



**I give notice that
an Extraordinary Turangi Reserves Management Plan Committee
Meeting will be held on:**

Date:	Monday, 28 August 2017
Time:	9.00am
Location:	Senior Citizens Hall (Te Kapua Park) Town Centre Turangi

AGENDA

MEMBERSHIP

Chairperson Mr Ngaiterangi SmallmanCr Tangonui Kingi

Deputy Chairperson

Members Cr Barry Hickling
Miss Tina Porou
Ms Hine Mohi
Mr Wally van der Aa

Quorum Three (3) members of which one (1) must be a representative from Ngati Turangitukua and one (1) must be a Taupō District Council elected member

Gareth Green
Chief Executive Officer

Order Of Business

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Nil

3.1 TURANGI RESERVES MANAGEMENT PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING - 12 JUNE 2017

Author: Raeleen Rihari, Democratic Services Support Officer

Authorised by: Brian Fox, Group Manager: Corporate and Community

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the minutes of the Turangi Reserves Management Plan Committee meeting held on Monday 12 June 2017 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Turangi Reserves Management Plan Committee Meeting Minutes - 12 June 2017 

4.1 CULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

Author: Sue Mavor, Senior Policy Advisor

Authorised by: John Ridd, Group Manager: Business and Technology

PURPOSE

Maria Nepia from Tihia Limited has provided her final draft cultural impact assessment report.

DISCUSSION

Tihia Ltd [Maria Nepia] was commissioned in March to prepare a cultural impact assessment for the land included in the Turangi Reserves Management Plan. This report will document the Māori cultural values, interests and associations with the reserve land and include recommendations on how to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects of reserve use on these values, interests and associations.

Maria presented the draft findings and recommendations of the report at the June Committee meeting. Her final draft report is attached. Staff have provided some feedback on this report to Maria.

CONCLUSION

Tihia Ltd [Maria Nepia] was commissioned to prepare a cultural impact assessment for the land included in the Turangi Reserves Management Plan. Her final draft report is attached to this report.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Turangi Reserves Management Plan Committee receives the draft Cultural Impact Assessment report.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Cultural Impact Assessment Report (A2014658)

4.2 PRESENTATION: TURANGI OPEN SPACES

Author: Nathan Mourie, Senior Reserves Planner

Authorised by: Kevin Strongman, Group Manager, Operational Services

PURPOSE

This item is for the Senior Reserves Planner to present information regarding Turangi open spaces.

DISCUSSION

Council are preparing a Reserves Management Plan for reserves in Turangi owned by Ngāti Tūrangitukua and Taupō District Council. This presentation is to help Committee members understand the open spaces and to help them come to a decision on the best approach for the drafting of the Turangi Reserves Management Plan.

CONCLUSION

None.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Turangi Reserves Management Plan Committee receives the presentation on Turangi Open Spaces.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

4.3 TO DETERMINE THE APPROACH TO DRAFTING THE RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Author: Nathan Mourie, Senior Reserves Planner

Authorised by: Kevin Strongman, Group Manager, Operational Services

PURPOSE

For the Committee to indicate a preferred direction for the draft Turangi Reserves Management Plan.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- (1) That the Turangi Reserves Management Plan Committee receives the report and confirms the direction proposed in this report for the draft Turangi Reserves Management Plan.

Or

- (2) That the Turangi Reserves Management Plan Committee receives the report and rejects the direction proposed in this report for the draft Turangi Reserves Management Plan.

- (3) That the Turangi Reserves Management Plan Committee directs officers to adopt the following approach to preparing the draft Turangi Reserves Management Plan...

BACKGROUND

The Turangi Reserves Management Plan Committee (the Committee) has previously discussed this item on 13 March and 12 June.

DISCUSSION

The Committee held an open workshop with the public on 24 July. The majority of the public present at the workshop were affiliated with various sporting groups from the Turangi district.

The main area of discussion at the workshop was around keeping the large area at Tūrangitukua Sports Park open and maintained for sporting activities, or developing a more focused location for sports at Te Kapua Park in co-operation with the local high school.

The public were largely in favour of retaining the current situation with the sports focus being at Tūrangitukua Sports Park. Representatives from rugby union and rugby league indicated that they respectively require four and three full sized playing fields. There appeared to be concern with losing what already exists, and an optimism that all of the spaces will be needed at some time in the future, even if they all fields are not required currently.

It is possible to locate up to four full fields on Te Kapua Park and the high school grounds.

It was also frequently mentioned that the current Tūrangitukua Sports Park facilities are not suitable for use, and new changing rooms and public conveniences are strongly desired.

The focus of the public present primarily centred on sports fields and changing rooms and did not expand much into the wider requirements of a community, and the inherent challenges present in Turangi from a holistic perspective.

As a stand-alone argument, it is acceptable to retain the current grounds and provide new facilities at Tūrangitukua Sports Park. However, Tūrangitukua Sports Park is relatively isolated from the rest of the town. From a community perspective, there is an appetite to have a focused, town centre sports hub which would help to activate the community and provide some economic stimulus. Centralising field and court sports activities in one broad location adjacent to other community facilities would be advantageous in terms of shared facilities with other users and, the general 'buzz' it could bring to the town centre.

Retaining Tūrangitukua Sports Park in its current or modified format will not address the wider issues such as security, vandalism, trespass and damage associated with motor vehicles, poor existing facilities, oversupply of maintained open space, poor drainage, etc. Each of these concerns is much easier to address at Te Kapua Park.

In conjunction with other developments going on in the town centre vicinity such as the revamped service centre, i-Site and volcanic centre, it could strengthen town centre activity which is desirable for a town which currently retains only one-third of the population that it was initially designed for (and held at its peak many decades ago).

There seemed to be a general acceptance of reducing the overall number of individual / neighbourhood playgrounds, while at least retaining the existing total numbers of equipment. This would result in fewer playgrounds, however the remaining playgrounds would each provide a better experience than the current small, scattered and isolated playgrounds layout.

The previous reports in March and June outlined the following areas of interest and proposed the following indicative methods of dealing with them:

- The main focus of the plan will be to elaborate on the partnership model for making decisions around what is suitable for Turangi parks.
- The introductory elements to the plan will ensure that the history of the sites is well explained, including the acknowledgements of the wrongs done to Ngāti Tūrangitukua by the Crown in their acquisition of the land which currently comprises Turangi parks.
- The plan will outline activities that are acceptable, and the measures which will be taken into consideration when assessing activities. Activities which do not fall within those measures will be assessed in conjunction with Ngāti Tūrangitukua, with Ngāti Tūrangitukua having the final say on whether or not an activity is to be allowed (unless there is an overriding legal aspect which would supersede Ngāti Tūrangitukua rights as landowner). However, any activity which falls within the measures may be approved by council parks officers at their discretion without having to consult Ngāti Tūrangitukua. This allows for special or potentially unsuitable requests to be considered by Ngāti Tūrangitukua, without the need to bother people for activities which meet the pre-defined criteria which have already been agreed to.
- In addition, there will be criteria defined as definitely unsuitable. Any activity which falls into these criteria will be declined by officers as well, without being required to be taken to Ngāti Tūrangitukua for comment or approval.
- Sites of significance as identified in the cultural impact assessment are to be acknowledged in a way that is considered appropriate by Ngāti Tūrangitukua. It is understood that some areas which are significant to local iwi may not be suitable for acknowledgement by the wider public due to the individual circumstances of each site. Suitable actions will be taken for each of these sites where the reasons for those actions may not necessarily be made public. Any disclosure of personal Ngāti Tūrangitukua information and history will be at the discretion of Ngāti Tūrangitukua's representatives.
- Opportunities to promote Ngāti Tūrangitukua and make people aware of the land's history will be taken advantage of where appropriate.
- Decisions made concerning the land, information and activities will go through formally acknowledged channels between the committee, Ngāti Tūrangitukua representatives and council. This is to reduce potential conflict and to make sure that Council has a consistent and transparent channel to contact Ngāti Tūrangitukua without risk of conflicting information.
- It is anticipated that either Ngāti Tūrangitukua will nominate specific persons to be points of contact, or that the Ngāti Tūrangitukua representatives on the Committee will be empowered to make decisions on behalf of Ngāti Tūrangitukua.
- Due to the changing nature of the population, appropriate services and facilities will be concentrated in the central areas, mainly Te Kapua Park. This may mean that isolated pieces of playground equipment for example, such as solitary swing sets, may be removed and a greater emphasis placed on improving the playground at Te Kapua Park. In essence, making one or two better facilities in preference to spreading around numerous lesser facilities.
- Ngāti Tūrangitukua Sports Park will have a reduced service level, with discussions to be carried out around the long-term future of the land. This park is infrequently used and has a few marginalised facilities which have been abandoned, or are unfit for purpose. Service for the park will be carried out on an as-needed basis for known events (eg Pa Wars), with services carried out at other times only for necessary purposes (eg fire risk and weed control). The buildings on the park which are unfit are likely to be recommended for removal, primarily the toilet block and clubrooms.
- Provision will be made for areas of reserve which are not currently required for parks purposes to be leased for other purposes to private individuals or companies. It is anticipated that the most likely form this would take is grazing of livestock on Tūrangitukua Sports Park.
- Parks with no purpose should be assessed for their suitability for retention.
- Any areas identified which are not necessary for park purposes, and it is not anticipated that they will be needed in the future if the Turangi population increases, may be ear-marked for removal from

Taupō District Council administration. Those areas owned by Ngāti Tūrangitukua will be returned to Ngāti Tūrangitukua as fee simple land. Any such land would no longer be eligible for support from council in terms of funding or maintenance, and council may remove any or all of its assets on the land following discussion with Ngāti Tūrangitukua. Land owned by Council may be returned or offered back for sale to Ngāti Turangitukua, or sold to any other entity following the appropriate legal processes.

- There will be a focus on maintaining appropriate vegetation on parks, with a strong emphasis on weed control and improving native bio-diversity and ecology in appropriate locations. The most high profile location for this work is likely to be the stream area which is located in the areas currently identified as A-E.
- Review the current names of all the parks in order to reinforce and assure the correct names have been given to all the reserves which accurately reflect the Ngāti Tūrangitukua history with the land. In particular the stream in the A-E areas may be re-named to something more suitable if appropriate.

The indication from the initial public consultations was that establishing a strong central series of open spaces was more preferable than retaining existing spaces and maintaining possibly unfeasible levels of service, for so many different spaces. Given that the town was planned and developed for around 10,000 people, and the current population was less than 3,000 at the 2013 census (a decrease of 9% since 2006), with no indication of significant population growth in the future, it was felt that it was appropriate to provide better services in a central location for the current population rather than rationalising resources over a wider area.

Officers are looking for a clear direction from Committee members about how they see the draft Reserves Management Plan evolving so that an appropriate draft can be prepared for consideration. One of the main aspects which will impact on most areas of the plan is the basic principle of retaining all existing areas and levels of service, or attempting to rationalise them and concentrating resources on providing improved levels of service into central areas.

Officers believe that strengthening the partnership between Ngāti Tūrangitukua and Council, clarifying expectations and decision making processes, and underpinning the cultural history of the land in an appropriate manner approved by Ngāti Turangitukua and Council is essential to achieving a good outcome.

Officers also believe that strengthening the ecological considerations of important areas such as waterways is a goal which meets the desires of all parties.

If clear directions and desires for Turangi open spaces are not laid out immediately, there is the possibility that funding through the LTP (Long Term Plan) will be jeopardised as any identified projects and priorities will not be able to be included in the relevant Parks and Recreation Activity Management Plan. The LTP process occurs every three years and sets Councils direction for spending prioritisation for the next 10 years. If Turangi misses the opportunity to apply during this LTP round, it is possible/likely that it will be another three years before any large projects can be considered by the Councillors for funding.

CONCLUSION

Officers require a clear direction for the principles of the draft Turangi Reserves Management Plan. The draft cannot be adequately completed without an indication of what principles are suitable for inclusion. Officers desire a decision today on whether or not the proposed issues and methods of dealing with them are suitable, or if the Committee desires officers to draft the plan with other principles in mind.

Officers still believe that the best route for strengthening the open spaces, facilities and community is to centralise many of the services and facilities, retain some facilities in specific locations for specific services overflow use, and where there is an obvious need.

If Tūrangitukua Sports Park had a reduced level of service which was not focused on traditional field sports, the level of service could easily be increased again if Turangi required a large area of sports fields once more due to population and/or demand increase.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil