
WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL

MINUTES 21 JULY 2005

Minutes of a meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council held in Committee Room 1, Waipa District Council Offices, 101 Bank Street, Te Awamutu on Thursday 21 July 2005 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
Sabina Owen – Pirongia Historic Visitor Centre
Mary Hurst – Te Awamutu Historical Society
Alan Hall – Pirongia Historic Visitor Centre
Max Quirk – Kihikihi District

In Attendance

Planner (D Bayley), Committee Secretary (C Plowright)

Public - Nil

2 APOLOGIES

RESOLVED

That apologies for absence be received from Annie Fullerton, Debra Kane and Gail Henry.

Neville Ritchie/Mary Hurst

3 LATE ITEMS

Nil.

4 CONFIRMATION OF ORDER OF MEETING

File: 65-11-02

Barbara said item 10 (Proposed Plan Change 48) would be taken after item 5.

RESOLVED

That the order of the meeting be confirmed

Heather Garrett/Eris Parker

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5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File: 65-11-02

Minutes of Meeting held on 16 June 2005 were included in the agenda.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council held on 16 June 2005, having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record subject to the deletion of Mayor Livingston's name from those in attendance.

Neville Ritchie/Roger Swarbrick

Matters Arising

5.1 Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust

Mayor Livingston said submissions to the draft Maungatautari Reserve Management Plan had been considered by Council's Policy Committee on 11 July 2005 and some minor amendments have been made as a result. The draft Plan will be referred to the Iwi Consultative Committee meeting on 7 September, to Council on 27 September and then onto the Minister of Conservation for final approval. Mayor Livingston said a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Council and the Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust was being progressed and would also be coming to Council to approval. He said the first release of kiwi into the reserve's northern enclosure was due to take place on Saturday 23 July.

5.2 Alexandra East Redoubt

Sabina Owen said the first stage of the restoration work was not complete, as stated in the minutes, because there was still no fence or a new sign. Mayor Livingston said he understood a small fence along the front of the Redoubt was being arranged.

5.3 Waipa Heritage Council Unresolved Recommendations

Mayor Livingston said he would follow up on the offer from Te Awamutu Historical Society to fund the labour and materials for the marking of the Mission House site. He said that would have to happen regardless of future developments at Selwyn Park.

It was agreed to delete the entries for Major Jackson's house, the Cambridge RSA gun and the motorised heritage trail as these issues have been dealt with.

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Neville asked if work on heritage overlays was progressing (resolution passed on 15 July 2004). Mayor Livingston said he assumed that would be included in the review of Appendix 11 to the District Plan.

6 MEMBERS REPORTS

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

Mayor Livingston thanked Eris for speaking at the last Cambridge ANZAC day ceremony about the Cambridge men who served at Gallipoli.

He said an independent trust had been formed to undertake the repair of the locomotive that was formerly sited at Memorial Park. He said a conservation plan was being prepared to assist the Trust in obtaining funding from Lotteries and other environmental funding organisations and they are confident they can restore the locomotive, including its track system, operating by compressed air rather than steam. He said the Trust's vision is to have the locomotive displayed in a prominent place, covered by a shelter, being stationary but operational, and with historical information provided.

6.2 Te Awamutu Museum (Debra Kane/Toni Fortune)

Roger said areas of responsibility between the Museum, Council and the Museum Trust Board are still under negotiation.

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

Roger said the Society is still in recess.

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

Eris said Cambridge Museum was in the same position as Te Awamutu Museum with respect to its relationship with Council. She mentioned a suggestion that has been received concerning the production of a CD/DVD containing motorised heritage trail information. Mayor Livingston said Andrew McFarlane would be asked to speak to Eris about that idea.

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Bev said the repainting of the old Post Office is progressing well as is the extension to the back of the building. The old railway gates on Lake Road are being given an upgrade.

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

Heather mentioned the NZHPT 50th anniversary event that is taking place on 13 August in Cambridge and, in particular, the "Heritage on Ice" lecture which will be held at 7.30pm at the St Andrew's Hall. Mayor Livingston said Council had provided the NZHPT with \$500 towards the running costs for the event in recognition of its work in Waipa District.

6.6 Department of Conservation (Neville Ritchie)

Neville updated WHC members on what is happening with New Zealand Archaeological Association file keeping arrangements and field trips since the passing of Owen Wilkes.

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

Sabina said a ceremony had been held for the placing of the new sign outside the Visitor Centre.

Sabina said the trees on Section 550, behind the Visitor Centre, are due to be cut down and she is concerned because this is the site of the old Constabulary Hall where there would be a lot of archaeological interest. Mayor Livingston said the site would only be disturbed if the roots were taken out as well as the trees. Sabina said the matter had been referred to Andrew McFarlane.

Sabina said that on 17 September 300 people would be travelling from Auckland to Te Awamutu by steam train and would be calling out to the Visitor Centre. She said it was hoped other steam train trips would be organised next year. Mayor Livingston said Council's Communications Advisor, Wayne Green, and Roding staff were looking into traffic management issues for the event.

6.8 Kihikihi District (Max Quirk)

Max said Major Jackson's house has finally been sold. Information is being collected on the Rochford project and finance is being organised.

6.9 Ohaupo District (Annie Fullerton)

No report.

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7 CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Inwards Correspondence

Nil.

7.2 Outwards Correspondence

- 8.2.1 Letter to Alan Hall dated 28 June 2005 inviting him to attend Waipa Heritage Council meetings was included in the agenda.

RESOLVED

That the correspondence be received.

Max Quirk/Roger Swarbrick

8 MATAKITAKI PA

Matakitaki Pa Management Plan adopted May 2002 was included in the agenda.

Heritage Council Members were reminded that at the last meeting they were advised up to \$10,000 is available for a range of conservation works over the 2005/2006 financial year and it has been suggested that some of this might be allocated to implementing aspects of the Management Plan for Matakitaki Pa. WHC members were asked to give feedback on potential site projects and prioritise them accordingly.

Eris noted that, after the removal of buildings, the eradication of weeds was the next task listed in the Management Plan. Neville suggested that a site visit would help put things into perspective. He said it needed a good interpretation panel and an eye-catching entrance that would encourage people to stop and look. He also suggested a new walking track from the carpark. Eris said local Iwi would be involved in making the entranceway more appealing and, in the meantime, the Heritage Council should focus on other aspects of the site.

Mayor Livingston suggested that, to progress the matter, it should be recommended to Council that a Management Committee be formed to progress the various issues involved with the development and ongoing management of the site. He said the Management Committee should have involvement from Iwi and other interested parties to progress the interpretive signage and entranceway.

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RESOLVED

That the Waipa Heritage Council recommends to Council that a Management Committee be formed to address the Matakītaki Pa Management Plan.

Sabina Owen/Neville Ritchie

9 HERITAGE AWARDS

Heritage Council members were reminded that, at its June meeting, they were asked to give some thought to Community Heritage Awards and how these might be implemented by Council. It was explained that this is a Council initiated project, but a collaborative approach with Waipa Heritage Council is welcomed. Samples of criteria used by other community groups and councils for a range of community heritage awards was included in the agenda and Heritage Council members were asked to review the information and provide feedback on an appropriate structure for Waipa.

Eris said she thought Council would be giving the awards to acknowledge heritage work that has been done, rather than calling for nominations, as is the case in the examples provided in the agenda and Mayor Livingston said that was also his understanding. He suggested that Andrew McFarlane put together some criteria for Heritage Council members to consider within the categories of built, natural and cultural heritage. He said there would need to be a means of assessing each application, and determining who will receive an award, and a format for the award itself. It has been suggested that this could be the presentation of a certificate at a small function. Barbara said the award ceremony could be incorporated into the annual "Friends of Council" function.

RESOLVED

That Waipa Heritage Council recommends that Waipa District Council heritage awards are to be awarded by Council rather than through nominations.

Mary Hurst/Eris Parker

Alan Hall asked how projects would be identified if they are not through nominations. Barbara said Heritage Council members would, through their own organisations, have some suggestions for suitable heritage award recipients. Neville asked if Owen Wilkes could be considered for a posthumous award for his contribution towards archaeological work in Waipa District and that it could be presented to his partner.

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10 WAIPA DISTRICT PLAN – PROPOSED PLAN CHANGE 48, ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

Council Planner, David Bayley said the proposed Plan Change had been notified and a number of submissions had been received. He said these would be summarised and then released for a further period of public submission before being heard and decided upon by Council's Regulatory Committee.

David said a number of the submissions had asked for the Ten Star Redoubt in Cambridge to be included in Appendix 11. The New Zealand Historic Places Trust (NZHPT) has asked that Council include sites that are now under water and has suggested that the proposed Plan Change may contain some inaccuracies. He said that, similarly, the submission from the New Zealand Archaeological Association (NZAA) has said it cannot confirm the accuracy of some of the information in the proposed Plan Change. He said that both NZHPT and NZAA have suggested that the proposed Plan Change should be put on hold until Council has carried out an assessment of all archaeological sites throughout Waipa District as part of the NZAA Sites Recording Scheme upgrade project currently underway.

David said the submission from the Te Awamutu Museum also asked for sites located under water to be included in Appendix 11 and that it should include sites destroyed by land management practice and sites located in urban areas.

David said he understood the Ten Star Redoubt had been on the original list but had been discounted, along with other urban sites that had been developed, and the archaeological significance of that site had diminished.

Barbara asked if a site could still be recognised as having historical value even if it is no longer felt to have archaeological significance. David said the District Plan would protect sites that are listed in Appendix 11 but Council needs to determine what it is trying to protect (i.e. archaeological features or the historic value of a site that does not necessarily have physical features). Mary Hurst said she had been struggling with this issue for some time because Otawhao Pa, which is the founding site of Te Awamutu, cannot be included in Appendix 11 because there is no survey to show the exact location of the site. She said there should be a list of all historically significant sites, apart from those listed in Appendix 11, so that all sites are known about.

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David said the benefit in having a separate list of all heritage sites, aside from those included in Appendix 11, was that it would provide Council with information to assist with decision making on issues affecting land outside of the Resource Management Act process.

Eris Parker said she felt all sites should be included in Appendix 11 so they cannot be sold and built on, and the Ten Star Redoubt was mentioned as an example. Mayor Livingston said the identification and exact location of all heritage sites is required to ensure this situation does not happen again. He suggested that the Heritage Council recommend that the proposed Plan Change be deferred until the exact location of all sites has been determined using GPS.

David said the NZAA, in partnership with local councils and with central and regional government funding, will be undertaking a programme over the next three years to update all this information and include it in an electronic database. He said that work would be carried out in Waipa District during the next 12 months and would include a review of all paper records, consultation with Tangata Whenua and landowners and, where possible, site visits to the sites already identified by NZAA. He said it would also include the fixing of location of sites using GPS to determine their exact location and the opportunity to reassess sites in terms of their value. He said the programme would be starting later this month and NZAA would be meeting Nga Iwi Toopu o Waipa to discuss the project in early August. He said it might be beneficial to put the proposed Plan Change on hold for 12 months, after which time it is expected the updated information will be available.

11 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

12 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council will be held at 10.00 am on Thursday, 18 August 2005 in Waipa District Council Offices, Committee Room, 23 Wilson Street, Cambridge.

Roger Swarbrick gave apologies for absence from the next Waipa Heritage Council meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 12.05pm.

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