

# WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL MINUTES 19 FEBRUARY 2009

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*Minutes of a meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council held in the Committee Room, Cambridge Service Centre, Waipa District Council, 23 Wilson Street Cambridge on Thursday 19 February 2009 commencing at 10.00am*

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## 1 PRESENT

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### Members

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Barbara Taranaki | Waipa District Councillor (Chairperson) |
| Alan Livingston  | His Worship the Mayor                   |
| Bev Dean         | Cambridge Historical Society            |
| Jennie Gainsford | Cambridge Historical Society            |
| Alan Hall        | Pirongia Historic Visitor Centre        |
| Heather Garrett  | Te Pahu District                        |
| Annie Fullerton  | Ohaupo District                         |
| Neville Ritchie  | Department of Conservation              |

### In Attendance

|              |                              |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| Jan White    | Museums and Heritage Manager |
| Noelene Barr | Committee Secretary          |

## 2 APOLOGIES

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### RESOLVED

*That apologies for absence from Mike Vincent, Sabina Owen and Max Quirk be received.*

Dean/Garrett

Chairperson Taranaki explained that Council meetings are not scheduled during January, however there will be six meetings scheduled for this committee during the year.

## 3 LATE ITEMS

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Neville Ritchie wished to provide information relating to the borrow pits in the Cambridge green belt.

Jenny Gainsford requested that the research charge for the Cambridge Museum be discussed.

Chairperson Taranaki advised that an application for a resource consent, to establish a community sports stadium at Cambridge High School, had been publicly notified. As there doesn't appear to be any historical issues, a submission to this effect will be submitted.

## 4 CONFIRMATION OF ORDER OF MEETING

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File: 65-11-02

### RESOLVED

*That the order of the meeting be confirmed.*

Hall/Fullerton

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### 5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

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File: 65-11-02

**Minutes of Meeting held on 20 November 2008 were included in the agenda.**

#### **RESOLVED**

*That the minutes of the meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council held on 20 November 2008, having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record subject to **Jan White, Manager Museums and Heritage** being included as Present in item 1, and the words **Hamilton East** being deleted and replaced with the words **Cambridge Heritage Buildings** in the resolution in item 5 on page 2 of the minutes.*

Hall/Gainsford

### 6 MEMBERS REPORTS

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This item enables members to discuss 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 reported on the Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP). Negotiations are being undertaken for extra land around the Orakau battle site which is included in the list of funding works from the reserve contributions. There has been no reduction in the heritage budget. Comments are requested for the Reserve Development Project list to ensure that all the appropriate projects are included. There has been no budget included for alterations to the Cambridge Town Hall prior to the centennial in December 2009. Funds will be provided from the maintenance and upgrading budget to upgrade the toilet area and entrance. It was suggested that a submission be made to support this work to be done prior to the centennial.

#### **6.2 Te Awamutu Historical Society** (Vacant)

Alan Hall reported that Robin Astridge will create some publicity to ascertain if there is an interest in reviving the Society; there is still an active bank account.

Museums and Heritage Manager suggested that the Te Awamutu Museum Trust Board would be invigorated by new members and queried if it is realistic to have two historical groups.

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### 6.3 Cambridge Historical Society (Bev Dean, Jennie Gainsford )

Bev Dean reported that there is a good membership and support for the museum and volunteers to assist with physical work but not very much interest in being a committee member. A meeting was held with the Museums and Heritage Manager, Jan White, where the recent market survey was discussed; Jan White outlined the upgrade of the exhibition area in the museum. The Court House building is 100 years old on 9 September and the Cambridge Museum will be in existence for 30 years this September. The Museum Collection Policy is in draft format and will be universal for both museums. The owners of the National Hotel have taken over the obligations to finish the upgrade.

Jennie Gainsford queried the charge of \$20 for 30 minutes research now being charged at the Cambridge Museum. Jan White advised that there has always been an hourly charge at the Te Awamutu Museum - \$20 per half hour with the first half hour free when the researcher is requested to do specific research. A large proportion (80%) of requested research is from non residents. A charge is made for the exclusive use of material when undertaking your own research, which is for the room and not the archivist's time. It is anticipated that two micro fiche and film readers and a scanner are purchased to provide better facilities for researchers in both Te Awamutu and Cambridge.

#### **RESOLVED**

*That the Waipa Heritage Council request Council organise an appropriate celebration to commemorate the centenaries of the Cambridge Town Hall (16 December 2009) and Courthouse (9 September 2009) and any proposed improvements to these buildings, be completed with consideration of these celebrations.*

Hall/Taranaki

### 6.4 NZ Historic Places Trust (Mike Vincent)

Nil

### 6.5 Department of Conservation (Neville Ritchie)

Neville Ritchie provided an update of current projects; field workers are updating records that haven't been updated for five years and also enabling the records will be more useable.

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

Alan Hall reported that an annual barbeque was held in January which is an effective way to get people together. Another tour by mini bus was held to Orakau; signage was misleading. Maintenance has been undertaken on the Visitor Centre church building as there were leaks in the west wall due to the absence of flashing; the weatherboards have now been replaced; a donation of \$5,000 is being used for maintenance. A display is being compiled to illustrate the arrival of Christianity in the area which will be a permanent display. Alan Hall distributed the newsletter dated December 2008.

### 6.7 Te Pahu District (Heather Garrett)

Heather Garrett reported that a successful trip around the District was held including a talk featuring Garrett's house which is 150 years old.

Mayor Livingston advised that the District Plan is currently being reviewed which this group could contribute to and suggested Kaniwhaniwha School and others in the area could be included. A special meeting should be held to consider this.

A workshop could be held with information regarding the current list distributed prior to the workshop, consisting of built and natural heritage; this could be held following the next meeting on 16 April. Museums and Heritage Manager, will discuss with appropriate Council staff. An up to date list to be circulated with the minutes.

### 6.8 Kihikihi District (Max Quirk)

The maintenance of Major Jackson's House is a continuing issue. Mayor Livingston reported that Council did propose to purchase the entire area and sell part of the land to offset the cost, which the New Zealand Historic Places did not allow to happen.

### 6.9 Ohaupo District (Annie Fullerton)

Annie Fullerton reported that the original council building and Presbyterian church, which has been converted to a residence, is now looking very attractive. A plaque will be placed in the front of the building. Captain Rich's house in Kaipaki has never been significantly altered during the years; it is quite distinctive because of its roof line and is the oldest house in the Ohaupo district.

Mayor Livingston said that people maintaining registered historical buildings should be acknowledged in some form, ie rates relief. Alan Hall said that there are incentives for people to protect sites of bio-diversity value and it is logical to do the same for buildings.

Museums and Heritage Manager will make enquiries.

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### 7 STAFF REPORTS

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#### 7.1 Heritage Development and Reserves Planning (Tony Roxburgh)

A report was not presented due to the absence of Tony Roxburgh.

#### 7.2 Museum and Heritage (Jan White)

**The report of the Museum and Heritage Manager was included in the agenda.**

A survey, to ask residents what they wanted in the museum, had been undertaken in Cambridge. The display space for exhibitions is to be improved and plans are in hand to revamp the exhibition; it is intended to tell stories of different aspects of Cambridge which will change approximately five times per year. The foyer will also be changed, including a map indicating the different areas of the museum, before the centenary celebrations. The Society is applying for grants for the purchase of display cases.

Holiday programmes have been the focus of the Te Awamutu Museum, with 1,100 school children this month. There will be three series of displays, currently beading, throughout the year with a presentation and workshop included. A photographic competition on treasured objects, will also be held. The film, Rewi's Last Stand, was shown recently with approximately 40 people in attendance. Staff had attended a workshop on interactive exhibitions and are applying for grants to purchase a micro fiche film scanner which will enable researchers to download information onto USB flash drives. The numbers of volunteers has reduced over the past few years.

There was general discussion concerning Heather Garrett query's if the museum was interested in having a collection of clothing that school children could hire for school projects. It was concluded that it would be costly and difficult to keep track of costumes. Operatic societies have costumes available for hire; a photographic record of children in period costume would be a valuable resource.

### 8 REPRESENTATION ON WAIPA BIODIVERSITY COUNCIL

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On 24 January 2008, Members resolved to reappoint Alan Hall as the Waipa Heritage Council representative on the Waipa Biodiversity Council which is to be reviewed annually.

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## **RESOLVED**

*That Alan Hall be reappointed to the Waipa Biodiversity Council for another year, to be reviewed annually.*

Livingston/Ritchie

## **9 KIHIKIHI POLICE HOUSE RESTORATION GROUP**

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File: 4552/100.00

Heather Garrett said that meetings held with Jenny Patching had been very useful; the trust deed is being rewritten which is time consuming. Also had a meeting with Paul Martin of Hamilton regarding oral history signage and digitising the archives. A public meeting is to be held to gain feedback from the community regarding the historical aspect of Kihikihi. The displays and archives should be listed and are not insured, including items on loan. Museums and Heritage Manager can provide a form to be used to be completed by the lender of archival items. Department of Internal Affairs provide grants to hire labour to complete projects within museums.

## **10 WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL UNRESOLVED RECOMMENDATIONS**

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**The schedule of Waipa Heritage Council unresolved recommendations as at 1 February 2009 was included in the agenda.**

Members requested Ohaupo be included in the resolution dated 15 July 2004.

## **11 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 Sharyn King) or phoning her on 07 872 0030 or emailing her on [sharyn.king@waipadc.govt.nz](mailto:sharyn.king@waipadc.govt.nz)

## **12 NEXT MEETING**

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The next meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council will be held on Thursday 16 April 2009 in Committee Room 1, Waipa District Council, 101 Bank Street, Te Awamutu commencing at 10.00am.

## **13 BORROW PITS – CAMBRIDGE TOWN BELT**

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The Cambridge Reserve Landscape Committee, a sub committee of the Cambridge Community Board, included an area of the town belt which includes borrow pits, as part of a ten year planting plan. Eris Parker, curator of the Cambridge Museum, requested Neville Ritchie to investigate.

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Neville Ritchie said that the three sites are shallow impressions and lie opposite Bracken Street and the marae. They will be formally recorded and could be easily protected as they are on public land; the committee to be advised of this. The borrow pits are found in areas where kumara was grown and were numerous on the river bank between Cambridge and Ngaruawahia.

Chairperson Taranaki suggested that the pits are identified and an interpretative panel installed for public information.

### **14 CAMBRIDGE MUSEUM - RESEARCH FEES**

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Discussed as part of item 6.3.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.12pm.