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# Hearings Committee

## OPEN MINUTES

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Minutes of a meeting of the Hearings Committee held in the Council Chambers, 126-148 Oxford Street, Levin, on Tuesday 15 August 2017 at 9.00 am.

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### PRESENT

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

### IN ATTENDANCE

Mr S Wood (Reporting Officer)  
Mr A Nelson (Property & Parks Manager)  
Miss C O'Shea (Graduate Strategic Planner)  
Mrs K J Corkill (Meeting Secretary)

### ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

<u>Submitters</u>	Mrs S Walsh	<i>Reserve Management Plan</i>
	Mr L Hine & Mrs S Freebairn. Waitarere Beach Progressive Association	Ohau
	Ms V Edmonds, New Zealand Motor Caravan Association (via Skype)	Waitarere Beach
	Mr C Rudd	Waitarere Beach, Ohau & Foxton
	Mrs R Tate	Waitarere Beach, Ohau
	Mrs G Harrison & Mrs R Cleator	Waitarere Beach
	Mrs P Robinson	Ohau
	Ms A Skipper & Mr R Hapi, Foxton Rugby Club	Ohau
	Mr R Hapi & Mr J Girling, Save Our River Trust	Foxton
		Foxton

### PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

There was one member of the public in attendance at the commencement of the meeting.

Cr Mason opened the meeting to hear submissions on the Draft Combined Waitarere Beach Reserves, Waitarere Beach Foreshore and Ohau River Reserve Management Plans and Draft Combined Foxton Reserves Management Plan. She introduced the Hearings Panel and Council Officers and covered housekeeping and procedural matters.

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**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 - Hearing of Submissions**

**Purpose**

To provide the platform for the Hearings Committee (Committee) to hear and consider submissions received on the Draft Combined Waitarere Beach Reserves, Waitarere Beach Foreshore and Ohau River Reserve Management Plans and Draft Combined Foxton Reserves Management Plan.

MOVED by Cr Wanden, seconded Cr Tukapua:

*THAT Report 17/396 on Draft Reserve Management Plans - Hearing of Submissions be received.*

*THAT this matter be recognised as not significant in terms of s76 of the Local Government Act 2002.*

*THAT Submissions 1-19 on the Draft Combined Waitarere Beach Reserves, Waitarere Beach Foreshore and Ohau River Reserve Management Plans be received.*

*THAT Submissions 1-12 on the Draft Combined Foxton Reserves Management Plan be received.*

*THAT the late Submission 13 to the Draft Combined Foxton Reserves Management Plan be received.*

**CARRIED**

Requesting that the report be taken as read, Miss O'Shea highlighted that hearing submissions was part of the formal phase of consultation.

Submission 16 – Combined Draft Reserve Management Plans – Ohau - Sarah Walsh  
Mrs Walsh outlined her goals and aspirations for the Ohau area, specifically with regard to the potential of opening up and planning pathways – for walking, cycling and horse riding. She also highlighted the potential for the development of the Parakawau Reserve which was an attractive place to walk or access the river from. If a path could be put under the railway that would be a great link and could be a consideration for shared pathways. With planning there was also the potential for a number of pathways in Kirkcaldies Reserve. Palmerston North had a programme providing a corridor of native planting from the ranges to the river and she saw the potential for Ohau to do something similar – from the ranges to the sea.

Responding to queries, Mrs Walsh said she personally saw the current Kirkcaldies Reserve as being the initial starting point and there should not be a huge financial input, but more collaboration, also getting schools and iwi involved.

Cr Mason acknowledged Mrs Walsh staunch advocacy for the Ohau area and

thanked her for her submission.

Submission 13 – Combined Draft Reserve Management Plans - Waitarere Beach - Waitarere Beach Progressive and Ratepayer Association –Sharon Freebairn and Larry Hine

Mrs Freebairn spoke to the combined Waitarere Beach Reserves Management Plans whilst Mr Hine covered the Foreshore Reserve Management Plan, expanding on the Association's submission and responding to Panel Members' questions. Copies of Mrs Freebairn and Mr Hine's verbal submissions were provided.

Submission 12 – Combined Draft Reserve Management Plans  
Submission 11 – Foxton Reserves Management Plan  
- New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Inc – Victoria Edmonds

Ms Edmonds joined the meeting via Skype, having also provided a copy of her verbal submission. The Chair noted that the Association had submitted to both Draft Plans. Responding to a query from Cr Wanden about whether LGNZ had a coordinated approach to freedom camping to assist territorial authorities, Ms Edmonds advised that whilst Horowhenua did not have a Freedom Camping Bylaw, the Freedom Camping Act did give direction to Councils in terms of putting such a bylaw in place. With regard to suggesting that all reserves should be made available for camping, Ms Edmonds said that did mean reserves that were actually suitable.

Submission 18 – Combined Draft Reserve Management Plans – Charles Rudd (Snr)

Mr Rudd sought permission to extend to his korero beyond that previously provided, with the Chair noting that his additional comments were within the scope of his original submission. A copy of Mr Rudd's expanded Brief of Evidence was provided.

The meeting adjourned (10.27-10.40 am).

Submission 10 – Draft Waitarere Beach Reserves and Foreshores Reserve Management Plans – Raewyn Tate

A beach front resident at Waitarere Beach, Mrs Tate reinforced the comments made in her original submission. With regard to dune management, Mrs Tate said she felt if plans not native to the beach were removed it would make a difference to sand build-up. She also said she thought it was important to improve sections of the beach for recreation to keep up with what was happening in other areas.

With regard to dune maintenance, etc, Mrs Tate said she thought there was some confusion over who was supposed to do what and a meeting between the parties, which should be open to the public, would be helpful.

Commenting on the original survey plan, Mrs Tate said it was interesting to see what had originally been reserve and what had been dunes and how that had changed, with Mr Wood noting that there had been a number of accretion claims over the years.

Submission 14 – Draft Reserve Management Plans for Kimberley and Gladstone Reserves –Rosemary Cleator (speaking for Gaye Harrison)

Responding to a concern raised by the speakers with regard to gravel extraction, Miss O'Shea said the consent sat with Horizons Regional Council and that Council did the monitoring. As to whether or not monitoring actually occurred, Mr Nelson said that was up to the Regional Council.

Mrs Cleator suggested that HDC should in fact do the monitoring as there was a flow on effect from the activity.

Copies of the points raised by Mrs Cleator and Mrs Harrison were provided.

The query with regard to access to the river which could be impeded by the recent planting of willows was noted.

Submission 17 – Draft Reserve Management Plans Kimberley, Gladstone, Kirkcaldies Reserve – Pamela Robinson

Mrs Robinson, a Kimberley Road resident whose property backed on to the Kimberley

Reserve encouraged more working together with people in the area as they knew what was going on. With regard her recommendation for more horse access and bridal ways, Mrs Robinson said there were a few people who would be interest in being involved. She also supported more story telling/signage in relation to reserves.

Submission 10 – Draft Foxton Reserves Management Plan – Foxton Rugby Club – Ani Skipper and Robin Hapi

Ms Skipper reiterated the four recommendations in the Club’s submission:

1. That a means of recording and acknowledging the significance of Pataka Reserve be found;
2. That HDC and FRC continue to work collaboratively in regard to Rugby and other related activities centred on Easton Park;
3. That parking spaces be painted in the eastern area facing the Main Road;
4. That free running of dogs on the entirety of Easton Park be discontinued.

Mr Hapi acknowledged the good and collaborative working relationship the Club had with HDC.

A copy of the Club’s submission summary was provided.

Submission 13 – Draft Foxton Reserves Management Plan - - Save Our River Trust – Robin Hapi

With Wildlife Foxton Trust sharing Trustees and members with SORT, Mr Girling took the opportunity to submit under the auspices of SORT highlighting the common vision for both organisations.

Mr Hapi then spoke on behalf of SORT, with both groups wishing to build on the already good relationship with Council and committed to the efficient and effective management of the Foxton River Loop Reserve area.

Both Mr Girling and Mr Hapi provided copies of their verbal submissions.

12.25 pm

The meeting adjourned at 12.25 pm to reconvene on a date to be advised.

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

**DATE:**.....

**CHAIRPERSON:**.....