
WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL

MINUTES 15 NOVEMBER 2007

1 MEMBERS

His Worship the Mayor, Alan Livingston, (Chairperson)

Waipa District Councillor, Barbara Taranaki – until item 5.7
Eris Parker – Cambridge Museum/Cambridge Historical Society
Mary Hurst – Te Awamutu Historical Society
Sabina Owen – Pirongia Historic Visitor Centre
Bev Dean – Cambridge Museum/Cambridge Historical Society
Heather Garrett – Te Pahu District
Alan Hall – Pirongia Historic Visitor Centre
Max Quirk – Kihikihi District
Annie Fullerton – Ohaupo District
Sharon Toi – Te Awamutu Museum

In Attendance

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

Public – Nil

2 APOLOGIES

RESOLVED

That apologies for absence be received from Jennie Gainsford, Gail Henry and Neville Ritchie.

M Hurst/A Fullerton

3 LATE ITEMS

A late item was requested on Plan Change 47 – Picquet Hill Residential.

4 CONFIRMATION OF ORDER OF MEETING

File: 65-11-02

RESOLVED

That the order of the meeting be confirmed.

M Hurst/A Fullerton

5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File: 65-11-02

Minutes of Meeting held on 20 September 2007 were included in the agenda.

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RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council held on 20 September 2007, having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record.

H Garrett/Cr Taranaki

Matters Arising –

5.1 Major Jackson's House

Max Quirk asked if any progress had been made on this issue since the last meeting. Project Manager – Heritage Development and Reserves Planning, Tony Roxburgh, said Council's Building Control Manager has advised there are no outstanding issues in relation to the building consent and there is no obligation on the property owner to do anymore than he has currently done.

5.2 Update of D Holman Study of Heritage Buildings in Waipa

Heather Garrett tabled a booklet produced for Hamilton City Council by Venetia Sherson (through WINTEC).

Mary Hurst said buildings that are too recent to qualify for Historic Places Trust classification, but have some historical/heritage significance (such as the house Roger Swarbrick built) need to be recorded by Council. She said historical trees also need to be recorded. Mayor Livingston said the forthcoming District Plan review would be an opportune time to address those matters. He said there was merit in having a booklet produced by WINTEC to record Waipa's built heritage.

Alan Hall suggested an advisory group (which is knowledgeable on the buildings) should be asked to comment on the booklet before it is published to ensure accuracy.

5.3 Annual Works Programme

Councillor Taranaki asked if any progress had been made with the projects identified for inclusion in the annual works programme. Mr Roxburgh said those projects would be managed by the Museums and Heritage Manager but, as an appointment has yet to be made, there is no progress to report. Mayor Livingston said it would be helpful if staff could advise the Heritage Council which of those projects Council sees as a priority and would be prepared to provide some funding for in the coming year. He said this would enable the Heritage Council to make a submission to the 2008/09 Annual Plan (either in support of those projects or requesting additional funding for other projects).

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5.4 Orakau Battle Site

Mr Roxburgh said a survey plan is being prepared which will then be submitted to Council to complete the Environmental Protection Lot provisions.

5.5 Matakitaki Pa

Mr Roxburgh said a meeting is being held on 22 November with local Iwi, DOC and possibly archaeologist Sonya Frimmel to obtain their input on the draft Conservation Plan. When finalised the Plan will be sent to the Historic Places Trust for approval.

5.6 Storage of Archaeological Material

Referring to the discussion held at the last meeting, Mary Hurst asked if the Te Awamutu Historical Society would have any say in the ownership of artefacts and archives held by the Te Awamutu Museum. Interim Museum Manager, Sharon Toi, said a Memorandum of Understanding between Council and the Museum Trust Board outlines those responsibilities. Mayor Livingston said if the Te Awamutu Historical Society has any concerns it should take them up directly with the Te Awamutu Museum Trust Board.

5.7 Heritage Newsletter

Mayor Livingston said articles for the next newsletter are currently being compiled. It will be four pages in length and the emphasis will be on archaeological and historical features. It is hoped a draft layout will be available before Christmas.

5.8 Resource Consent Applications

Alan Hall said resource consent applications sent to members since the last meeting (relating to S McKenzie and EW Hulse) had not had historical or archaeological considerations.

A copy of the Heritage Council's submission on the proposed grocery store in Franklin Street, Pirongia was tabled. Mayor Livingston said submissions on that resource consent application would be heard at the 27 November Regulatory Committee meeting.

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6 MEMBERS REPORTS

6.1 Waipa District Council (Mayor Livingston)

Mr Roxburgh said there had been debate at a previous meeting about the style of markers that should be used for the Heritage Trail. He said Council is keen to progress this project and requires clarification from the Heritage Council on the type of posts/markers/shields that should be used. Eris Parker said she felt staff should determine the design because Heritage Council members had not been able to agree on one. Mr Roxburgh said if there was no objection he would proceed along those lines.

Alan Hall said the numbers on the posts should be removable so the order can be rearranged if required. Eris said the numbering in the Heritage Trail brochure is incorrect. Mr Roxburgh said he has discussed the layout of the brochure with Council's Communications Advisor who feels there is too much information contained in one brochure and it would be better spread over a series of themed publications (i.e. Maori land war sites, natural features, etc). He said it was hoped to provide more information on that approach at the next meeting.

6.2 Te Awamutu Museum (Sharon Toi)

A public access database has been installed in the foyer so visitors can access archival information through a computerised system. A photography exhibition (from the recent Rose and Cultural Festival) is displaying until the end of November. It will be replaced by Metaphysical Heart – a jewellery exhibition. There are plans to hold an exhibition about the main trunk railway line in 2008.

Sharon said visitor numbers are down compared to the same period last year due to the time it has taken to replace the Education Facilitator and subsequently, lower classroom numbers. She said Council is still actively seeking a Heritage and Museums Manager. A Registrar and an Archivist are also being sought.

6.3 Te Awamutu Historical Society

Bev Dean said she has editions 1, 3 and 4 of the "Bulletins" that Stephanie Lambert has been trying to source. Sharon Toi said she would let Stephanie know.

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6.4 Cambridge Museum/Cambridge Historical Society (Eris Parker, Bev Dean)

Eris Parker said it has been really busy at the Cambridge Museum with lots of visitors during the last school holidays. She said consultants have been engaged by Council to assist the Museum with its transition as it becomes a part of Council's operations. This has focussed on job structures, policies and health and safety issues.

Mayor Livingston mentioned the 100th anniversary of the Victoria Bridge, scheduled to take place at 1.30pm on 15 December, which would try to replicate the opening of the Bridge in 1907. The Governor-General will officiate together with the Maori King. He said, following the official ceremony, 100 years of transport would cross the Bridge and travel up Victoria Street.

Bev Dean commended Mayor Livingston and Council on a very good Armistice Day commemoration. She said the Cambridge Historical Society had a successful AGM recently at which there was a display of early postcards and commemorative china from the opening of the Victoria Bridge. She said Michael Cole is the new President.

6.5 NZ Historic Places Trust

No report.

6.6 Department of Conservation

No report.

6.7 Pirongia Historic Visitor Centre (Alan Hall and Sabina Owen)

Alan Hall said a new archaeological tour of the south of Pirongia has just been developed and a repeat of the previous tour, to the north of Pirongia, is being held on 17 November. A repeat of the Path of War tour, organised last summer, is being scheduled for February/March 2008. A number of groups have visited the Centre and it has been involved in the SCREAM festival. However, visitor numbers are down which it is felt has been due to the disruption caused by the main street upgrade work.

Sabina Owen said Centre volunteers have been working on the installation of UV protection film on the windows. She said the Centre has an acquisitions policy and would like to be advised if the Te Awamutu Museum decides to dispose of any items.

6.8 Te Pahu District (Heather Garrett)

Heather said a booklet on the history of the Te Pahu Hall has been produced.

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6.9 Kihikihi District (Max Quirk)

Max Quirk said an open day is being held at the Kihikihi Police House at 1.30pm on 6 December. A plaque from the Historic Places Trust is to be presented acknowledging that the building is 100 years old.

Max said it is hoped to open a display in August 2008 commemorating John Rochfort, who surveyed the main trunk line, as this will coincide with the anniversary of the first train trip. He said he has suggested to the Te Awamutu Community Board that the reserve on the corner of Hall and Bryce Street should be named "Rochfort Park". Mayor Livingston said he would follow up on that suggestion with the Board.

6.10 Ohaupo District (Annie Fullerton)

Annie Fullerton said new poles have been erected at the front of the antiques shop which has made the northern entrance to Ohaupo look a bit tidier. She said the pub has been refurbished and a new art gallery has been opened. She said the school will celebrate its 140th jubilee in 18 months' time.

7 CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Inwards Correspondence

- Letter from Council dated 9 November 2007 advising that the resource consent application relating to KG Curtis to construct a Superette will be heard on 27 November 2007.
- Letter from Stewart Harvey dated 11 September 2007 regarding Historic Cemeteries Trust of New Zealand. Mayor Livingston asked that staff send an acknowledgement to Mr Harvey.

7.2 Outwards Correspondence

Letter to Council's Planning Services Manager dated 11 October 2007 regarding review of the District Plan.

RESOLVED

That the inwards correspondence be received and the outwards correspondence be approved.

M Quirk/E Parker

8 WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL UNRESOLVED RECOMMENDATIONS

Heritage Council members reviewed the list of recommendations and a number were deleted (updated list is attached to the minutes).

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9 LATE ITEM – PICQUET HILL PLAN CHANGE

Alan Hall said the Heritage Council had previously recommended that a suitable site should be selected and kept as a reserve to commemorate the military picquet in this area. He said was pleased to see that the Heritage Council's wishes had been taken seriously by Council and a site has been signalled.

10 ITEMS FOR NEXT WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL MEETING

Items for the next meeting to be provided to the secretary 14 days before each meeting. This can be done by writing to Waipa District Council (attention Noelene Barr) or phoning her on 07 823 3800 or emailing her on nbar@waipadc.govt.nz

It was asked that an item be included on the next agenda about the storage of archaeological material – Neville Ritchie will speak about this if he is present.

11 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council will be held on Thursday 24 January 2008 in Committee Room 1, Waipa District Council Offices, 101 Bank Street, Te Awamutu commencing at 10.00am.

Meeting dates for 2008 will be sent out with the minutes.

The meeting closed at 12.20pm.