

WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL

65-11-02

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM , WAIPA DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICES, 23 WILSON STREET, CAMBRIDGE ON THURSDAY 16 JUNE 2005 COMMENCING AT 10.00AM.

PRESENT

Waipa Heritage Committee Members –

Waipa District Councillor, Barbara Taranaki (Chair)
His Worship the Mayor, Alan Livingston
Roger Swarbrick – Te Awamutu Museum
Debra Kane – Te Awamutu Museum
Max Quirk – Kihikihi District
Heather Garrett – NZ Historic Places Trust
Bev Dean – Cambridge Museum/Cambridge Historical Society
Neville Ritchie – Department of Conservation
Eris Parker – Cambridge Museum
Annie Fullerton – Ohaupo District

Waipa District Council Staff -

Andrew McFarlane – Heritage Manager
Max Ward – Asset Manager Recreation
Cathy Plowright – Committee Secretary

1 APOLOGIES

RESOLVED

That apologies for absence be received from Toni Fortune, Gail Henry, Alan Hall, Mary Hurst and Sabina Owen.

Roger Swarbrick/Neville Ritchie

2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Waipa Heritage Council meeting held on 19 May 2005 be confirmed as a true and correct record subject to the inclusion of Annie Fullerton as listed under those present at the meeting.

Debra Kane/Eris Parker

MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MINUTES

- **Orakau Battle Site Plaque**

Andrew advised that the Heritage Council's resolution from the previous meeting had been referred to Council and the Orakau battle site project would be included in the heritage projects priority list. He explained that as this project has now been handed over to Council it would not be on the Heritage Council agenda in future unless there is something specific to report.

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- **Selwyn Park/Morgan Park**

Max Quirk said he had noticed that two heritage trail signs were missing from Selwyn Park. Asset Manager Recreation, Max Ward, said he thought they had probably been taken away for repair. It was noted that another sign is required in Rolleston Street, Kihikihi (by the big reservoir).

Max Ward updated the Heritage Council on the latest plans for the development of a new public toilet block at Selwyn Park. He said it was proposed to site the new facility on the historic reserve (Morgan Park), adjoining the Information Centre, and he tabled some designs for the building. He explained that Council would need authority from NZ Historic Places Trust to modify the site and permission to build the structure from Department of Conservation (DOC). He said if those approvals were received and everything goes to plan the new facility could be built in January/February 2006.

Max said there would be direct access to two of the toilets overnight. He said the toilet block would have high public visibility and it was possible that a central refuge would be installed on Arawata Street allowing people travelling south to access the toilets safely.

RESOLVED

That the Waipa Heritage Council endorses the proposed location of the public toilets in Arawata Street/Gorst Avenue.

Roger Swarbrick/Bev Dean

Roger said he felt it would be relatively simple for DOC to extend the boundary of the local purpose reserve (where the Information Centre is sited) in order to include the proposed toilet block. Max said any issues affecting Selwyn Park would be considered as part of the overall plan for Te Awamutu and Council is due to receive a report on this in the near future.

Max suggested that just south of the toilet block could be a good location for the restored locomotive. There was also discussion about including the old Te Awamutu Town Clock in this area of development.

- **Locomotive at Memorial Park, Te Awamutu**

Max Ward said the interest group restoring the locomotive is being formalised into a Trust which will provide them with a means of raising funds. The purpose of the Trust, under Council's direction, will be to restore the locomotive to a condition suitable for public display.

- **Alexandra East Redoubt**

Max Ward said the grant from Trust Waikato has been used up on outlining the redoubt, installing signs and fences and the first stage of the restoration work is now complete.

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- **Matakitaki Pa**

Max Ward said there was a budget of \$10,000 available from reserve development contributions that had been earmarked for work at the Matakitaki Pa site. It was suggested that the WHC give some thought to what those funds could be used for and come back to the next meeting with a shortlist of potential projects. Andrew said it might be useful for WHC members to have a look at the Matakitaki Pa Reserve Management Plan for ideas about site interpretation. Roger said preservation of the earthworks was the most important aspect and that cattle have caused damage in the past. Heather said local Iwi were concerned about that.

- **Cambridge RSA**

Eris said this item should be left on the agenda because the building is not on the Historic Places Trust list and it needs to be properly protected until it is.

- **Pirongia Historic Visitor Centre**

It was agreed that, although Allan Hall will not be replacing Mary Hurst on the Heritage Council until she eventually stands down, it would be appropriate to invite him to attend all WHC meetings in future.

RESOLVED

That Allan Hall be invited to attend Waipa Heritage Council meetings.

Max Quirk/Heather Garrett

Andrew said there was no guarantee that Council could increase the grant to the Pirongia Historic Visitor Centre above and beyond what has been signalled in the Annual Plan. He said that whilst Council does not want to discourage community groups that are proactive in terms of heritage, funding is always an issue. There was discussion about some projects the Centre has in mind that could possibly generate additional funds. There was also discussion concerning the long-term value of brochures for small projects as this puts additional funding pressure on organisations. Annie said she felt an A4 black and white sheet would be as much use to someone who has a genuine interest in a project.

- **Maungatautari**

Bev Dean tabled the Trust's latest newsletter. She said the Trust has currently raised \$7.2 million and it is hoped the pest-proof fence will be completed by August 2006 if everything goes to plan. She said final approval has been received from the Waikato Conservator to release four Kiwi into the northern enclosure in July.

Andrew said it was hoped Council would adopt the Maungatautari Reserve Management Plan in July and it could then be sent onto DOC for final approval. Other issues discussed were the Information Centre and toilets, the possible realignment of Hicks Road and progress being made with the Memorandum of Understanding between Council and the Trust.

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- **Motorised Heritage Trail**
No progress to report.

3 CORRESPONDENCE

- **Inwards**
 - Policy for Government Departments' Management of Historic Heritage 2004 (from the Ministry for Culture and Heritage) dated 20 December 2004.
 - Letter from Planner, David Bayley, dated 10 June 2005 regarding Waipa District Plan Proposed Plan Change 48 – Archaeological Sites Update.

Andrew said the proposed Plan Change was as a direct result of the Heritage Council's desire to update the archaeological appendices to the District Plan. As submissions have to be received by 8 July, and given how closely the Heritage Council has been involved with this project, it was suggested that members go through the list of sites in their own time and make individual submissions if required. The list will be sent to members who are not present at the meeting so they also have this opportunity.

Some members expressed concern that some sites had been missed off, especially in the Ohaupo area. Andrew stressed the importance of individual members reviewing the list (on behalf of their respective organisations / bodies) and making an appropriate submission.

It was noted that the reference to Flour Mill (Nalley's) on map 26 should read "Hallys".

- **Outwards**
Nil

RESOLVED

That the correspondence be received.

Eris Parker/Max Quirk

GENERAL

- **Waipa Heritage Council Agendas**
Andrew explained that a meeting agenda would be sent out approximately one week before each Heritage Council meeting in future. If members have items they wish to have discussed at the meeting they should notify the secretary two weeks before the meeting so the item can be included in the agenda.

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- **Heritage Preservation**

Max Ward said \$10,000 had been budgeted for heritage preservation during the 2005/06 year in the recently approved programme of reserve development projects and he suggested the WHC give some thought to how this might be spent. Andrew said it was possible that some of those funds might be required for the motorised heritage trail brochure. He said another suggestion was the proposed Heritage Awards scheme which would provide a means of recognising achievement and progress with some conservation projects. Barbara suggested that WHC members give some thought to suitable criteria for the Heritage Awards and how they might be implemented. This will be discussed again at the next meeting. Andrew said it might be worthwhile establishing a working group to look at this issue.

- **Historic Places Trust Conference**

Heather asked if Council would be prepared to sponsor the NZHPT conference which would be promoting heritage in Cambridge, giving out some heritage awards and also included a walk around Cambridge. She said the event would be costing \$500 to run and that she would enquire of the availability of funds through Council.

- **Heritage Colours**

There was discussion about the colours used for the recent repainting of the old Cambridge Post Office and the new railings on Victoria Bridge and some concern was expressed about inconsistency of themes and styles around Cambridge.

- **Te Awamutu Historical Society**

Roger said the Historical Society has decided to remain in recess, although this decision needs to be ratified at a formal meeting.

- **Kihikihi Heritage Signs**

Max Quirk said it was proposed that the balance of funds left over from Kihikihi heritage signs should be used for some display boards to commemorate John Rochford. He said Mr Rochford was responsible for the last section of the main trunk line from Te Awamutu to Marton, had lived in Kihikihi and was buried there. He said he was currently finding out how much the boards would cost and where they might be placed.

Meeting Closed at 11.58 am.

**NEXT MEETING: 10.00AM
21 JULY 2005
COMMITTEE ROOM 1, TE AWAMUTU**