

Minutes of a meeting of the Maungatautari Reserve Committee held in the Committee Room, Cambridge Service Centre, 23 Wilson Street, Cambridge on Wednesday 1 August 2007 commencing at 9.00am.

1 PRESENT

Councillor RJ Cooper - Chairperson

Members

S Mackinder (Landowner representative), JB Mylchreest (Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust), R Smith (Parawera Marae), P Tairi (Maungatautari Marae) – from item 7, B Townend (Landowner representative)

Staff

Project Manager – Heritage Development & Reserves Planning (T Roxburgh), Secretary (C Plowright)

Committee member Smith opened the meeting with a Karakia.

2 APOLOGIES

RESOLVED

10/07/24

That apologies for absence be received from Councillor Flay and Mayor Livingston.

J Mylchreest/S Mackinder

3 LATE ITEMS

Nil.

4 CONFIRMATION OF ORDER OF MEETING

File: 01-85-26

RESOLVED

10/07/25

That the order of the meeting be confirmed.

J Mylchreest/S Mackinder

5 VISITORS

Nil.

6 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File: 01-85-26

Minutes of meeting held on 13 June 2007 were included in the agenda.

RESOLVED

10/07/26

That the minutes of the meeting of the Maungatautari Reserve Committee held on 13 June 2007 be received.

S Mackinder/J Mylchreest

7 MAUNGATAUTARI RESERVE COMMITTEE – OFFICER’S REPORT

File: 01-85-26

Report of Project Manager – Heritage Development and Reserves Planning dated 23 July 2007 was included in the agenda.

RESOLVED

10/07/27

That the report of Project Manager – Heritage Development and Reserves Planning dated 23 July 2007 be received.

S Mackinder/B Townend

Following on from discussion at the previous meeting, the Committee was presented with four options for managing the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve now that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Council and MEIT is due for review, and was asked for comment.

[Committee Member Tairi joined the meeting at 9.10am.]

Committee Member Mylchreest said the fourth option (Council employing staff to meet its statutory obligations and working with MEIT) could see funding opportunities and input from volunteers significantly reduced. He said his preference was either a renewed MOU or a contract for service agreement. He said he would report back to the Committee when he has discussed the options with MEIT.

Committee Member Mylchreest said the Reserves Act makes it clear that Council, as the administering body, is responsible for the eradication of pests from the reserve although this has not been funded by Council to date.

Project Manager – Heritage Development and Reserves Planning, Tony Roxburgh, said if a “Contract for Service” Agreement was the preferred option someone would need to clearly identify Council’s responsibilities and those areas MEIT is responsible for because of the added value it has brought to the reserve.

Committee Member Tairi said he would like discuss the matter with the Maungatautari Marae Committee and obtain a recommendation from tangata whenua. He said other affected Marae could also have an opinion on the matter.

Mr Roxburgh suggested that, in the meantime, some work could be done on quantifying the day-to-day costs of running the reserve

RESOLVED

10/07/28

That Committee Members Mylchreest and Tairi work with Council’s Project Manager – Heritage Development and Reserves Planning, Tony Roxburgh, to identify the day-to-day running costs of the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve.

R Smith/B Taranaki

Referring to the track marking issue raised at the last meeting, Mr Roxburgh said the Department of Conservation (DOC) has confirmed this is standard practice throughout New Zealand and there is no intention to change it. He said DOC believe the track marking standards adopted are safe and clearly identifiable to users of the tracks. He said the trees would not be damaged by the markers provided they are attached in an appropriate manner.

There was discussion concerning the most appropriate location for a public toilet in the vicinity of the southern enclosure. Committee Member Mylchreest said MEIT, following approval from John Ingles, placed an order for composting toilet units over three months’ ago, but this has now been cancelled because of delivery problems, and MEIT are looking at other options. He said MEIT would continue to work with Council on finding a solution as, ideally, toilets need to be installed before the next summer season.

8 PROGRESS REPORT FROM MAUNGATAUTARI ECOLOGICAL ISLAND TRUST

File: 01-85-26

Progress Report from the Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust dated 25 July 2007 was included in the agenda.

RESOLVED

10/07/29

That the progress report from the Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust dated 25 July 2007 be received.

B Townend/S Mackinder

A report from the Regional Food Safety Authority on the review of pest control operations on Maungatautari was circulated. Committee Member Mylchreest said the report supports the action taken by MEIT following the poison spill and confirms that the Code of Practice was adhered to.

Committee Member Mylchreest said the third aerial poison operation has still not been undertaken because of unsettled weather patterns. He said MEIT plan to undertake 90% of the poison drop, avoiding stock sensitive areas, during the next period of fine weather and the remainder will be done after lambing.

The results of research work recently undertaken (to test how quickly pests on the outside of the fence would find holes and access the mountain) was reported in the agenda and photographs were tabled at the meeting. He said the work emphasises the importance of repairing the fence as quickly as possible after any breach occurs. He said that information also warrants the establishment of a buffer zone around the fence and regular pest control.

A table recording breaches in the fence was attached to the report and it was agreed to include this information in each agenda in future.

The five kaka bred at Auckland Zoo are now in quarantine and will be brought to Maungatautari as soon as they are available. Species being looked at for reintroduction next year are kokako, whiteheads and robins. Committee Member Mylchreest said it costs approximately \$25,000 - \$30,000 to translocate and manage each species.

There being no further business the meeting closed with a karakia at 10.47am.

CHAIRPERSON _____

DATE _____

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Next meeting: 9.00am on Wednesday 3 October 2007 in the Committee Room, Cambridge

