
Hearings Committee

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a reconvened meeting of the Hearings Committee held in the Council Chambers, 126-148 Oxford Street, Levin, on Tuesday, 26 September 2017 at 5.00 pm.

PRESENT

Chairperson Cr J F G Mason
Members Cr P Tukapua
Cr B P Wanden

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms C O'Shea	(Graduate Strategic Planner)
Mr A Nelson	(Property & Parks Manager)
Mrs K J Corkill	(Reporting Officer/Meeting Secretary)
Mr D McCorkindale	(Group Manager – Strategy & Development) (until 6.00 pm)

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

There was one member of the public (Mr Charles Rudd, Snr) in attendance at the commencement of the meeting.

1 Apologies

There were no apologies.

2 Declarations of Interest

None declared.

3 Announcements

There were no announcements.

4 Reports

4.1 Draft Reserve Management Plans - Consideration of Submissions and Decisions

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to summarise and provide the officer's analysis of the submissions that were received during the consultation process for the Draft Reserve Management Plans that are currently under review, and provide a platform for the Hearings Committee to consider and make decisions on these submissions.

It is to also recommend that the Draft Reserve Management Plans, including any changes made as a result of the decisions on the submissions, be recommended by the Hearings Committee for adoption by the Council.

MOVED by Cr Wanden, seconded Cr Tukapua:

THAT Report 17/424 Draft Reserve Management Plans - Consideration of Submissions and Decisions be received.

THAT this decision is recognised as not significant in terms of S76 of the Local Government Act.

THAT members of the Hearings Committee consider submissions received on the Draft Reserves Management Plans, in accordance with section 41(6)(d) of the Reserves Act 1977.

CARRIED

Ms O'Shea, who was joined at the table by Mr Nelson, stepped through the format of the report which covered the submissions received on the Draft Management Plans, with the first part of the Submissions' Analysis covering the Draft Combined Waitarere Beach Reserves, Draft Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve and Draft Ohau River Reserves Management Plans and the second part covering the Draft Combined Foxton Reserves Management Plan. There was a summary and analysis provided on each submission, together with subsequent recommendations and suggested amendments, if any.

Ms O'Shea advised that feedback had also been sought from two hapu, Ngāti Huia and Tukorehe, although written submissions had not been received. It was recommended (Recommendation 3.4) that the Committee consider the feedback received and it be recommended to Council that the feedback be included in the consideration of written submissions to the Draft Plans.

Requested amendments were set out in the last sections of the Report and the accompanying Draft Reserve Management Plans included tracked changes to make clear any amendments.

The Committee worked through the submissions with comments provided, where required, by Ms O'Shea and Mr Nelson.

Cr Mason expressed her appreciation for the detailed information that had been provided.

Submissions on the Draft Combined Waitarere Beach Reserves, Draft Waitarere Beach Foreshore and Draft Ohau River Reserves Management Plans

Submission 1 – Chris Wright – It was noted that that beach speed limits were being

considered as part of another Bylaw review and would be addressed at that time.

Submission 2 – Patricia Hayward – Mr Nelson confirmed that the submitter's request would be used for the framework as to what would be done in each of the Reserves in consultation with local groups. A Management Plan would be developed which would cover some of the requests received. Some work could be done within existing budgets, but some would require to go through the LTP process.

Mr Nelson gave an explanation as to how the high, medium and low priority ratings were determined, which essentially was about budgets and ease of achievement. Community interest was also factored in.

Submissions 3 & 4 – Margaret Jeune – no additional Member queries or comments.

Submission 5 – Joanna Sim – submitters asking for things that were the responsibility of Regional Council was flagged by Cr Tukapua for further discussion, as this was something that pertained to a number of submissions.

Submission 6 – Tony Field – responding to a query with regard to a timeframe for the requested surveying of the northern boundary of Waitarere Domain, Ms O'Shea noted that actions had been identified to address points raised by submitters to be addressed outside of the Reserve Management Plan process. Mr Nelson added that there would be a number of actions programmed over the next 2-6 months. Discussions would also be held with affected submitters going forward.

Submissions 7 & 8 – Alison and Anthony Timms – responding to a query in relation to Council dealing with encroachments on a case by case basis, Mr Nelson said this was not currently on Council's Agenda. There were a number of encroachments and Council would probably need to put a policy in place to ensure the issue was dealt with appropriately. It had been an outstanding issue for a long period of time and was not something that would be looked at within the next six months..

As to whether or not there were statutory timeframes to be considered, Mr Nelson said there were in some areas but he was not sure about Reserves which came under different legislation. It also sat outside the Reserves Management Plans.

Submission 9 – Sam Fergusson - no additional Member queries or comments.

Submission 10 – Raewyn Tate – with regard to the photograph received from Mrs Tate re weed control, Mr Nelson advised that Horizons Regional Council (HRC) contractors had been contacted and he was sure it had been attended to.

Submission 11 – Adam Canning on behalf of Wellington Fish and Game Council - no additional Member queries or comments.

Submission 12 – Victoria Edmonds on behalf of New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Inc – Cr Tukapua said she was happy with the Officer response and analysis.

Cr Mason commented that she thought a good range of options for people to camp were provided within the district.

Submission 13 – Larry Hine on behalf of Waitarere Beach Progressive and Ratepayer Association – noting the four bullet points on page 24 which had not

been included in the Plan, two of which were the responsibility of Horizons, Cr Tukapua requested that a summary of those concerns around things that Horizons were or were not doing be compiled and, they be formalised in a letter to be sent to the Regional Council, requesting an acknowledgement about how the issues raised would be addressed.

Mr Nelson said it was outside of the Management Plan process but it could be done

Because of the confusion that could arise around who should be doing what in terms of waterways and the foreshore, Cr Mason said she thought that would be a responsible action to take.

Submission 14 – Stephanie Bowman on behalf of the Department of Conservation - no additional Member queries or comments.

Submission 15 – Gaye Harrison – Following this submission, Cr Mason said she did go out and have a look at the area and was fully satisfied with the Officer's response. She thought it was great that so many people were passionate about the District's reserves.

Cr Tukapua said she was happy to see the Officer recommendation to look into the extraction of gravel.

Submission 16 – Sarah Walsh – Cr Mason said she was pleased to see the Officer's positive response.

Submission 17 – Pamela Robinson – the identified action in relation to signage where rock fall was a potential hazard was noted.

Submission 18 Charles Rudd – Mr Rudd's attendance in the gallery was noted. Mr Nelson responded to queries and comments with regard to which type of plant was more suitable for dune planting.

Cr Mason noted that some of the issues raised by Mr Rudd would be covered in correspondence with Horizons.

Submission 19 – Peter Wright - no additional Member queries or comments.

Submissions on the Draft Combined Foxton Reserves Management Plan

Submission 1 – Malcolm Cotter – Mr Nelson reiterated the Officer's note with regard to concerns raised about vehicles doing 'doughnuts'. If these events were reported there were things that could be done to address them, but it was difficult to respond when there had been no complaints. He noted that issues raised by the submitter had been flagged with Robin Hapi of the Rugby Club.

Submission 2 – Terry Oliver-Ward – there were a number of issues around the Foxton River Loop, many of which were LTP issues. Currently there were discussions with iwi and also the Community Board as to how Seaview Gardens might be improved. There had been no level of detail included by Officers as discussions were still to be undertaken.

Submission 3 – John Batt – it was noted that the interconnectedness between the Piriharakeke Walkway and other areas, while not part of the Management Plan, would be addressed as Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom and other initiatives progressed.

Submission 4 – Justine Street – with regard to the submitter's suggestion of outdoor exercise equipment at Easton Park, Ms O'Shea clarified that while provision of playground equipment for Reserves was not outside the Management Plan,

the funding behind it was.

Submission 5 – Petrus - no additional Member queries or comments.

Submission 6 – Amy Robinson on behalf of the Department of Conservation - no additional Member queries or comments.

Submission 7 – Junette Haronga - no additional Member queries or comments.

Submission 8 – Bob Hoskins - no additional Member queries or comments.

Submission 9 – Margaret Morgan-Allen & Res M Field on behalf of Ngāti Hikitunga Te Paea - no additional Member queries or comments.

Submission 10 – Robin Hapi on behalf of Foxton Rugby Club – with regard to the Rugby Club wanting the free running of dogs to be discontinued at Easton Park, Mr Nelson noted that the Dog Bylaw was outside the Reserve Management Plans. The Bylaw did recognise that people were walking their dogs through the Park to the Town centre and it was the responsibility of owners to ensure their dogs were leashed and cleaned up after, though there would always be some owners that did not follow the Bylaw. Better signage had been discussed with the Club

As with the issue raised in Submission 1 of vehicles doing “doughnuts”, it was a matter of getting people to report breaches.

In terms of whether there were sufficient areas for exercising dog off-leash, Mr Nelson said the River Loop and Target Reserve were unleashed areas.

Submission 11 – Victoria Edmonds on behalf of New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Inc - no additional Member queries or comments.

Submission 12 – David Batchelor on behalf of Coley Street School - no additional Member queries or comments.

Submission 13 - Late – Robin Hapi on behalf of Save Our River Trust – Cr Mason acknowledged the high value Council placed on the relationship with SORT and the desire, as had been raised by Mr Hapi, to deepen that working partnership and requested that be reflected in the Officer’s response to the submission.

Feedback from Ngāti Huia – Accretion Claim along the Waitarere Beach Foreshore – this was raised and discussed with Mr Nelson providing some clarification on the complexities of accretion claims. Discussions were on-going with interested iwis in the various areas in terms of how accretion claims might be progressed. Council did not have a policy with regard to accreted land and that was something that would need to be brought to Council at some point.

With regard to the SORT submission and how a SORT/Council partnership might be taken to a higher level was raised and discussed, with it noted that there would need to be further dialogue going forward.

The Hearings Committee Members expressed their agreement to receiving and considering the feedback from Ngāti Huia and Tukorehe as written submissions. The Committee also recorded their agreement with the requested amendments to the various Management Plans as proposed in the report.

MOVED by Cr Tukapua, seconded Cr Wanden:

THAT the Hearings Committee considers the feedback received from Ngati Huia and Tukorehe on the Draft Reserves Management Plans, and recommends to Council for the feedback to be included in the consideration of written submissions to the Draft Plans.

THAT the Hearings Committee, having taken into account the submissions received during the formal consultation process, recommends to Council the adoption of the Draft Reserve Management Plans for Waitarere Beach Reserves, Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve, Ohau River Reserves and Foxton Reserves as amended.

THAT the Group Manager – Strategy and Development together with the Chair of the Hearings Committee be given delegated authority to make editorial changes that arise as part of the publication process for producing the Reserve Management Plans for Waitarere Beach Reserves, Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve, Ohau River Reserves and Foxton Reserves.

CARRIED

Hearing Members commented on the very thorough process that had been undertaken to achieve a very good result.

Ms O’Shea then outlined the next steps, which included the Management Plans going to Council for adoption, following which final versions would be available on-line and in hard copy and Officers would undertake the identified actions outside the Reserve Management Plan process.

6.20 pm

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD
AT A MEETING OF THE HEARINGS COMMITTEE
HELD ON

DATE:.....

CHAIRPERSON:.....