
WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL

MINUTES 16 FEBRUARY 2006

Minutes of a meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council held in the Committee Room, Cambridge Service Centre, 23 Wilson Street, Cambridge on 16 February 2006 commencing at 10.00am.

1 MEMBERS

Waipa District Councillor, Barbara Taranaki (Chairperson)

His Worship the Mayor, Alan Livingston
Roger Swarbrick – Te Awamutu Museum
Eris Parker – Cambridge Museum/Cambridge Historical Society
Bev Dean – Cambridge Museum/Cambridge Historical Society
Heather Garrett – NZ Historic Places Trust
Neville Ritchie – Department of Conservation
Alan Hall – Pirongia Historic Visitor Centre
Mary Hurst – Te Awamutu Historical Society
Max Quirk – Kihikihi District
Annie Fullerton – Ohaupo District

In Attendance

C Plowright (Secretary)

Public - Nil

2 APOLOGIES

RESOLVED

That apologies for absence be received from Gail Henry, Debra Kane, Andrew McFarlane, Sabina Owen and Toni Fortune.

Mary Hurst/Eris Parker

3 LATE ITEMS

Nil.

4 CONFIRMATION OF ORDER OF MEETING

File: 65-11-02

RESOLVED

That the order of the meeting be confirmed.

Neville Ritchie/Annie Fullerton

WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL

MINUTES 16 FEBRUARY 2006

5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File: 65-11-02

Minutes of Meeting held on 19 January 2006 were included in the agenda.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council held on 19 January 2006, having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record subject to the following amendments –

- *Replacement of Max Quirk with Andrew McFarlane under item 6.2.*
- *Replacement of the word “verandah” with “house” under item 6.8.*

Alan Hall/Max Quirk

Matters Arising

5.1 Matakītaki Pa

Neville Ritchie said it had been agreed with NZHPT that the boundary for this site is the present fence line. This will enable Council to upgrade the carpark, install bollards and replace the fence without the need to consult with NZHPT but an authority is required for any work inside the fence. He said funding is available to undertake this work.

Neville said that in the case of large projects such as this, NZHPT are insistent that the plan for the entire project should be outlined to them from the start, rather than it being submitted in a piecemeal way.

There was discussion about the existing sign at Matakītaki and agreed that, subject to NZHPT approval, this should be replaced with new interpretive signage when the carpark upgrade is undertaken. It was suggested that the old sign could be displayed at the Pirongia Historic Visitor Information Centre. It was also mentioned that a large tree, which is obscuring the site, would either be taken down or severely trimmed back.

5.2 Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust

Bev Dean said the perimeter fence is due for completion by 1 July 2006, which will allow for the next pest eradication programme to be undertaken later in the year.

WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL

MINUTES 16 FEBRUARY 2006

She said the Trust has taken out a bank overdraft to do the work in the hope that central government will decide to make a contribution towards the project on 1 April. She said Dr David Bellamy would be visiting MEIT briefly on 26 February. It was also mentioned that an oral history is being compiled, provided by people who have lived around Maungatautari, and it will be displayed in the Information Centre.

5.3 Footprints Publication

Mary Hurst said she would provide an update at the March WHC meeting.

5.4 Mission House

Heather Garrett said she had received notification from NZHPT in Wellington that the authority to lay the pavers and install the interpretive signage has been approved.

6 MEMBERS REPORTS

This item enables members to bring up issues in relation to the organisation/district they represent on the Heritage Council.

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

Mayor Livingston updated WHC members on the Policy Committee's recent recommendation to Council that a Heritage Awards Programme be established. He mentioned the 10 suggested award categories and said a judging panel would be formed to consider nominations received. The judging panel is to be made up of three elected members of Council, one staff member and three members of the Waipa Heritage Council. He said staff were working on qualifying criteria for nominations and issues such as whether people from outside of Waipa District could qualify was still to be decided. Another criteria to be decided is how far back in time a project or personality would be eligible for an award and, following discussion, it was agreed that this should be within the last two years as that was when the idea of heritage awards was first mooted by the WHC. Mayor Livingston said it was envisaged that there would be a number of award recipients at the first awards ceremony and thereafter it would probably be in conjunction with an annual event.

WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL

MINUTES 16 FEBRUARY 2006

Mayor Livingston said that in 2007 there would be a number of anniversaries to celebrate 50th, 60th, 80th and centenaries for various structures. He said the onus would be on the WHC to bring each of these occasions to the attention of the public. Eris Parker said it had been suggested that 2007 should be a "Cambridge Year of Celebrations" and a meeting, which has been publicly advertised, is being held on 22 February to discuss this proposal.

6.2 Te Awamutu Museum (Debra Kane/Toni Fortune)

Roger Swarbrick said the acting Director has resigned and the vacancy advertised. He said the Museum had been very busy over the past month.

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 outlined her trip to Europe during April/May when she will attend Le Quesnoy for the ANZAC Day commemoration and visit New Zealand war graves in France, Britain and Gallipoli. Eris will be absent for the April and May WHC meetings.

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

Heather Garrett said NZHPT would be presenting an award to the Pirongia community at 10.30am on 25 March for setting up and developing the Pirongia Historic Visitor Information Centre.

6.6 Department of Conservation (Neville Ritchie)

Neville Ritchie said having recently visited Selwyn Park he felt the laying of pavers to mark the Mission House would be a simple job with the minimum impact on the site. There was discussion about whether the pavers should be flush with the ground, like the ones at the Alexandra East Redoubt, or placed more prominently so they can be easily seen. There was also discussion about using sand when laying the pavers to provide more cushioning. Neville said he had passed on his thoughts regarding those issues, and how the area around the pavers should be maintained, to Asset Manager Recreation, Max Ward. Heather Garrett suggested that Council purchase a few additional pavers for any repair work required as certain styles and designs become difficult to obtain after a few years.

WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL

MINUTES 16 FEBRUARY 2006

Mayor Livingston said it had been suggested that the area from the Mission House site back towards Arawata Street should be kept free of events, in order to protect the area, and this would still leave plenty of space for events on the side closest to the Events Centre. He said it was also being planned to accommodate the Te Awamutu Walk of Fame in this area.

With respect to the Orakau Battle Site plaque, Neville said he felt it would be preferable for a member of Council staff to be driving this project, and Mayor Livingston said Tony Roxburgh would be asked to liaise with Neville on this issue.

Neville mentioned that the Queens Redoubt project at Pokeno has been renamed the "New Zealand Wars Interpretation Centre at Queens Redoubt, Pokeno" and would include all New Zealand wars and a national war memorial.

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

Alan Hall said the old school building was awaiting removal to the Kewish's property near Matakita Pa where it was allowed to stay for 12 months. He said the Visitor Centre had been busy and he mentioned a number of recent events. He said the Centre was in the process of setting up a computerised archive system for material not on display. He said the Centre's opening hours have been extended to four days and the number of people visiting the Centre has doubled since last year.

6.8 Kihikihi District (Max Quirk)

Max Quirk asked if a register of historic trees in Kihikihi could be set up and he mentioned the old oak trees at the school as an example. The Chairperson suggested that Max take up this suggestion with the Te Awamutu Community Board.

It was suggested that the Secretary write a letter on behalf of the WHC to Debra Kane, who has resigned from the Te Awamutu Museum, thanking her for the contribution she has made to the Heritage Council.

6.9 Ohaupo District (Annie Fullerton)

Annie Fullerton said the former Waipa Chambers in Ohaupo are still an eyesore with no evidence of external work. She said the Old Bakehouse is now a café as well as a clock shop. She said an old magnolia tree in front of Captain Richard's house (which is the oldest house in Waipa District) has died and been taken down. She also asked if a Walk of Fame for Ohaupo had been considered.

WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL

MINUTES 16 FEBRUARY 2006

Mayor Livingston explained where the new subdivision will be taking place in Ohaupo. This will be a small portion of residential zoned land behind the Catholic Church and a larger area of rural residential development between State Highway 3, the railway line and Forkert Road.

7 CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Inwards Correspondence

Nil.

7.2 Outwards Correspondence

Nil.

8 PUBLIC ACCESS TO HISTORICAL SITES

It was noted that Sabina Owen had asked for an item to be included in the agenda on the issue of public access on historical sites when the site is situated on leased reserve or paper road and, in Sabina's absence, Mary Hurst explained Sabina's concerns. Mayor Livingston explained that paper roads are regarded as public roads with public access and a number of them have been retained, rather than sold off to adjoining landowners, to provide public access to certain areas. In some instances, such as with Waiari Pa, public visit the site through the landowner's property rather than using the paper road because it is more direct and Mayor Livingston said it was courtesy to obtain permission from the landowner on such occasions.

9 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

10 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council will be held at 10.00 am on Thursday, 16 March 2006 in Committee Room 1, Waipa District Council Offices, 101 Bank Street, Te Awamutu

The meeting closed at 12 noon.