasingly under the influence of the 'Sun Masters', the fabled Secret Chiefs of the Order, and other supposed adepts on the astral plane. Having these supposed contacts reinforced his position as leader in the order. Around 1908 he also claimed to have contacted an "Arab Teacher" called Ara Ben Shemesh ("Lion Son of the Sun") one of the "Sons of Fire" inhabiting a Near Eastern "temple in the desert", who had been given special permission to contact and teach Western students. The New Zealand Order became known by the Maori name of Whare Ra or 'the House of the Sun'. Some believe that foundations of the house at Whare Ra may have been laid down by the architect Chapman-Taylor, although this has not been confirmed.*

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Page 35 of 38

Item 6

Submission No. 187

## APPENDIX 2

## HDC HISTORIC DETAILS KEIRUNGA GARDENS

3 pages of 4

*Felkin met Rudolph Steiner on one of his trips to Europe prior to 1914. After this meeting he incorporated elements of anthroposophy into his practice, including homeopathy. While the link to the spiritual movement of Havelock Work was indirect,*

*Its purpose synchronized with it. Felkin spent the rest of his life in New Zealand, where he continued to practice as a consulting physician as well as a magician between bouts of ill health. On 28 December 1926, he died at Havelock North, and was buried in the Havelock North cemetery facing the Whare Ra, wearing the cloak, mantle and purple cross of a Knight of the Ordo Tabulae Rotundae. He was survived by his second wife Harriet, his daughter Ethelwyn, and two sons; Harriet and Ethelwyn were later buried with him. The Gardiners' second home, Turama (Source of Light) was built in 1916-1917 at 82 Duart Road. James Chapman Taylor prepared the plans for this building in 1916. Three decorative symbols were made on cupboard doors of the main bedroom – the cross, and a knight in armour – reflective of the Knights Templar; and on the second bedroom door a cross and Latin inscription *Via crucis, via lucis* – the cross will light the way. That building includes a temple with symbols of the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn, and one of the precepts of worship was the aspiration to astral travel.*

*Without immediately removing themselves from the house, on 15 August 1910 the Gardiners sold 'Stadacona' to Charles Ord Tanner and his wife Mary Davina Ann Tanner. It was the Tanners who changed the name from 'Stadacona' to 'Keirunga', which translates as 'house on high'. In 1929, after Charles Tanner's death, his widow sold the property to George Nelson.*

*George Nelson was born in England in 1871 and came to New Zealand as a young engineer. Mr Nelson had a fascination with Kew Gardens in England and this influenced his development of the Keirunga grounds. He collected oaks from all over Hawkes Bay and spent a great deal of time landscaping the area. In 1961 Mr George Nelson decided to gift 18 acres 1 rood and 37 perches of Keirunga Gardens to the Mayor, Councillors and Citizens of the Borough of Havelock North, to include the house and its garden after his death. Council accepted the gift and in 1964 when George Nelson died, a condition in his will stated that the homestead and the remaining two and a half acres was to be offered to the Havelock Borough Council for a nominal sum. This they purchased bringing the total area of Keirunga to 17 acres, the original area first surveyed in 1906.*

*Others who shared in the contribution were Mr Mason Chambers, of Tauroa and his daughter Mrs Helen Swinburn, Mr J. H. Coleman of Cottenham and as trustee of his mother's estate, Mr William P Bell who gave access to Kopanga Road. Others who put in a lot of work are memorialised in Arthur's Path and Charlie's Path.*

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Page 36 of 38

## APPENDIX 2

## HDC HISTORIC DETAILS KEIRUNGA GARDENS

4 pages of 4

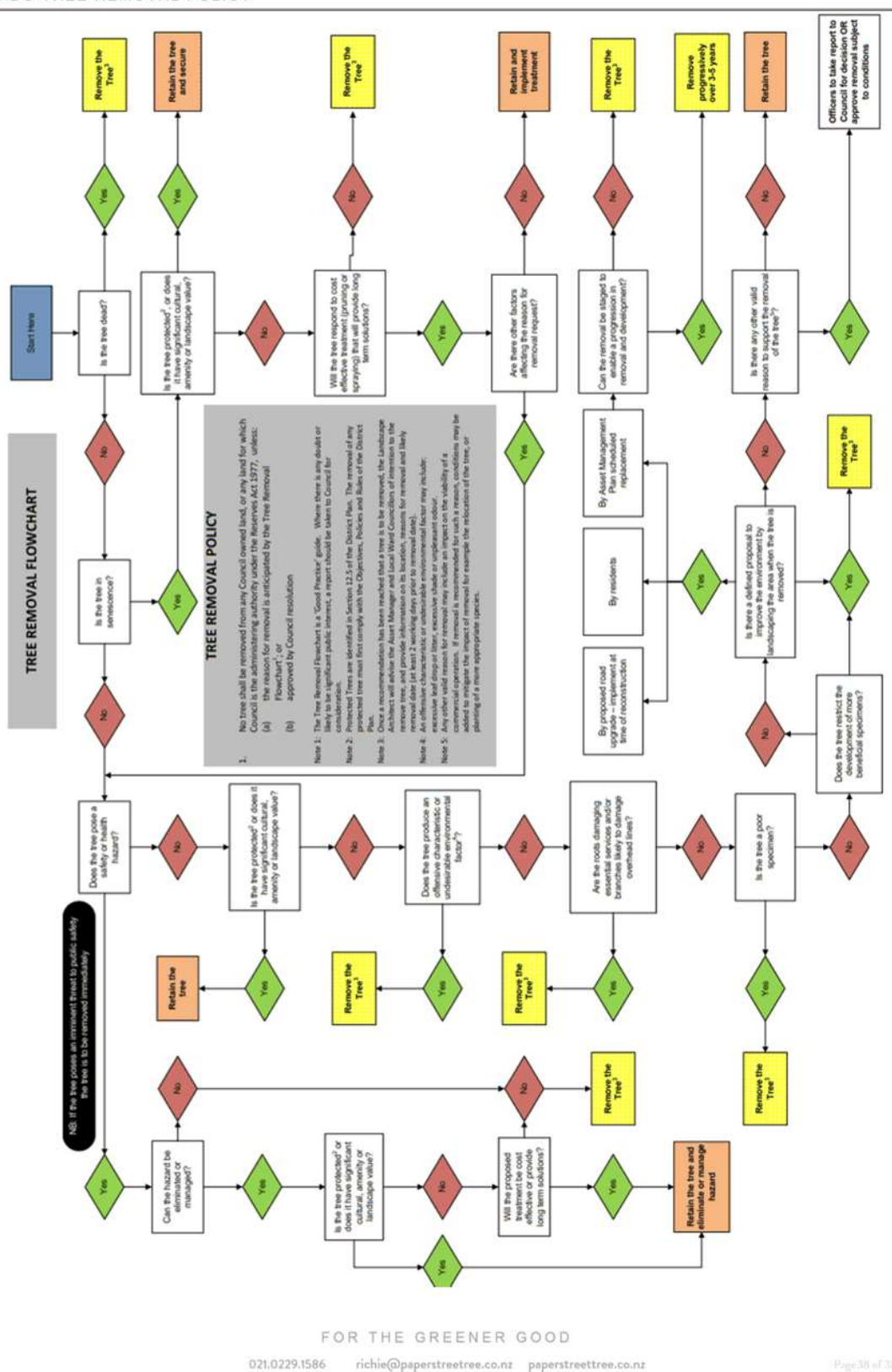
*At that time it was suggested that an annual fete be held in the gardens to commemorate the early settlers and the foundation of the province with the Council's support. At the outset, £117/15/- was donated by members of settler families as subscriptions for a trust fund to support the maintenance and development of the gardens.*

*Throughout its history 'Stadacona', then 'Keirunga', has been a centre for spiritual and cultural development. At one time the movement centred there numbered 600 of the then 1000 Havelock North residents. George Nelson died at the age of 93 in 1964. By 1966 the entire property was placed in the hands of the Mayor, Councillors and Citizens of the Borough of Havelock North. At that time, an enthusiastic group, led by Frank Bacon, approached the Council with the suggestion that Keirunga Gardens be developed as a cultural centre.*

*The formation of the 'Keirunga Gardens Society' followed. In 1967 guided the restoration of the homestead and the establishment of the cultural centre complex. Groups active at Keirunga over the next few years included a painting group, cane craft, a drama section, film society, garden circle, rock and mineral club and a floral art group. They were joined in 1968 by the Keirunga Potters who had begun activities in 1963 at the Havelock North Pottery Club. A new Nelson Room workshop was opened at the site in 1976, a ceremony attended by several thousand. Elizabeth Nelson, then aged 99 was the guest of honour, and remained patron of the Keirunga Gardens Society until her death in 1982 at the age of 106. In 1985 the new wing was added, which includes an art and pottery studio."*

## APPENDIX 3

## HDC TREE REMOVAL POLICY





# FEEDBACK FORM

## KEIRUNGA GARDENS

### KEIRUNGA GARDENS DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN

NAME

Jenny Cumberbeach

ADDRESS

16 Toop St,  
Havelock Mth 4130

PHONE NUMBER

06 877 8523

EMAIL ADDRESS

jcumch@xtra.co.nz

PLEASE TICK THE BOX BELOW THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN?



STRONGLY AGREE



AGREE



NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE



DISAGREE



STRONGLY DISAGREE



would like modifications to be made to draft plan

PLEASE SHARE ANY OF YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

This walk along Arthur's Path gully holds about fifty years worth of memories. I love the oak tree canopy. It is such a shame it has not been managed well and is in a state of neglect. I realize it needs good management. I have always enjoyed its natural feel - a woodland character not park like. I notice now many cabbage trees regenerating naturally under the canopy. My main concern is the radical rate at which the proposed tree chopping will take place. I disagree it all must be done at once. I would like to see a good spread of natives amongst the replanting. Which the regenerating cabbage trees show would be suitable to this environment. Please retain its natural unparklike feel - especially with proposed new tracks. The naturalness of the existing pathways are part of its beautiful character.

Please leave form in the feedback box or you can email your feedback to [bartgl@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:bartgl@hdc.govt.nz) or post it to:

HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Attn: Bart Leslie  
Private Bag 9002  
Hastings 4156



**HASTINGS**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL





# FEEDBACK FORM

## KEIRUNGA GARDENS

### KEIRUNGA GARDENS DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN

NAME LEITH WILSON

ADDRESS 9c KOPANGA ROAD  
HAVELOCK NORTH

PHONE NUMBER (06) 8777883

EMAIL ADDRESS ianleith@xtra.co.nz

PLEASE TICK THE BOX BELOW THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN?

☒ STRONGLY AGREE ☐ AGREE ☐ NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE  
☐ DISAGREE ☐ STRONGLY DISAGREE

PLEASE SHARE ANY OF YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

Congratulations on your foresight and vision for the long term.  
I trust that council will see fit to involve Iohris Ryan with the project through  
until completion at least. His incredible knowledge of trees is a true asset that needs  
to be utilised and passed on for the future.  
I am pleased to see it is to remain an exotic tree woodland  
I trust there will be sufficient funding for weed control management now and in future  
I like the idea (suggested on the walk-through) of tree sponsorship. I feel  
confident people will get on board.  
I have concerns about 2 of the suggested plantings (that I know of) in relation  
to allergies, i.e. olives and acacias. As a public park, we should promote  
Keirunga as a park for everyone to enjoy.  
The suggested species will certainly enhance the area and make it a  
beautiful park. I hope I am around to enjoy the beauty of the trees!  
All the best in your endeavours.

I.B. Wilson

Please leave form in the feedback box or you can email your feedback to [bartgl@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:bartgl@hdc.govt.nz) or post it to:

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# FEEDBACK FORM

## KEIRUNGA GARDENS

### KEIRUNGA GARDENS DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN

NAME IAN WILSON

ADDRESS 9C KOPANGA ROAD HAVELOCK NORTH

PHONE NUMBER 8777883

EMAIL ADDRESS ianleith@xtra.co.nz

PLEASE TICK THE BOX BELOW THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN?

☒ STRONGLY AGREE ☐ AGREE ☐ NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE

☐ DISAGREE ☐ STRONGLY DISAGREE

PLEASE SHARE ANY OF YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

- I am most impressed that at last efforts are being made to develop and hopefully maintain in the long term, the gardens that despite their current state have been enjoyed and well used by many local residents; and will continue to be used and admired by current and future generations.
- A few thoughts. Let's put aside all the petty grumbles that arise when any visionary plans are proposed, and let's just get on with implementing the plan.
- I hope the council remembers that Keirunga is a PUBLIC PARK, and while the concerns of neighbouring properties need to be met and addressed in a reasonable manner, but in a way that does not impede or detract from the long term vision for the gardens.
- Most importantly of all I hope Chris Ryan, with his knowledge, experience, and enthusiasm for exotic gardens, will be continued to be used by the council in a CENTRAL

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Hastings 4156

Role in the implementation of the plan.

*eg Wilson*







21.12.18.

**FEEDBACK FORM****KEIRUNGA GARDENS****KEIRUNGA GARDENS DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

NAME Nicky Manning  
 ADDRESS 23 Tanner St  
41N  
 PHONE NUMBER 877 4241  
 EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE TICK THE BOX BELOW THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN?

☐ STRONGLY AGREE ☐ AGREE ☐ NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE  
☐ DISAGREE ☒ STRONGLY DISAGREE

PLEASE SHARE ANY OF YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

Thank you for arranging the walk + talk through  
Keirunga Gardens  
while I applaud the intent of the planned tree  
management I cannot agree with your timing.  
To utterly destroy the gardens with the  
planned removal would forever take away  
the peace of the area.  
I understand the thinking behind it but I think  
in order to retain the gardens as a walk  
for the next 10-15 years the trees must be  
removed and replacements planted over  
that time, not the immediate removal now.  
Your plan would create devastation for the  
next few years, and would also be a huge

Please leave form in the feedback box or you can email your feedback to [bartgl@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:bartgl@hdc.govt.nz) or post it to:

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Item 6

Submission No. 191

PTD

cost to Ratepayer, both for the initial work and for intensive maintenance (watering etc) until the new plantings are established.

Also I think there must be some signage at entrances to the park notifying the planned work to give proper feedback response. I was only advised via word of mouth to the proposal. ~~is~~ directing viewers to signs at entrances with a noticeboard at a central point which has plans and information.

Item 6

Submission No. 191



TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

4.4.19.

SUBMISSION TO KEEP THE TREES  
IN KEIRUNGA  
THROUGH ARTHUR'S WALK.

How on earth could one persons opinion re the trees on Arthur's Walk carry so much sway. And an uninformed opinion at that! Its a nonsense.

Please bear in mind that those trees (and Keirunga Gardens) were planted by George Nelson and were gifted to the people of Hawke's Bay North as a demonstration of English Woodland. They must not be threatened in any way and certainly not cut down.

What needs to be maintained much better are the surrounding com trees and the walkway itself. At the moment this is completely unkempt and over run by long grass and weeds. Its a disgrace. In fact there are many areas of Hawke's Bay North that are looking untidy and uncared for. (ie the left side of Pufflett Road - long unkempt grass bordering the road side just up from the entrance to Keirunga)

Item 6

Submission No. 192

2

You have a duty to keep the beautiful trees  
and maintain the English Woodland Setting  
along Arthur's Walk. Its really not yours  
to destroy.

Sincerely

Jean Hudson (3. Tenner St)  
Hawelack Nth.

'Keep the trees please!'

Item 6

Submission No. 192



**FEEDBACK FORM** **KEIRUNGA GARDENS**  
**KEIRUNGA GARDENS DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

NAME JEAN HUDSON  
ADDRESS 3 TANNER ST HAVELock NORTH  
PHONE NUMBER 8775 402  
EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE TICK THE BOX BELOW THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN?


☐ STRONGLY AGREE ☐ AGREE ☐ NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE  
☐ DISAGREE ☐ STRONGLY DISAGREE

PLEASE SHARE ANY OF YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

I strongly disagree to the felling of the trees  
in Keirunga.

Please do not fell the beautiful English trees  
in Keirunga.

Please leave form in the feedback box or you can email your feedback to [bartgl@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:bartgl@hdc.govt.nz) or post it to:  
**HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
Attn: Bart Leslie  
Private Bag 9002  
Hastings 4156

 **HASTINGS**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL





37A Chambers St.,  
Havelock North 4130

Phone 8777489

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019.

Submission from Brian Pattullo to  
Hastings District Council regarding  
Keirunga Oak trees.

I am a retired farmer and farm  
forester.

I am deeply concerned about reports  
that these oak trees are considered  
dangerous and may be felled.

If they are removed surrounding trees  
will be put at considerable risk of  
damage and wind throw.

Trees are like families - they grow  
together. They are dependant on each  
other. If the wind is let into an  
area as will be the case in this  
instance then the remaining trees

will suffer. There are some very large gum  
trees in Keirunga. Any change in their  
current environment will put them at considerable  
risk during a wind storm. If possible I  
wish to speak to this Submission.

Thankyou, Brian Pattullo



# FEEDBACK FORM

## KEIRUNGA GARDENS

### KEIRUNGA GARDENS DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN

NAME rita / BARRY MOTLEY

ADDRESS PLASSEY ST  
HAELOCK NORTH

PHONE NUMBER 06) 8775134

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE TICK THE BOX BELOW THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN?

☐ STRONGLY AGREE ☐ AGREE ☐ NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE


☐ DISAGREE ☒ STRONGLY DISAGREE

PLEASE SHARE ANY OF YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

*There is no reason to fell any of our beautiful oak trees, unless they have a problem. We have enjoyed Keirunga gardens with our children and grandchildren, and in that time have NEVER seen a problem with any of these wonderful trees. Please leave them alone, and enjoy this area as it is.*

Please leave form in the feedback box or you can email your feedback to [bartgl@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:bartgl@hdc.govt.nz) or post it to:

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# FEEDBACK FORM

## KEIRUNGA GARDENS DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN

KEIRUNGA GARDENS



NAME

Ethne Ainge

ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER

EMAIL ADDRESS

PLEASE TICK THE BOX BELOW THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN?

☒

STRONGLY AGREE

☐

AGREE

☐

NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE

☐

DISAGREE

☐


STRONGLY DISAGREE

PLEASE SHARE ANY OF YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

Great Work!

Please leave form in the feedback box or you can email your feedback to [bartgl@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:bartgl@hdc.govt.nz) or post it to:

**HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
 Attn: Bart Leslie  
 Private Bag 9002  
 Hastings 4156



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**FEEDBACK FORM** **KEIRUNGA GARDENS**  
**KEIRUNGA GARDENS DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

NAME Kim Salamonson  
ADDRESS 804 Grove Road  
PHONE NUMBER 8706186  
EMAIL ADDRESS lynnkim@xtra.co.nz


PLEASE TICK THE BOX BELOW THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN?

☒ STRONGLY AGREE ☐ AGREE ☐ NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE  
☐ DISAGREE ☐ STRONGLY DISAGREE

PLEASE SHARE ANY OF YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

You are doing an awesome  
job.  
We love Keirunga garden + park

Please leave form in the feedback box or you can email your feedback to [bartgl@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:bartgl@hdc.govt.nz) or post it to:  
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Attn: Bart Leslie  
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Hastings 4156

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**FEEDBACK FORM****KEIRUNGA GARDENS****KEIRUNGA GARDENS DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN**NAME Paulette JohnstonADDRESS 8 Durham Dr, Havelock NorthPHONE NUMBER 027 77 15247EMAIL ADDRESS paulettejohnston@gmail.com

PLEASE TICK THE BOX BELOW THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN?

☐ STRONGLY AGREE ☐ AGREE ☐ NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE☐ DISAGREE ☒ STRONGLY DISAGREE

PLEASE SHARE ANY OF YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

After reviewing the diagrams of the proposed trees to be cut down I strongly disagree with the proposals. I understand branches may fall but those huge trees are what make that walkway so beautiful.

What is the definition of 'useable life' of a tree? Is there a way to identify branches likely to fall and trim the trees? How often are branches falling? What is the likelihood of a branch falling on someone?

Logically I would say branches snap in windy/stormy conditions and people don't generally take a stroll in that kind of weather.

To conclude I think this is unnecessary and a waste of money.

Please leave form in the feedback box or you can email your feedback to [bartgl@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:bartgl@hdc.govt.nz) or post it to:**HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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Private Bag 9002

Hastings 4156

**HASTINGS**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL





**Julia Martin**

**From:** Bart G. Leslie  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 17 April 2019 4:06 PM  
**To:** Records Team  
**Subject:** FW: Keirunga Gardens draft management plan - feedback

Submission from Harold Neal. I would place this in the neither agree nor disagree category.

**From:** harold neal [mailto:nzdochands@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, 22 February 2019 3:12 PM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie <bartgl@hdc.govt.nz>  
**Cc:** harold neal <nzdochands@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Keirunga Gardens draft management plan - feedback

Dear Bart

We are amending our feedback to the proposed plan for the trees in Arthurs Path, Keirunga Gardens. We are withdrawing agreement to completely clear the trees in Arthurs Path. Our initial agreement was based on the councils presentation by a very experienced arborist that the trees were in a dangerous state and to be successful in moving forward there was only one option - all the trees needed to be felled.

The reason for our revised comments below are due to a number of arborists that have made claim that the trees are not in a poor state but do require careful management and perhaps some culling.

As there is discord with the advice given by the arborist for the proposed plan, the council needs to gain further advice to come to a conclusion based on collective arborist expertise.

As you know from our past correspondence, our requests a long time prior to the proposed plan was to prune and manage the trees so that there was harmony between the general public and neighbours (aesthetics, public enjoyment, but also safety by trimming where sun was impeded or overhanging trees were a safety issue) so that we could all enjoy this wonderful asset. That was carried out sometime ago in front of most of the Kopanga home boundaries (just not ours).

If combined arborist expertise comes to the same conclusion to fell all the trees, we would consider supporting the plan, but by present incoming views it is not the case.

What has been very concerning is that media comments have clearly indicated that the Kopanga residents pushed for the trees to be cut down. This simply is not the case. The council presented a plan with advice saying the only option was the trees need to be felled well after we and other neighbours had asked for trimming. What bothers us is who provided this misinformation to the public.

Regards

Stephanie and Harold

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** harold neal <nzdochands@gmail.com>  
**Date:** Wed, Dec 12, 2018 at 7:06 PM  
**Subject:** Keirunga Gardens draft management plan - feedback  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie <bartgl@hdc.govt.nz>  
**Cc:** harold neal <nzdochands@gmail.com>

Good evening Bart

Thank you and Chris for giving your time to walk us through the Gardens on Sunday and discuss the proposed plans for Arthurs Path.

Our feed back is follows:

Stephanie and Harold Neal

7A Kopanga Road

Havelock North

0210500267

[nzdochands@gmail.com](mailto:nzdochands@gmail.com)

Thoughts on the draft: Strongly agree

Comments (no particular order):

1. We feel that there is a genuine desire from Council to meet the goals and objectives in the draft plan for good reasons and for the interests of both today's public and future generations. This Gardens as an asset is well recognised

2. The council appear keen to progress work as soon as possible (subject to approval and budget)

3. To keep the confidence of the public we believe that the plan once approved has a binding clause for the company being contracted for parks and gardens (from next February) i.e it forms part of the contract with that company with a very clear planting and maintenance plan

4. Using the felled oak logs for edging and reducing erosion is a sensible decision and will also add fun for children walking through the gardens

5. Some tree stumps are retained as these are good for insects and other ecological aspects. It also gives a more natural feel to the treed area

6. We would support a larger ratio of natives particularly along the Kopanga road boundary

7. We agree to felling the oaks in one hit for reasons of economy, safety and preparation for new planting (initial pain for significant gain!).

8. If there is a staged felling then we ask that work commences at our house boundary because the overgrown oaks are closest and overhanging our property (trees further up have been previously trimmed back)

9. We discussed potential donation towards tress. We would propose that before felling commences trees of reasonable height be planted on the top of the ridge in front of the railway bridge as this will provide some privacy both ways for recreation by the public in the park and residents of Kopanga, plus provide shade in what is currently a very open and exposed area

10. The budget for felling the trees seems very reasonable. Our assumption for this is because you propose to fell "in bulk" and have very little removed from site

We look forward to seeing the process progress and hopefully activity occurring before winter 2019.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit feedback.

With kindest regards

Stephanie and Harold

Item 6

Submission No. 198

**Julia Martin**

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**From:** Bart G. Leslie  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 17 April 2019 4:13 PM  
**To:** Records Team  
**Subject:** FW: Iconic Havelock North tress

[Email submission from Kate Tweedie.](#)

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**From:** Customer Service (External)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 26 February 2019 9:15 AM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie <bartgl@hdc.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** FW: Iconic Havelock North tress

Good Morning Bart

Please find below email from [savethetreeshb@gmail.com](mailto:savethetreeshb@gmail.com) email expressing Please do not chop the Keirunga Garden trees down, they are stunning, all seasons.

Kind Regards



JANET MCCORMACK  
CUSTOMER SERVICE

Phone 06 8715000

Email [Web \[hastingsdc.govt.nz\]\(http://hastingsdc.govt.nz\)](mailto:hastingsdc.govt.nz)

Hastings District Council, Private Bag 9002, Hastings 4156, New Zealand

-----Original Message-----

**From:** [katejtweedie@gmail.com](mailto:katejtweedie@gmail.com) [<mailto:katejtweedie@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, 25 February 2019 8:17 PM  
**To:** Customer Service (External) <[customerservice@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:customerservice@hdc.govt.nz)>  
**Cc:** [savethetreeshb@gmail.com](mailto:savethetreeshb@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Iconic Havelock North tress

The old Havelock North trees are beautiful and hold so much history for so many local people. It just seems that these great beauties are being ripped out one by one by the council for bizarre reasons and replaced with fast growing natives. It broke my heart to see the trees along the Havelock North creek chopped down. It's not the same along there now. Fortunately the great gum in the village was saved. Please do not chop the Keirunga Garden trees down, they are stunning, all seasons. Havelock North is loosing its charm through the felling of these great trees and becoming a bland old town. Please stop.

Regards

Kate Tweedie.

Sent from my iPhone





**FEEDBACK FORM****KEIRUNGA GARDENS****KEIRUNGA GARDENS DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

NAME Darryl Mitchell

ADDRESS 23 Tanner Street

HAVELOCK NORTH

PHONE NUMBER 877-4241

EMAIL ADDRESS dartmoor.design@xtra.co.nz

PLEASE TICK THE BOX BELOW THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN?

☐ STRONGLY AGREE☐ AGREE☐ NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE☐ DISAGREE☒ STRONGLY DISAGREE

PLEASE SHARE ANY OF YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

1.

I attended both meetings regarding the draft plan for Keirunga gardens - Arthur's Path at the community centre and the garden walk through with Bart Leslie and Chris Ryan. I am totally opposed to this draft plan. If it was to proceed in its current form in my opinion it is nothing short of sanctioned Council vandalism. To virtually clear fell almost two thirds of the trees, in particular the larger species would destroy what is a precious natural 'woodland walk', Arthur's Path is a beautiful gentle walk, enjoyed by young and old.

I understand from Mr Ryan's comments the area is struggling in terms of plant ecology, also Arthur's Path does not fit the original Keirunga "garden" concept, he also said that the plan was to introduce some tree and plant diversity into that area. I believe you can create that diversity in the whole of Keirunga garden by leaving Arthur's Path as a natural area and planting new species of smaller trees elsewhere in the gardens, up on the hill area above the model railway for example. If the trees fall over either through old age or storms in Arthur's Path then so be it. Replace them with large species of native trees, that will in time continue to provide that beautiful tall canopy.

2.

I have serious doubts that the Council or its parks and reserve contractors have the manpower or the ability to do the landscape work. It would take many years for the proposed mass planting to become established mature trees and shrubs. This is based on my observations of many years of the poor and minimal landscape maintenance in Keirunga Garden and some other reserves in Havelock North.

P.T.O.

Please leave form in the feedback box or you can email your feedback to [bartgl@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:bartgl@hdc.govt.nz) or post it to:

HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Attn: Bart Leslie  
Private Bag 9002  
Hastings 4156


**HASTINGS**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Out with exotics in town belt

Wellington's skyline is slowly changing as large, exotic trees in the town belt are replaced with native species.

While a target of covering 65 per cent of the greenway in native vegetation has been set, Wellington City Council arboriculture team manager William Melville says iconic stands of pines and macrocarpa trees aren't likely to disappear overnight.

Replanting operations have been in place for some time and they hoped to achieve their target by 2065 - in staged removals and by taking advantage of natural attrition.

Melville said most Wellingtonians were in favour of promoting indigenous flora in the popular recreation area and this was reflected in the Wellington Town Belt Management Plan.

While there was a desire to restore

native vegetation, clearfelling the large stands of mature exotic trees was not an option for the city council, Melville said.

They played an important role in lessening the impact of rain run-off and erosion, and provided attractive conditions for recreational users.

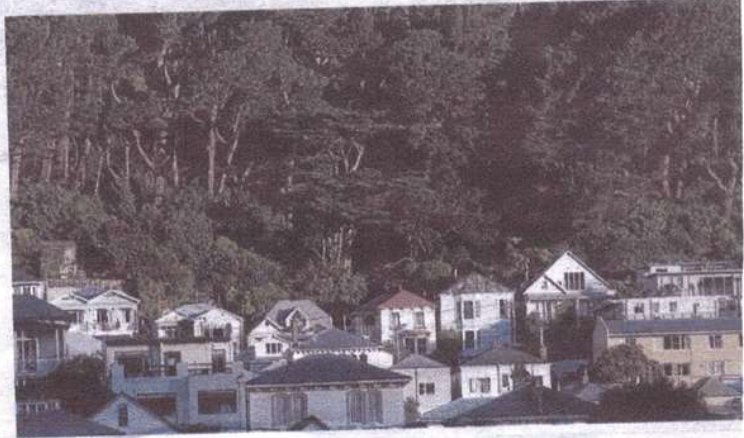
"They provide shade and, for groups like mountainbikers, pines tend to keep the floor clear [of other vegetation]."

Many of the exotic trees had been

planted between 1920 and 1940, though some had been planted in the 19th century and would be retained for their heritage value.

The trees also provided large perch areas for native birds that also nested in the branches and hollows.

Eventually, the plan was to restore much of the town belt to a "native ecosystem" that would support indigenous animals.



DEAR BART

THIS ARTICLE FROM TODAY'S DOMINION POST  
IS VERY TIMELY.

WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL STARTED REMOVAL  
OF LARGE EXOTIC TREES AND LONG TERM  
RENEWAL PROGRAMME

"CLEAR FELLING WAS NOT AN OPTION FOR W.C.C."

I SUGGEST HDC SEEK FURTHER OPINIONS  
AND COMMENT FROM W.C.C.

RECTARDS

*[Handwritten signature]*



**FEEDBACK FORM****KEIRUNGA GARDENS****KEIRUNGA GARDENS DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

NAME

Guy Wellwood

ADDRESS

27 Kopanga Rd  
Havelock North

PHONE NUMBER

0273785114

EMAIL ADDRESS

guywellwood@gmail.com

PLEASE TICK THE BOX BELOW THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN?



STRONGLY AGREE



AGREE



NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE



DISAGREE



STRONGLY DISAGREE

PLEASE SHARE ANY OF YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE DRAFT TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

I have lived with my wife Margaret in Kopanga Rd for nearly 31 years. We have had access through a neighbouring property to Keirunga and have used Arthur's Path over the years for walking usually with our Scottish Terrier Dog, of which we have now had 3.

While the Gardens have not had the best of Council attention over the years we have noticed a change for the better in recent times.

I acknowledge a long friendship and great respect for Chris Ryan who has the same access to the path as ourselves. We love Keirunga - and just want it to be better managed. Many trees need to go. CV of Chris is attached. He is a tree expert.

Please leave form in the feedback box or you can email your feedback to [bartgl@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:bartgl@hdc.govt.nz) or post it to:

HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Attn: Bart Leslie

Private Bag 9002

Hastings 4156


**HASTINGS**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Item 6

Submission No. 201



New Zealand Treecrops Association, Hawke's Bay Branch

### Dr Don McKenzie award

Hawke's Bay Branch has great pleasure in nominating Chris Ryan  
for the Dr Don McKenzie award.

Chris Ryan lived his first 30 years in England. From early years of childhood, natural history was a part of his everyday life. Days were spent in, on and under local rivers, wandering through meadows and woods collecting animals and plants.

By the time he was a teenager he had a huge collection of pressed British wildflowers. His interest was such that he and a friend persuaded their Grammar School headmaster to teach them biology, which was not on the school syllabus at that time.

Chris graduated BSc.(Hons) in Biology at the Imperial College London, followed by a Cambridge University post graduate Diploma in Agricultural Science, specialising in plant diseases. He spent several vacations on plant studies in UK & Europe.

Chris then spent 8 years with the National Agricultural Advisory Service in UK and Channel Isles as a plant pathologist, dealing with a wide range of cultivated crops & plant trials.

During this time Chris identified several new diseases and wrote papers for journals.

Chris and Linda married in 1968 and emigrated to New Zealand as '£25 Poms'. He taught science at Stratford High for one year - enjoying Mt Taranaki and trying to instil the mysteries of soccer into a rugby culture.

Although he enjoyed teaching Chris felt the call back to plants, and in the 1970's became a Horticulture Adviser with M.A.F. in Hastings. For 8 years he had a very enjoyable time working with scientists like Dr Don McKenzie at the DSIR and with various companies engaged in field trials of many crops. This was in the days when information was free and openly exchanged, making it easy for Chris to learn so much from the many experienced people he was working with.

*Maurice Menneer tells how, in the 1960s when he bought an orchard, Chris gave him much valuable advice, even producing the financial forecasts for his Golden Queens and pears, and advising him, for instance, on the economies of multiple or selective picking.*

During this productive period Chris carried out trial work and studies of many crops.

As a pathologist he was particularly interested in the reasons for poor growth. He established the presence of specific replant disease in apples in Hawke's Bay, and the effect of rootstocks, fumigation and soil type.

At this time eelworms and symphilids were also identified as causing growth stunting. Chris was instrumental in establishing discussion groups for several major crops, sharing ideas in tree training and in growing techniques.

A branch of Tree Crops Association was established in the 1970's in Hastings. Dr Don McKenzie was the first president/chairman. After a few years the baton was passed to Chris.

It was a most enthusiastic group, with large groups of Tree Crop members visiting a huge number of properties growing tree crops. These contacts enabled Chris to gain a large network of people interested in many different plants.

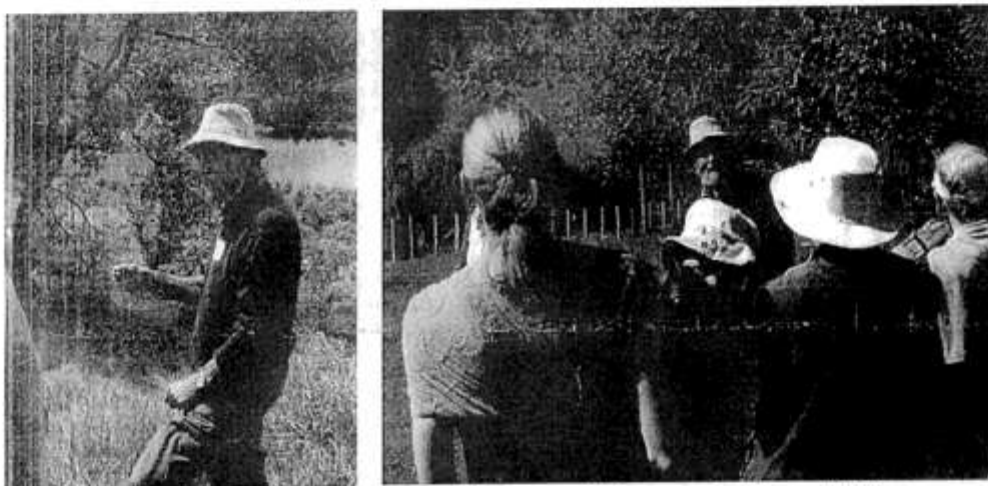
1



As the Hawke's Bay Branch Chairman and Tree Registrar at this time, Chris was responsible for recording all the old trees found in Hawke's Bay and assessing them for nut quality, etc. It was during this time that success was achieved with "The Great Walnut Hunt" - resulting in the discovery of 'Meyric', which Chris was responsible for promoting.

*Tim Barker talks of Chris as being a plant pathologist, an orchardist, a nurseryman, a plantsman, and an enthusiast. Tim remembers the exciting days of the mid to late 80's and early 90's of Tree Crops - The Great Walnut Hunt, Chestnuts, Hazelnuts, Pecans, Cherimoya, Avocado, Pine Nuts, Carobs, Persimmons. Tim cites Chris's great memory and attention for details as second to none. But most of all Chris loved growing plants*

*Maurice Menneer recalls a particularly good learning experience in the 1970's, working with Chris to grow and graft Avocados. Chris sourced the seeds and grafting wood and they propagated the plants in the Menneer's glass-houses and polythene tunnels. Maurice is still using Chris's knowledge of Avocado grafting and growing to this day.*



Chris is engaged in helping establish a new 200 acre arboretum at Tutira

In 1977 with the change of MAF to a fee-paying organisation, and a less open information sharing philosophy, Chris decided to branch out and become a self employed orchardist.

He packed fruit for neighbours and grew apples on the single leader system, then established stone fruit and Olallie berries on the property.

Meanwhile he was developing a small fruit tree nursery on a neighbours block.

Chris's orchard matured and more varieties had to be reworked or old trees removed.

In 1981 to maintain income Chris and Linda with Tim Barker developed "TopTrees Nursery" at Clive where initially they grew fruit trees.

Chris being an enthusiastic producer of quality plants, always with an eye for improved and new varieties, gradually grew a wide range of trees, many of them rare and unusual cultivars. Trees from old gardens and Arboreta were re-propagated, plants were imported from overseas, and seed bought in from countries far and wide.

The 2001 catalogue for Top Trees Nursery is still a useful reference tool today. During this time they established a successful polystyrene Hot Box technique for grafting trees in winter and also grew many plants by mist-unit in summer.



Chris became involved in fruit growing politics, serving for many years on the Fruit Growers Advisory Committee. He was interviewed and gave talks on National Radio for several years along with Hugh Chappell QSM.

Chris has acted as adviser to new orchardists, and advised on plant identification for Hastings District Council and numerous individuals. He has helped establish and save many tree collections, including old Eastwoodhill trees which were rescued by taking wood from old trees and producing healthy new ones.



Throughout his long plant related career many people have benefited from Chris's demonstrations of plant propagation techniques, pruning and seed collection workshops.

Chris has been on many plant hunting/collecting trips with the International Dendrology Society. He had some great plant hunting trips to Nepal and China, and imported interesting bulbs from northern India in the 1990's - the highlight of these trips was a 24 day trek in eastern Nepal. Chris found these trips invaluable for understanding the importance of the significance of ecology and biodiversity.

Now retired Chris is heavily involved with "Baywatch", a local environmental watchdog group, and is engaged in helping establish the new 200 acre Guthrie-Smith arboretum at Tutira. This project has a new emphasis to those arboreta already in the country - it will include an extensive range of New Zealand trees and shrubs and many tree crops.

For Chris Ryan's long term dedication to trees and tree crops,  
his skills in plant identification, his enthusiastic service to Treecrops Hawke's Bay,  
his contribution to plant pathology, propagation and training,  
and his work with old and new arboreta,  
the Hawke's Bay Branch heartily recommend him for the Dr Don McKenzie Award.

1

**Submission on HDC Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan**

Submitted by:

Robin Sage

122 Mount Erin Road

RD2

Hastings

4172

021 774 315

r.sage122@gmail.com

When the Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan was released it was met with and quite rightly so huge opposition from the general public. To their credit the Hasting District Council has responded by getting further advice from an independent firm, Arborlab.

Unfortunately for the Council what this has shown is that the draft plan was totally inadequate and indicated the Asset Department is obviously incapable of running the management of the thousands of trees in the District Councils care. This may come as a shock to some but to those of us who are, or have been, close to the coal face it is not a surprise.

As someone with a horticulture and nursery background and a past employee of the Parks and Reserves Department it's a situation I and others knew was a certainty to happen. It appeared the reason there were trees in the district was to be a source of firewood for the staff. Not for beautification, land stabilisation, shelter or many other reasons. Why I felt that way was because there was and as far as I am aware still NO sensible, serious, scientific plan for the management of this wonderful asset. Tree types, suitability to specific sites, proper planting and establishment plans and most importantly tree management did not seem to exist.

There are many instances of this from my own observations. Here is a sample.

- Poplars planted on a roadside verge underneath power lines. Poplars grow very tall and are very brittle and subject to large limbs snapping off.
- Planting a species that is suited to a shady and sheltered frost free environment yet they were planted completely exposed to the open and sunny environment. The majority have failed to survive.
- Along the medium strip on Flaxmere Avenue oak trees are planted. Didn't those who chose oaks

2

realise the Avenue is shingle river bed for half its length. No wonder many of the trees have died or are very poor specimens. And as we are all aware successful replanting of trees in Flaxmere is not very successful.

Note attached photo 1



I had a manager in the Parks and Reserves who was very passionate and experienced about the management of this beautiful asset and he was adamant that any pruning of the tress didn't produce "lollypop" trees. The trees were to retain a natural form while still removing areas of inconvenience to the public. Not now the proliferation of "lollypop" tress would have him shaking his head in wonderment and disgust.

Note attached photo 2

Item 6

Submission No. 202

3



During my travels around the world I have spent many enjoyable hours in their major parks. London and Paris are two cities that spring to mind. The amount of work that goes into tree management, much of it in the winter dormant period is incredible. This effort produces strong safe beautiful balanced trees that are an asset to the cities and their population and the lucky people who visit. About 7 or 8 years ago I asked the HDC tree team why there was no such remedial work and a specific tree management plan in place. The response was there is not that type of plan in place. So why not?

The original draft plan proves those responsible are both incompetent and as such unable to manage an asset that is admired by many. This has been confirmed by Arborlab's peer review and in particular the Quantified Tree Risk Assessment.

There will be many more qualified than myself making submissions during the consultation process and I am sure the final outcome on Keirunga Gardens tree management will be a very different and more sustainable plan than the original.

Auckland University recently released the results of a world-wide study that found;

TREES IN THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT MAKE THE RESIDENTS HAPPY.

Item 6

Submission No. 202





26<sup>th</sup> February, 2019

Sandra Hazlehurst  
Mayor's Office  
207 Lyndon Road East  
Private Bag 9002  
Hastings 4156.



PO Box 8194  
Havelock North 4157.  
[kate@katharinewhite.co.nz](mailto:kate@katharinewhite.co.nz)

Dear Sandra,

Please find enclosed my daughters' letters to you regarding the current Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan. You met them at the launch of "The Gift Horse" children's book at Muse in Havelock North and incredibly kindly spent an hour with them the day before your election to the office of Mayor. At the time you listened to their concerns about an oak tree next to the Rudolf Steiner School due to be cut down unnecessarily by the lines company and you took such action as to give my daughters faith in the efficacy of petitioning leaders in our community especially with regard to our environment.

Theirs and my hope is that once again you might champion the trees.

I hope this finds you well-  
thank you for your time and best wishes-

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kate White".

Kate White

CFM-17-24-3-19-S6





Dear Sandra Hazelhurst,

Please do not let the Keirunga  
Garden oak trees be cut down.  
They are a beautiful part of  
Keirunga.

They give us shade, and  
because it has not been  
scientifically proven they are  
dead, they probably give us  
oxygen too.

These trees are only 80 years  
old and oak trees can live for  
hundreds of years.

from Juno.

Dear Sirs   
Please  ask them not to  
cut down the trees at  
 Keirunga Gorge Thank you  
Lux Harvey 

Item 6

Submission No. 203

Dear Sandra,

I strongly disagree with cutting down these trees. Indeed, I think it should be a criminal offence these trees provide oxygen, shade, and a home to many birds and insects. Oak trees can live for centuries and these are only 80 years old! I hereby ask you to help save the Keirunga trees, thereby saving the lives of many, many insects and birds, not to mention the trees themselves. One tree "expert" has said they are dangerous. Three have said they are five. I agree with the latter. These trees are in the prime of life. I believe that they should be saved, not slaughtered. please. Save the trees!

Yours sincerely,  
Siiva Harvey.

Placeholder for Submission No. 204

ITEM 6/19 Draft Keirunga Tree Management  
Plan.DOC

Submission No. 204 - Jean Hudson (refer 192)

Item 6

Submission No. 204





**Submission on the Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan**

Name : Michael Broadbent,

Address : 16 Plassey Street, Havelock North, 4130

Phone No. 8770112

Email : [M.Broadbent@xtra.co.nz](mailto:M.Broadbent@xtra.co.nz)

**Experience relevant to submission .**

I have read:

The Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree management Plan – Arthurs Path Gully – Exotic Woodland Area – Consultation Draft, (Hastings District Council (HDC), November 2018); [‘The draft plan’].

The Keirunga Gardens Draft Tree Management Plan – Addendum Report; (HDC 2019) [‘the addendum report’].

The Arboricultural review and tree survey for Keirunga Gardens (Arborlab, 2019).

Quantified Tree Risk Assessment Practice Note, version 5. (Quantified Tree Risk Assessment Limited).

I have attended :

Public presentations made on the draft plan on behalf of HDC at the Havelock North Community Centre and in Keirunga Gardens.

I have taken walks in, and have observed conditions in Keirunga Gardens quite frequently for many years.

I have had an interest in, and read about silviculture and forestry for more than 60 years, and have grown trees in suburban garden settings throughout that period.

I have visited and taken an interest in many large gardens and parks in New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

My career was predominantly concerned with investigating subsurface physical ground conditions and resources. I have experience of investigating slope stability.

**Commendation.**

I commend the Hastings District Council for undertaking planning of the development of Keirunga Gardens and for allowing the public to contribute to the planning process. The Council’s hillside reserves in Havelock North, (Keirunga Gardens, the Tanner Reserve, and the Tainui Reserve), significantly contribute to the recreation and amenity resources that benefit both residents in, and visitors to, Havelock North, and complementary planning and development of these reserves is to be commended.

**Comments on the current state of the Arthur’s Walk Gulley and its immediate neighbourhood.**

The area is generally conceived as representing northern hemisphere temperate deciduous woodland.

A pleasant walk in the shade can be taken in the area in summer and the same walk can be taken in sunshine in winter. Evidence of some inappropriate path, plant and tree development work in the past is clear on any walk. There are informal paths on the gulley sides that are hazardous in wet weather due to their clay surfaces. There are unstable slope areas, some of which are due to the steepening of slopes brought about by the widening of the track in the gulley bottom so that it can take vehicles. Groundworks and developments in recent years on properties adjacent to the west side of the gulley have modified the above and below ground environments of trees, resulting in tree and slope failures which are evident. Where light allows, a wide variety of plants have self-seeded.

Many of these plants are generally regarded as weeds. In considering the make-up of these 'weeds', and whether any of them should be retained, the value to birds of these weeds should be taken into account. The plants in reserves, and their associated ecosystems, should provide food for birds throughout the year, especially for native birds. The birds of Havelock North are pleasurable to visitors to the area.

The area is clearly in need of maintenance and development.

#### **Comments on original draft plan.**

I agree with some of the comments, ideas and proposals in 'the draft plan', but strongly disagree with others. **I agree that the footpaths on the east and west slopes of the gulley need improving.** I suggest that the paths should be brought up to a standard typical of Conservation Department National Park tracks, without resorting to the use of heavy plant and the cutting of wide benches. I agree that the number of different varieties of trees in Keirunga Gardens overall should be increased. However I do not believe that transforming the Arthur's walk gulley into an arboretum style is appropriate. Only new trees likely to do well in the growing environment of Havelock North should be introduced to the gardens. New trees that will need constant attention or that have the potential to become 'weeds' should be avoided!

**I strongly disagree with the major tree clearances and major ground disturbances advocated in the original draft plan.** Such developments would completely destroy the 'northern hemisphere temperate deciduous woodland environment' of the present gulley that is pleasurable to many people. It would take at least a couple of decades to recreate such an environment. The ground disturbance could destabilise the slopes of the gulley, increase erosion and associated silt flow into downstream watercourses, and might have consequences for upslope structures.

#### **Comments on Addendum Report and associated documents.**

I found the reasoning and methods used in deriving the Addendum report much easier to follow and understand than those leading to the original draft plan. I believe that the proposals in the Addendum Report that are based on the work by Arborlab are soundly based and well argued, and **I would be much happier were these proposals adopted rather than those in the original draft plan.** That said, I would probably differ with Arborlab on the recommended treatment of some individual trees!.

I note that the Arborlab work does not address the issues of path development and of birdlife. **I advocate that low impact path improvement and the encouragement of native birds should be included in any future development of Keirunga Gardens.**

#### **Acknowledgement.**

I thank the Hastings District Council for giving me the opportunity to contribute to developing a management plan for Keirunga Gardens.

Michael Broadbent, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

**Julia Martin**

**From:** Bart G. Leslie  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 17 April 2019 6:28 PM  
**To:** Records Team  
**Subject:** FW: The Trees in Keirunga Gardens  
**Attachments:** 20190322165452858.pdf

Strongly Agree

-----Original Message-----

From: Guy [mailto:guy@acld.co.nz]  
 Sent: Friday, 22 March 2019 5:35 PM  
 To: Bart G. Leslie <bartgl@hdc.govt.nz>  
 Subject: The Trees in Keirunga Gardens

Dear Bart

I am taking the opportunity of providing you with some feedback to the Draft Tree Management Plan prepared by your council last November. Prior to that I attended the meeting in the Havelock North Community Centre. I am a retired lawyer and now Employment Consultant and I have lived with my lawyer wife in Kopanga Road Havelock North for 30 years (Since 1988) At the bottom of our large (1800m2) property with a substantial garden is a gate which takes us into a gully owned by our neighbour and that gully leads us directly into the Keirunga Reserve. We have been very regular users of the reserve all year round and in particular Arthurs Path and we have usually been accompanied by a Scottish Terrier of which we have had 3 over the years.

The path, the trees on either side of the path, the drain down the side of the path and various bridges, steps, tracks and watering systems have from time to time looked a bit of a mess and shown the effects of lack of care and maintenance but overall Keirunga looks and feels a special place that is nice to be in. In the last couple of years there has been a marked improvement in care and attention and I do commend the new Mayor, Sandra and yourself for what is clearly a new era. In saying that I am only too aware of the huge areas of parks, gardens and reserves under the care and responsibility of Hastings District Council.

I STRONGLY AGREE WITH THE COUNCIL'S DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN and make a few comments in that regard 1-I disclose a long friendship with and a deep respect for my near neighbour Chris Ryan who also has a substantial garden adjoining the same gully I referred to earlier. I know that Chris was part of a group of locals who on a voluntary but dedicated basis have for many years (14) worked in the reserve and consulted with the Council on tree health and tree management. In recent times Chris has been maligned, misquoted even defamed and people have been quick to say he is "not an expert" and that he wants to remove ALL the trees and probably just to increase the views from his house. I enclose some details about Chris prepared not by me but by a group who worked closely with him and who (several years ago now) nominated Chris for the Don McKenzie Award which Chris actually won. Don was an internationally recognised tree man who Chris would have known personally. Chris is an expert on trees and other real tree experts have certainly heard of Chris. His concern about the Red Oaks in the reserve is because many are self planted seedlings, many have reached the end of their life, there are also issues with the soil, the clay pan and the effects of the extra CO2 in the atmosphere which is speeding up tree growth. And it is the more violent and frequent storms that we are getting that will blow over more trees and what will they blow onto -children, dogs, bridges, paths?

2-In our garden we have a fine looking red oak about 8 metres high that only 15 years ago was a tiny seedling. We shall cut down that oak in about 2 years. You are most welcome to come and look.

3-It must be an undisputed fact that just because oaks grow for 300 years in other parts of the world, particularly in the Northern Hemisphere that will happen in NZ with any of the 500 odd species that are available. For example why are we not growing oaks in NZ for barrels for our world glass chardonnay wines? Why do we import that oak from France or Nth America? Answer white oaks have been tried in NZ and just die early.

4-80 years is not a long time. I came to Havelock in 1959 when Mr and Mrs Nelson were still living in Keirunga. AND WHAT IS MORE IMPORTANT is that new trees even new oaks( but there are hundreds of possible varieties of trees- as outlined in your plan) properly planted in well prepared places and properly maintained in a CO2 drenched world will grow to large trees creating a beautiful canopy in 15 years.

I say , get on with it Bart.Ignore the idiots from other places.  
Best Wishes  
Guy Wellwood

Item 6

Submission No. 206





New Zealand Treecrops Association, Hawke's Bay Branch

### Dr Don McKenzie award

Hawke's Bay Branch has great pleasure in nominating Chris Ryan for the Dr Don McKenzie award.

Chris Ryan lived his first 30 years in England. From early years of childhood, natural history was a part of his everyday life. Days were spent in, on and under local rivers, wandering through meadows and woods collecting animals and plants.

By the time he was a teenager he had a huge collection of pressed British wildflowers. His interest was such that he and a friend persuaded their Grammar School headmaster to teach them biology, which was not on the school syllabus at that time.

Chris graduated BSc.(Hons) in Biology at the Imperial College London, followed by a Cambridge University post graduate Diploma in Agricultural Science, specialising in plant diseases. He spent several vacations on plant studies in UK & Europe.

Chris then spent 8 years with the National Agricultural Advisory Service in UK and Channel Isles as a plant pathologist, dealing with a wide range of cultivated crops & plant trials. During this time Chris identified several new diseases and wrote papers for journals.

Chris and Linda married in 1968 and emigrated to New Zealand as '£25 Poms'. He taught science at Stratford High for one year - enjoying Mt Taranaki and trying to instil the mysteries of soccer into a rugby culture.

Although he enjoyed teaching Chris felt the call back to plants, and in the 1970's became a Horticulture Adviser with M.A.F. in Hastings. For 8 years he had a very enjoyable time working with scientists like Dr Don McKenzie at the DSIR and with various companies engaged in field trials of many crops. This was in the days when information was free and openly exchanged, making it easy for Chris to learn so much from the many experienced people he was working with.

*Maurice Menneer tells how, in the 1960s when he bought an orchard, Chris gave him much valuable advice, even producing the financial forecasts for his Golden Queens and pears, and advising him, for instance, on the economies of multiple or selective picking.*

During this productive period Chris carried out trial work and studies of many crops.

As a pathologist he was particularly interested in the reasons for poor growth. He established the presence of specific replant disease in apples in Hawke's Bay, and the effect of rootstocks, fumigation and soil type.

At this time eelworms and symphilids were also identified as causing growth stunting. Chris was instrumental in establishing discussion groups for several major crops, sharing ideas in tree training and in growing techniques.

A branch of Tree Crops Association was established in the 1970's in Hastings. Dr Don McKenzie was the first president/chairman. After a few years the baton was passed to Chris.

It was a most enthusiastic group, with large groups of Tree Crop members visiting a huge number of properties growing tree crops. These contacts enabled Chris to gain a large network of people interested in many different plants.

1

Chris became involved in fruit growing politics, serving for many years on the Fruit Growers Advisory Committee. He was interviewed and gave talks on National Radio for several years along with Hugh Chappell QSM.

Chris has acted as adviser to new orchardists, and advised on plant identification for Hastings District Council and numerous individuals.

He has helped establish and save many tree collections, including old Eastwoodhill trees which were rescued by taking wood from old trees and producing healthy new ones.



Throughout his long plant related career many people have benefited from Chris's demonstrations of plant propagation techniques, pruning and seed collection workshops.

Chris has been on many plant hunting/collecting trips with the International Dendrology Society. He had some great plant hunting trips to Nepal and China, and imported interesting bulbs from northern India in the 1990's - the highlight of these trips was a 24 day trek in eastern Nepal. Chris found these trips invaluable for understanding the importance of the significance of ecology and biodiversity.

Now retired Chris is heavily involved with "Baywatch", a local environmental watchdog group, and is engaged in helping establish the new 200 acre Guthrie-Smith arboretum at Tutira. This project has a new emphasis to those arboreta already in the country - it will include an extensive range of New Zealand trees and shrubs and many tree crops.

For Chris Ryan's long term dedication to trees and tree crops, his skills in plant identification, his enthusiastic service to Treecrops Hawke's Bay, his contribution to plant pathology, propagation and training, and his work with old and new arboreta, the Hawke's Bay Branch heartily recommend him for the Dr Don McKenzie Award.

**Julia Martin**

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**From:** Bart G. Leslie  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 17 April 2019 6:31 PM  
**To:** Records Team  
**Subject:** FW: link to keirunga

Agree.

---

**From:** Susan & Darryl Judd [mailto:pharmtree@xtra.co.nz]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 31 March 2019 6:31 PM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie <bartgl@hdc.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Re: link to keirunga

Hi Bart, thank you for that. have re-read and made a few notes for discussion.

I agree in part with Dave Spencers report. The areas listed are where my thinking will differ.

I hope that you find this helpful.

I have forwarded to David Cranwell so that he is aware that we are talking positively to come to a positive and considered favourable conclusion to this on going discussion.

Please feel free to contact me for any clarification.

Regards Darryl

key themes

Woodland nature - I agree general tree maintenance agree

Tree removal and pruning

Agree in part , - do not agree and removal 18 Oaks over a 10 year period. I believe other options could be considered that could minimise Removals.

Agree in part. - Caution Consider whether Removals are necessary. Robinias, remove yes , but Casuarina can be manipulated.

Replacement tree species. I believe the character of the plantings which exist should be respected and enhanced with a like planting. This is an Oak woodland and is important to be retained as such. Similar to the historic oak avenue.

8.9 management . – retain Oak and manage Casuarina.

8.13. I think you're cost estimates may need reviewing.

- do not agree with removal of mulch and log wood. We could have a good discussion around this.

10. discussion and comments.

10.4 do not agree with the statement. Multiple trees can Form one complete canopy. Attempting to remove any trees within a group will only cause further damage to the Woodlands. Look at nature. Groupings of trees do not necessarily single out two one single stem.

10.5 This is a Woodland environment. Not every tree is going to be a specimen. But all trees have their place Within the group. And a purpose.

Removal would not be a desirable option from my professional perspective.

11 . conclusion

11.3 I would be hesitant and removal of any valued trees. The biomass underground is greater than what is above ground. Every root assists in the retention and holding of the valley walls.

Regards Darryl

**From:** [Bart G. Leslie](#)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 29, 2019 8:58 AM  
**To:** 'Darryl & Susan Judd'  
**Subject:** FW: link to keirunga

Hi Darryl,

Please find attached the link to the Keirunga Gardens Tree Management plans. Please take a look at the Arborlab Report. This is quite a different concept to the draft Tree Plan from Chris Ryan.

I welcome your feedback on the new Arborlab plan.

Regards,  
Bart

<https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/say-it/article/1209/keirunga-gardens-draft-tree-management-plan>

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12.04.2019

Dear sir / madam ,

As a visitor from Australia I had the pleasure of walking under the Keirunga Oaks today .  
Was most surprised to hear that the authorities had plan to destroy this fine community resource .

Place pass these comments on to the appropriate body

These trees are by no means ' end of life ' and have only a few easily mitigated hazardous branches .

If indeed Council intends to pay \$200K to have them destroyed it would be interesting to know how much they budget to replace them .

If not replaced quickly and to a high standard of care the newly daylighted site will disappear under invasive weeds within a few years .

-Trees are not showing much hazardous dieback .

One oak on LHS ( walking from car park ) has a large diagonal limb with poor adhesion to trunk .

This should be cut ( with careful undercut and several more cuts to eliminate chance of checking ) to left of

a vertical line from track side . Suppressed limbs above it should be removed to allow light to the cut .

It will pollard nicely .

-Trees do have limited vigour due to compacted and water logged soil reducing oxygen levels in rhizosphere , killing essential mycorrhizae

( evidenced by very low levels of Scleroderma fruit bodied )

The loss of symbiotic mycelia greatly impedes nutrient access and tree root metabolism , weakening tree growth and healing .

Solution is to drill many ( 60- 80 per tree would be good ) 4" auger holes into feeder root zone and infill with coarse sand and ECM inoculum

These oxygenating columns will rapidly fill with healthy feeder roots with developed Hartig Nets

Sinker roots will penetrate vertically , strengthening tree resistance to overturning .

Tree vigour will improve within months , life span increased by many decades .

High quality ( metal geared ) 18 volt rechargeable drill with Power Planter 132 H ager is the fastest tool .

Please see International Oak Society website and search " Marshall Valonia Oak Project "

This is closely analogous to the Keirunga situation .

-Ivy is poised to take over trunks . It chokes trees and must be dealt with soon .

Suggest involving school groups who enjoy a targeted yearly task

-It looks as if at least three oaks have been removed from LHS slope . Would be interested to know why ?



The newly daylighted area is being rapidly colonised by Acacia , Robinia and Ivy  
 Suggest direct seeding and guarding of Red Oaks to replace the removed trees  
 Yearly form pruning would ensure the trees will shape up for a long , safe life  
 One of the stumps has three coppice shoots . This is a good illustration of the power of  
 coppicing  
 Suggest two be cut back and one be brought on with yearly form pruning to get some top  
 cover established .

-Bare banks are slumping  
 Suggest planting with attractive low cover , eg Reinga Lily .

-Walk is currently one way and back  
 It could be made into a satisfying loop by return path on LHS , halfway up hill .  
 \$200K saving in not cutting trees could go towards improving amenity in this way .

Would be happy to speak to these observations if it assists the community in keeping such a  
 wonderful resource

Regards

Peter Marshall  
 Woodford Lagoon  
 Reidsdale  
 NSW Southern Highlands  
 Australia  
 61 248 461070

Peter Marshall, Forest Mycologist; BSc; Research Assoc., Prof. James Trappe, Oregon  
 State University; Principal, Terra Preta Truffles Australia; Associate, Hackfalls Arboretum,  
 Gisborne; Instigator, Vallonia oak restoration project, Castlemaine, Victoria, Australia;  
 Proprietor 600 acres plantation forestry and restored wetlands, Woodford Lagoon,  
 Braidwood, New South Wales

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Hastings District Council, Private Bag 9002, Hastings 4156, New Zealand

Name \* yvonne james

Subject: Arthur's Pass Gully Trees

\*

Email [balnacoll@xtra.co.nz](mailto:balnacoll@xtra.co.nz)

Address:

\*

Message: \*

Dear Council

I have recently been sent an article about Hastings District Council's plans to remove trees in the Arthur's Pass Gully. I would like to know who you have consulted to get such a ridiculous notion of the trees being old as clearly whoever came up with this plan is rather deficient in his or her knowledge of trees. Oaks at 80 are nowhere near mature, so I suggest you talk to several properly qualified arborists and get some genuinely expert opinions before any decisions are made and do not waste ratepayer's money on those who have no knowledge of trees.

I would like to know who the authors of this plan are and their qualifications, please.

Thank you

Y James

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**HDC520801932**



**Julia Martin**

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**From:** Bart G. Leslie  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 17 April 2019 6:26 PM  
**To:** Records Team  
**Subject:** FW: Keirunga Reserve

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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**From:** Customer Service (External)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 12 March 2019 11:06 AM  
**To:** Bart G. Leslie <bartgl@hdc.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** FW: Keirunga Reserve

Good Afternoon Bart

Please find below Keirunga Garden review.

Kind Regards



**JANET MCCORMACK**  
 CUSTOMER SERVICE

Phone 06 8715000  
 Email [Web hastingsdc.govt.nz](mailto:web@hastingsdc.govt.nz)  
 Hastings District Council, Private Bag 9002, Hastings 4156, New Zealand

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**From:** V Howles [<mailto:vahowles@yahoo.com.au>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 12 March 2019 11:03 AM  
**To:** Customer Service (External) <[customerservice@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:customerservice@hdc.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** Keirunga Reserve

Good morning

I have been following the discussions about the trees in Keirunga Gardens with interest and welcome the latest review.

As a regular dog walker in the Gardens, I am also very concerned about the state of the two elevated paths which run parallel to the main path leading from the Tanner Street entrance. Both paths were clear and easy to negotiate until the last few months when they have both been neglected to the point where they are dangerous to use. They are overgrown not only with grasses but also with very large stinging nettles and deadly nightshade and the paths are scarcely wide enough to allow one foot in front of the other. One of the paths is slipping away and is now sloping and very narrow. Since these paths are a useful and attractive

alternative to the main path and give much greater variety of walks (and sniffs!) to dogs I would welcome your comments about any plans the council has to upgrade these paths.

Many thanks

Vivienne Howles

8 Rakau Street  
Havelock North

06 650 2023

Item 6

Submission No. 210