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# WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL

## MINUTES 20 APRIL 2006

*Minutes of a meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council held in the Committee Room, 23 Wilson Street, Cambridge on 20 April 2006 commencing at 10.00am.*

### **1 MEMBERS**

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Waipa District Councillor, Barbara Taranaki (Chairperson)

Roger Swarbrick – Te Awamutu Museum  
Bev Dean – Cambridge Museum/Cambridge Historical Society  
Gail Henry – NZ Historic Places Trust  
Heather Garrett – NZ Historic Places Trust  
Neville Ritchie – Department of Conservation  
Sabina Owen – Pirongia Historic Visitor Centre  
Alan Hall – Pirongia Historic Visitor Centre  
Mary Hurst – Te Awamutu Historical Society  
Max Quirk – Kihikihi District  
Annie Fullerton – Ohaupo District

#### **In Attendance**

Secretary (C Plowright)

**Public** – Nil.

### **2 APOLOGIES**

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#### **RESOLVED**

*That apologies for absence be received from Mayor Livingston, Eris Parker, Jennie Gainsford and Toni Fortune.*

Mary Hurst/Neville Ritchie

### **3 LATE ITEMS**

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Annie Fullerton asked for a late item on the roadworks by Kaipaki Church.

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

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File: 65-11-02

#### **RESOLVED**

*That the order of the meeting be confirmed.*

Heather Garrett/Bev Dean

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### 5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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File: 65-11-02

**Minutes of Meeting held on 16 March 2006 were included in the agenda.**

**RESOLVED**

*That the minutes of the meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council held on 16 March 2006, having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record.*

Neville Ritchie/Sabina Owen

**Matters Arising**

**5.1 Matakitaki Pa**

Members were advised that work on the fence has not yet started due to delays with the contractor. However, the tree work is now complete which has opened up the car park very well.

There was discussion following on from the previous meeting about the request to rename the Pirongia Rugby Club grounds as "Matakitaki". The consensus of opinion amongst members was that changing the name would cause confusion, as it was not a part of the original Pa site, and that local residents who have been asked do not favour changing the name.

**RESOLVED**

*That the Waipa Heritage Council recommends to Council that there be no change to the name of the Pirongia Rugby Club Sports grounds.*

Mary Hurst/Alan Hall

Sabina Owen said Matakitaki Pa would qualify for a grant of up to \$10,000 from the Lottery Grants Board for the preparation of a Conservation Plan. Gail Henry said she had spoken to Council's Project Manager – Heritage Development and Reserves Planning, Tony Roxburgh, about the suggestion and she would write a letter in support of the funding application from NZHPT when required.

**RESOLVED**

*That the Waipa Heritage Council recommends that Council give priority to preparation of a Conservation Plan for Matakitaki Pa in line with best practise for such sites.*

Gail Henry/Heather Garrett

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### 5.2 Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust

Bev Dean said good progress is being made with the fence, with one kilometre a day being constructed at present, and it is on target for completion by July. She said MEIT hope to hear soon from central government as to whether financial assistance with the project will be forthcoming. She said a classroom has been obtained from Kihikihi School and would be set up as an education centre.

### 5.3 Footprints Publication

Mary Hurst said the Footprints group had not been able to meet since the last WHC meeting so there was no progress to report.

### 5.4 Waipa Natural Heritage Council

There was discussion following on from the last meeting about whether the proposed Waipa Natural Heritage Council should be a group in its own right or should become a part of the Waipa Heritage Council. It was agreed that it would be inappropriate for the environmental heritage group to become a part of the Heritage Council although it was felt it would be important for the Heritage Council to be kept advised of what the environmental heritage group is involved in (through a copy of its minutes or reports from staff). Heritage Council members said they felt it wasn't their role to express a view on whether such a group should be formed and it should be left for Council to decide. However, if an environmental heritage group is formed it was felt it would be confusing if it was also called a "Heritage Council" and alternative names, such as Eco-Restoration Committee, were suggested.

#### **RESOLVED**

*That the Waipa Heritage Council maintain its status quo with respect to its representation and its primary focus, which is historic heritage.*

Neville Ritchie/Gail Henry

WHC members said they felt it was extremely important to have a member of staff in attendance at Heritage Council meetings. Preferably this should be Heritage Manager, Andrew McFarlane, but it was asked if, in his absence, Tony Roxburgh could attend the meetings.

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### 5.5 Heritage Awards Programme

The Chairperson said that membership of the Heritage Awards Programme Judging Panel was confirmed at the 18 April Council meeting and will be -

- Three members of the Waipa Heritage Council (Heather Garrett, Annie Fullerton and Alan Hall).
- Three elected members of Council
  - Mayor (Alan Livingston)
  - Chairperson of Waipa Heritage Council (Councillor Barbara Taranaki)
  - Member of Museum Trust Board (Councillor Alan Empson)
- One Council staff member – Heritage Manager (Andrew McFarlane)

Mary Hurst asked if Council had noted the Heritage Council's suggestion that Category 1 (Restoration) should be "*sympathetic to the materials, styles and craftsmanship of that period*" as opposed to "*using the materials, styles.....*" because it would be too limiting. Gail Henry said that was in line with NZHPT practice. The Chairperson said she was unsure if the wording could be changed because it has already been adopted by Council. It was suggested that if it is too late to change the wording for the category the criteria might be able to be adjusted.

#### **RESOLVED**

*That the Waipa Heritage Council strongly recommends that Council substitute the words "**using the materials, styles and craftsmanship of that period**" with "**sympathetic to the materials, styles and craftsmanship of that period**" in the first award category (Restoration) which is in line with current heritage best practise.*

Annie Fullerton/Mary Hurst

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## **6 MEMBERS REPORTS**

### **6.1 Waipa District Council** (Mayor Alan Livingston, Councillor Barbara Taranaki)

The Chairperson mentioned an issue concerning a protected tree and updated WHC members on progress with the LTCCP.

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### 6.2 Te Awamutu Museum (Toni Fortune)

Mary Hurst said the new Curator starts next week but unfortunately the new Receptionist is unable to continue because of transport problems.

Mary said the motorised heritage trail brochure is almost ready for printing. Sabina Owen asked if access instructions would be provided in the brochure for sites such as Waiari Pa. Mary said Pirongia heritage sites would be covered in another brochure. Neville Ritchie said the motorised heritage trail features sites that can be seen by driving past rather than getting out and physically accessing them. Alan Hall suggested that there be a cautionary statement in the brochure that visitors do not have automatic permission to access the sites.

### 6.3 Te Awamutu Historical Society (Roger Swarbrick, Mary Hurst, Mike Williams)

No report.

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

Bev Dean mentioned a recent article in the Cambridge Edition in which Eris Parker expressed concern at the over-enthusiastic water blasting of the Cambridge Cenotaph base. She said there had been similar complaints about water blasting of headstones at Hautapu Cemetery and Heather Garrett said similar damage had been done at the Isobel Temple Cottage. Gail Henry said she was appalled that these historic structures have been damaged and that this type of work should not be undertaken without first obtaining specialist advice. She suggested that Council establish special criteria for the care of heritage structures that are in its guardianship.

#### **RESOLVED**

*That Waipa Heritage Council strongly recommends that Waipa District Council seek specialist advice on the cleaning/maintenance of heritage structures that are in its guardianship such as war memorials and buildings and look to establish guidelines.*

Neville Ritchie/Bev Dean

### 6.5 NZ Historic Places Trust (Gail Henry, Heather Garrett)

Heather Garrett advised that NZHPT has appointed a new Chief Executive, Bruce Chapman. She also mentioned the recent presentation of a NZHPT certificate to the Pirongia Historic Visitor Centre.

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### 6.6 Department of Conservation (Neville Ritchie)

Neville Ritchie mentioned that his booklet "Waikato War of 1863-64 – A Guide to the Main Events and Sites" has been well received with only 250 of the original 3000 print run left. Neville also provided an update on the excavation related issues mentioned at the previous meeting.

### 6.7 Pirongia Historic Visitor Centre (Sabina Owen, Alan Hall)

Nothing to report.

### 6.8 Kihikihi District (Max Quirk)

Max Quirk said there was no progress to report on Major Jackson's house. He said work has started on the new reservoir (corner of Grey/Rolleston Streets) and the sewerage upgrade project is nearing completion.

### 6.9 Ohaupo District (Annie Fullerton)

Annie Fullerton said she was concerned to hear that shape correction work on Kaipaki Road would result in a new subdivision of three sections in front of Kaipaki Church. She said the church is frequently used and very well maintained by the community. She said local residents are disappointed that this iconic rural church would be spoilt by new development in front of it. She asked if it was too late to do anything about the sections and, if so, whether covenants could be placed on them to ensure only suitable style houses are built there.

#### **RESOLVED**

*That the Waipa Heritage Council advises Council that it considers the Kaipaki Church and its curtilage an important heritage landscape in rural Waipa and as such it is concerned about plans to downgrade that landscape through subdivision.*

Annie Fullerton/Gail Henry

On the subject of rural churches, Heather Garrett said she was concerned to hear about a proposal to build a catering facility at St Paul's Church, Rangioawhia. Roger Swarbrick advised that she write to the Parish of St John's concerning the matter.

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## 7 CORRESPONDENCE

### 7.1 Inwards Correspondence

Nil.

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### 7.2 Outwards Correspondence

Nil.

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## 8 ITEMS FOR NEXT WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL MEETING

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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 Cathy Plowright) or phoning her on 07 872 0030 extension 7511 or emailing her on [cplo@waipadc.govt.nz](mailto:cplo@waipadc.govt.nz)

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## 9 NEXT MEETING

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The next meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council will be held at 10.00 am on Thursday, 18 May 2006 in Committee Room 2, Waipa District Council Offices, 101 Bank Street, Te Awamutu.

The meeting closed at 12.07pm.