

PIRONGIA WARD COMMITTEE REPORT



To: The Chairperson and Members of the Pirongia Ward Committee
From: Group Manager Service Delivery
Subject: **SERVICE DELIVERY REPORT**
Meeting Date: 12 December 2018
File Reference: 160-03-03/3/3

1 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Rangimarie Reserve – Playground

Stakeholder consultation for the playground concept plan is to be carried out before Christmas, to allow the final design of the playground to be confirmed. Council has allocated \$100,000 for the construction of the junior playground; this includes the donation of \$26,000 from Plunket.

Construction is expected to commence early in 2019.

2 INFORMATION UPDATE

Pirongia Toilets

After consultation with Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE), construction of the new toilets can be carried out in the 2019/2020 financial year.

Now that timing from MBIE has been confirmed, Council can begin to plan consultation with the Pirongia community to determine the best location for the toilets.

Skate Park

This is still a community-led project being led by Scott Aitkin. The process for a formal application for the skate park has been provided to Scott, suggesting an application be submitted through Council's Annual Plan process that will be out for community consultation in March. As this is not a project identified within the current Long Term Plan, there is no staff resource or budget assigned.

Library

Te Awamutu Library Numbers

	October	Av Daily	September	Av	August	Av Daily
Issues	16,269		14,736		16,693	

E-Resources (Issues)

Issues by Month	October
eBooks	264
eAudiobooks	37

Heritage

Te Ara Wai

Work on the proposed Waipā Discovery Centre continues. A governance committee is now in operation – The Waipā Discovery Centre Governance Committee. Recently the Committee agreed to adopt the name “Te Ara Wai” as the official name for the Waipa Discovery Centre. “Te Ara Wai” is translated (for the purpose of engendering understanding) as “The Path of Memories”. The name has been endorsed by Nga Iwi Toopu o Waipā, the Chair of Te Whakakitenga of Waikato Tainui, Ngāti Unu and Ngāti Kahu. It has also been canvassed with several Waipā mātanga (knowledge/subject experts) with unanimous support.

The Journeys Project

The Journeys Project, whilst linked to Te Ara Wai, is an independent piece of work that Council is undertaking. This involves a new approach to interpretation and storytelling regarding our showcase sites across the district. Consultant, Locales, has been engaged to carry out the first phase of the Journeys Project, which focuses on developing a website that will showcase key heritage sites and features throughout the Waipa landscape. The first three sites to be developed are Karapiro, Ngaroto and Pirongia township. These will be followed by Maungatautari, Rangiaowhia and Kakepuku. Development will include a working website, location signage, printed material, parking and services for each site. By mid 2019 Council will likely be in a position launch the new website.

Provincial Growth Fund

An application is being prepared to submit to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment in the hope of accessing funding to support the Te Ara Wai development. Council’s application will be included in a regional package of projects prepared by Te Waka, the Regional Economic Development Agency. The outcome of the application will be known around March 2019.

Te Awamutu Museum

- The Te Awamutu Museum welcomed a touring exhibition from Palmerston North from 29 September. *The Divine Remains* is a photographic exhibition, showcasing pressed flowers by photographer David Lupton. The images are accompanied by poetic labels written by renowned South American poet,

Leonel Alvarado. Three craft workshops were run in the October school holidays in conjunction with the exhibition, with two more are scheduled for the January holidays. The exhibition is on display until 16 January 2019.

- The Museum team ran another successful Halloween event this year, with 55 community members attending with lots of positive feedback as the event catered for the younger age groups, in comparison to the Light Party.
- In conjunction with the Te Awamutu RSA, a mass installation of community made purple poppies was displayed for Armistice Day. The purple is symbolic of animals which served alongside their human comrades. A total of 375 poppies were displayed throughout the Museum entrance.



- The Heritage Fund is now accepting applications, closing on 30 December 2018. Forms are available on the website

Roading

- The chip sealing and asphalt programme is underway.
- Waikoha Road - first 2 km has been widened and metalled in preparation for sealing.
- A section of pavement on Ham Road and Goodwin Road are to be rehabilitated. Tenders for this work closed recently and work is expected to be complete by March 2019.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Barry Bergin'.

Barry Bergin

GROUP MANAGER SERVICE DELIVERY