
WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL

MINUTES 16 MARCH 2006

Minutes of a meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council held in Committee Room 2, Waipa District Council Offices, 101 Bank Street, Te Awamutu on 16 March 2006 commencing at 10.00am.

1 ATTENDANCE

Waipa District Councillor, Barbara Taranaki (Chairperson)
Eris Parker – Cambridge Museum/Cambridge Historical Society
Bev Dean – Cambridge Museum/Cambridge Historical Society
Gail Henry – NZ Historic Places Trust
Heather Garrett – NZ Historic Places Trust
Jenny Gainsford – NZ Historic Places Trust/Cambridge Historical Society
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

Strategic Planning & Development Manager (A McFarlane), Secretary (C Plowright)

Public – Nil.

2 APOLOGIES

RESOLVED

That apologies for absence be received from Mayor Livingston and Roger Swarbrick.

Neville Ritchie/Eris Parker

3 LATE ITEMS

Eris Parker asked for advice on the proposed new Council policies currently out for public submission on Earthquake Proof and Dangerous/Insanitary Buildings. Strategic Planning and Development Manager, Andrew McFarlane, said he would obtain some information from Council's Building Control Manager.

4 CONFIRMATION OF ORDER OF MEETING

File: 65-11-02

RESOLVED

That the order of the meeting be confirmed.

Heather Garrett/Annie Fullerton

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5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File: 65-11-02

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

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council held on 16 February 2006, having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record subject to amendment of the word "Waipa" to "Ohaupo" in item 6.9 and amendment of the word "Forkert" to "Ryburn" on page six.

Alan Hall/Max Quirk

Matters Arising

5.1 Matakitalaki Pa

Alan Hall said he understood from Council staff that work is due to start on the fence and carpark week commencing 20 March. He said it was hoped that the style of bollard for the fencing would be used for the entire site and on other historic sites. Neville Ritchie said it was important for Council to choose a generic design that could be used for both Maori and European sites. It was felt that bollards with a pointed top were inappropriate as they could be dangerous. Andrew said he would follow up on this aspect with Project Manager - Heritage Development and Reserves Planning, Tony Roxburgh.

Neville said it would be advisable for the Matakitalaki Pa Working Group to put together a full work programme for the whole site, rather than applying to the NZHPT for each stage of the work. Gail Henry advised that best practise would be to prepare a conservation plan for the site. Sabina Owen said funding organisations such as the Lotteries Grants Board would not provide funds for the management of an area unless it has a conservation plan. She said she would enquire with Lotteries and Trust Waikato to see if Matakitalaki Pa would qualify for a grant to assist with the development of a conservation plan and Gail Henry said she would write a letter of support for the application from NZHPT.

Andrew asked Heritage Council Members if they felt the Pirongia Rugby Sports Club grounds should be renamed "Matakitalaki" as has recently been suggested by the Purekireki Marae Committee. Although Heritage Council members did not discount the suggestion no strong feelings of support were voiced for it.

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5.2 Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust

Andrew McFarlane said Council staff have recently drafted a Maungatautari Bylaw covering issues such as limiting public access at certain times for certain activities and the management of concessions. He said the fencing project is more than half way through and MEIT are currently applying to Environment Waikato for permission to carry out the aerial poisoning operation later in the year.

Andrew said it has been suggested that Council should consider establishing a Waipa Natural Heritage Council, which would meet on a regular basis to discuss issues such as peat lake restoration and indigenous forests. He said the group could comprise some members of the Waipa Heritage Council but would also have members who are involved in environmental heritage. He asked WHC members if they felt it appropriate to meet every other month in future with the new natural heritage group meeting in the intervening months. Following discussion it was agreed that the WHC be given some time to think about the suggestion and it will be raised again at the next meeting.

5.3 Footprints Publication

Mary Hurst said a suitable editor has been found for the Footprints publication but, with the Te Awamutu Historical Society still in recess, there is still a requirement for someone to administer the publication for Te Awamutu and to provide funding for it. Andrew McFarlane said it was possible that the annual funding requirement of \$1,500 could be provided from a Council budget but there was no-one available to take ownership of the Te Awamutu side of the operation or to co-ordinate it. He suggested that someone at Te Awamutu College or a service group such as Greypower might be willing to take on that responsibility. Mary said members of the Footprints group would be meeting again soon to discuss the matter.

5.4 Mission House

Waipa Heritage Council members were advised that the contractor currently undertaking work on Pioneer Walk will be outlining the Mission House. He said he would be discussing the style and height of pavers that would be used to outline the Mission House, and how the area will be maintained, with Asset Manager Recreation, Max Ward.

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5.5 Heritage Awards Programme

A copy of the Heritage Awards Programme adopted by Council at its meeting on 28 February 2006 was included in the agenda.

Waipa Heritage Council members were advised that the judging panel will be a sub-committee of Council's Policy Committee with a membership of three elected members of Council, one Council staff member and three members of the Waipa Heritage Council and it will be established at the Policy Committee meeting on 10 April 2006.

RESOLVED

That the Waipa Heritage Council nominate Heather Garrett, Annie Fullerton and Alan Hall as representatives on the judging panel for the Waipa Heritage Awards.

Bev Dean/Neville Ritchie

Gail Henry suggested WHC members such as herself and Neville Ritchie could be called upon, from a technical perspective, to provide neutral comments to the judging panel on award nominees if required.

WHC members went through the 11 award categories and the following were noted as potential nominees for Heritage Awards -

Category 1 – Restoration

The old Teacher's House in Te Awamutu, the RSA and Calvert's Building in Cambridge, Isobel Temple Cottage in Kihikihi and Goodwood School.

Annie Fullerton said "using the materials, styles and craftsmanship of that period" would limit the number of buildings that could apply for this category and it would be better if the restoration was "sympathetic to the materials, styles and craftsmanship of that period".

Category 2 – Adaptive Re-use

The GPO in Cambridge, Major Jackson's Cottage in Kihikihi, the Olde Bank in Te Awamutu, the Ohaupo Bakery/Clock Shop.

Category 3 – New Design Sensitive Infill

Wilson's Flooring in Cambridge (for the veranda).

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Category 5 – Landscape Conservation and Open Space Heritage

MEIT, Lake Ngaroto, Kaniwhaniwha restoration project.

Category 6 - Heritage Education

Owen Wilkes

Category 7 – Public Service

Museum volunteers, Roger Swarbrick and the late Jim Mandeno.

Category 8 – Heritage Tourism

Pirongia Clydesdales, Pirongia Historic Visitor Centre and the Cambridge Visitor Information Centre.

Category 10 – Conservation Management Plans

MEIT

Category 11 – Archaeological Interpretation and/or Restoration

Owen Wilkes, Alexandra East Redoubt.

A number of the potential nominees would currently not qualify for an award because they would not fit within the criteria of the work being done in the last two years. Andrew said he would see if that criteria could be more flexible.

6 MEMBERS REPORTS

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

The Chairperson said Council's Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) was released on 17 March for public comment with submissions closing on 18 April. Andrew McFarlane suggested that WHC members look through the Plan to ensure heritage is receiving a high enough profile over the next 10 years.

6.2 Te Awamutu Museum (Toni Fortune)

The Senior Curator and Receptionist positions have now been filled. Estimates are being obtained to re do the land wars exhibition cabinets. Te Wanangao o Aotearoa will be setting up a student exhibition for the next eight weeks.

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

The Society is still in recess.

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

Eris Parker will be absent overseas for six weeks during April/May and she gave apologies for both the April and May Heritage Council meetings. A committee has been formed to co-ordinate the Cambridge Year of Celebrations in 2007 which will culminate in the centenary celebrations for Victoria Bridge.

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

Gail Henry provided clarification on what should happen to items recovered during the course of an excavation.

6.6 Department of Conservation (Neville Ritchie)

Neville Ritchie also spoke about excavation related issues.

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

Sabina Owen mentioned that the old school house in Pirongia has been moved to its temporary site and the community will be working on a permanent location for it. The Visitor Centre has received draft concept plans to upgrade the interior interpretation material. Sabina said she is still concerned about erosion at the Alexandra East Redoubt.

6.8 Kihikihi District (Max Quirk)

Max Quirk said good progress has been made with the sewerage upgrade project. There has been no progress with Major Jackson's House.

6.9 Ohaupo District (Annie Fullerton)

Nothing to report.

7 CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Inwards Correspondence

- Letter from Waipa District Council dated 6 March 2006 advising Notice of Requirement for a Designation (Te Awamutu Western Arterial).

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- Letter from Environmental Management Services dated 9 March 2006 inviting feedback on the Karapiro Domain draft landscape plan.
- Letter from Howick Historical Village dated 2 March 2006.

7.2 Outwards Correspondence

Letter to Debra Kane dated 20 February 2006.

RESOLVED

That the correspondence be received.

Mary Hurst/Eris Parker

8 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 Cathy Plowright) or phoning her on 07 872 0030 extension 7511 or emailing her on cplo@waipadc.govt.nz

9 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council will be held at 10.00 am on Thursday, 29 April 2006 in the Committee Room, 23 Wilson Street, Cambridge

The meeting closed at 12.37pm.