

*Minutes of a meeting of the Pirongia Reserves Management Committee held in the Council Chambers, 101 Bank Street, Te Awamutu on Wednesday 23 August 2006 commencing at 2.00 pm.*

## **1 MEMBERS**

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His Worship the Mayor Alan Livingston

### **Members**

Cr Diane Sharpe, Cr Bruce Thomas, Sally Uerata, Alison Guy

Stuart Henderson (arrived late due to going to Cambridge for meeting)

### **Staff**

Ross McNeil (Group Manager – Policy & Strategy)

### **Public**

## **2 APOLOGIES**

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Tom Roa (unable to attend due to the passing of Te Arikinui Dame Te Atairangikaahu; and the important role he is involved with in the funeral commemoration and Kingitanga process).

## **3 LATE ITEMS**

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Nil.

## **4 CONFIRMATION OF ORDER OF MEETING**

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File: 01-22-21

### **RESOLVED**

*That the order of the meeting be confirmed.*

Diane Sharpe / Sally Uerata

## **5 VISITORS**

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Clare St Pierre (Chairperson – Pirongia Te Aroaro o Kahu Restoration Society Inc.)

## **6 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

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As this is the inaugural meeting of the Pirongia Reserves Committee, there are no previous minutes.

## **7 BACKGROUND**

Mayor Livingston welcomed everyone to the inaugural meeting of the Pirongia Reserves Management Committee and invited Max Ward – Asset Manager – Recreation to give a brief update on the issues surrounding the three recreation reserves in Pirongia – Section 1 (Franklin Street), Section 550 (Crozier Street) and Section 167 (Belcher and McClure Streets).

Mr Ward said that all three reserves were interlinked with commonalities affecting each, and the reserves had been designated from Local Purpose to Recreation.

The Pirongia Rural Fire Force (currently sited on Section 1) are interested in Section 167 or Section 550. They are looking to either extend their existing facility or relocate to another site. Planning consent to erect a building on Section 167 has been received by Council and is being processed at present. If, due to lack of funds, the Fire Force is unable to build, they will stay where they are.

The Pirongia Restoration Society wish to relocate a building (ex-classroom from Pirongia School) for the purpose of establishing an environmental education centre. They are interested in Section 1 or Section 550.

Trees were removed from Section 550 as they were a hazard in the urban environment. The contractor has given a start date of September 1 (the delay has been due to inclement weather and waiting for the confirmed Health & Safety plans from the Contractor). The cost of removing the trees is \$5,500 - \$6,000 with the firewood going to the Lions Club.

Mr Ward produced a concept drawing of Section 550. Sally and Allison both said that Carol Fraser had drawn up a concept plan for Section 167 some years before.

***Action: Council to undertake to pull together any plans that may have been approved and send out to members with minutes.***

Sally spoke on behalf of Purekireki Marae and said they opposed the Fire Force moving to Section 167 for two reasons:

- 1) There was no reason to change;
- 2) The Marae would oppose the noise nuisance that the Fire Force siren made; where it is now the neighbouring sections are used to the noise.

Stuart said that whilst he recognised the concerns of the Marae, at a public meeting it was ascertained that the number of callouts is very minimal and mostly in daylight hours; and that the Fire Force were looking to stop using the Siren and using pagers instead (this is a nationwide objective).

Group Manager Policy and Strategy, Ross McNeil, reiterated that the Committee's role is to recommend to Council how it thinks the Reserves should be managed and developed, and whilst their views would be taken into account, the ultimate decision lies with Council. What buildings went where on the sections, access ways etc were a matter for the Resource Consent process.

Clare St Pierre spoke about the proposed Environmental Education Centre being relocated to Section 550 – fully endorsed by the community of Pirongia. It would increase the usability of the reserve with access to toilets and other amenities with plenty of open space still available. There is no record of a soakage area but really can't tell until you start excavating.

**RESOLVED**

*That the information from the Pirongia Te Aroaro o Kahu Restoration Society on the proposed establishment of an Environmental Education Centre in Pirongia be received.*

Alison Guy / Bruce Thomas

After much discussion it was decided that the Committee really needed further information from Council staff to be able to make a recommendation with confidence to Council. Therefore the following motion was tabled:

**RESOLVED**

*Further work be done by Council staff so a suitable outcome can be sought; timeline in conjunction with Resource Consent for Fire Force.*

Alan Livingston / Alison Guy

**CHAIRPERSON** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Next meeting: To be advised.**

**All meetings to be held in the Council Chambers, 101 Bank Street, Te Awamutu unless otherwise advised. Mileage Forms to be posted out with minutes.**