

63 Hinewai Street

12 November 2010

Otorohanga

D C Clibbery

Chief Executive

Otorohanga District Council

Otorohanga



Dear Sir,

I wish to oppose the relocation of the Otorohanga i-Site and request time to speak at the meeting.

Yours Sincerely

Bill Millar

Otorohanga Taxis

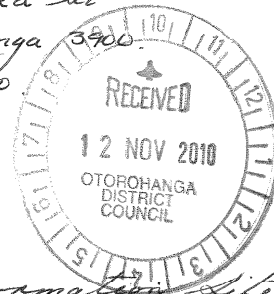
Bill Millar

75 Haenehuka St

Otorohanga 3900

13.11.2010

Otorohanga District Council.
Maniapoto St
Otorohanga



Submission re Information Site
& Library.

I feel that the Information site needs to stay where it is, as it's ideally situated for travellers passing through with easy access to buses. Shifting it to the meeting room would be a backward step.

I would like to see the library expanded so that the meeting room could be part of a new lay out.

It seems an incredible waste of beautiful books across the library to always have a sales table at the door.

I also belong to the new Turangi library and would suggest staff visit some other libraries for ideas on less cluttered layout. By gaining more room the computers, newspapers, magazines, CD & DVDs could be rearranged so the counter area was better placed and a more tranquil feel returned to the library.

Other libraries have the book shelves with a higher row of books & the shelving closer together.

I enjoy the library & the helpful friendly staff but feel it could be improved on so to avoid having to sell off so many books.

Yours faithfully
Elizabeth Hayes



HURLEY FAMILY
PO Box 134
Otorohanga 3940
New Zealand
12. NOV 2010.

To Otorohanga District Council and Development Board

Our family have discussed the proposal to move the i-Site from its present location to the meeting room at the library. We would like to make the following points:-

The current corner site is -

- easily sighted and accessible to both North and South bound travellers.
- excellent toilet facilities are available nearby.
- adequate parking for cars, campervans and buses, is available nearby.
- Intercity buses pick up and drop off passengers right outside.
- it is close to food outlets, banks, post shop, Ed Hillary walkway etc

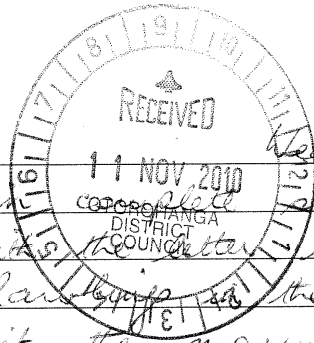
The proposed new site beside the library is unsuitable because:-

- it is set too far back from the main road and wouldn't be immediately visible to passing tourists.
- minimal toilet facilities are available there.
- parking behind the library is already at a premium and an increased volume of traffic could cause problems. This could also become a problem for the adjacent fire station which needs quick & easy access for firemen racing to answer a call out.
- where would Intercity buses pick up and drop off passengers as nearby designated bus parks are usually full of buses utilising nearby food outlets.
- the Meeting room seems to often be in use when I visit the library - where would these meetings be held if the i-site moves in there?

Wherever the i-site is located, we feel it needs signage at the main routes into Otorohanga.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to have some input into this decision.

The Hurley Family - Jerry, Rhonda,
Emma & Lee.



Wednesday 10th.

I write in support and agreement with the letter written by Frances Rawlings in the local paper, against the moving of the 1-site. This idea is completely ridiculous and is hard to understand the logic behind it.

For strangers passing through, any 1-site must be easily found, as this one is. Buses can park in the side street, at the back, and toilets are handy for passengers.

As a very frequent user of the library, I know the room is used a lot as very often there is no where to park at the back, these spaces are taken up by the users of the room. Library holiday programmes are set up there, it's often booked for 2 different groups in one day and I have it on food authenticity etc.

they are already taking bookings for 2011.
Where will these groups go, there is no where else centrally located for smaller groups. With buses parked there, there will be no room for the public to park, and how are the Fire Brigade members going to cope, arriving in a hurry as they do, to find it jammed up with buses & cars vying for parking. Utter chaos and utter crazy thinking.

Like Frank's, I too know of many people who feel the same, I wish I could sign on their behalf.

If the bank wants to expand, why don't they look at some of the smaller, empty shops in town, and leave the bank where it is - perfect place!

Mrs J. A. Longden.



Otorohanga Visitor Centre
 PO Box 152, 21 Maniapoto Street
 Otorohanga, New Zealand
 Ph 07 873 8951
 Fax 07 873 6132
 Email: otovin@otorohanga.co.nz
 Web: www.otorohanga.co.nz

11 November 2010

Chief Executive Officer
 Mr D Clibbery
 Otorohanga District Council
 Otorohanga



Dear Sir

Re Shifting i-SITE to Library Meeting Room

This submission is in support of relocating the i-SITE from its current situation at 21 Maniapoto Street to the vicinity of the public Library.

My preference would be to have the i-SITE at the front of the building where it would be more visible to the public and in my opinion more of a gateway to the town than the public library. I have however been told that this is not a possibility so would settle for the meeting room.

Benefits to us would include the following –

- Permanence
- Council owned modern building
- Renovated to suit our purpose
- Designated car parks
- Less chance of robbery (not sharing with a bank)
- Complimentary to library (both information providers)
- Pou Pou draw attention to the Village Green
- Easily sighted from the Ed Hillary Walkway
- Public toilets available
- Library already attracts visitors because of free internet use and Wi-Fi

Official signage is essential from all approaches to town and also at the front and rear of the Village Green.

We would also need to look into moving the Intercity bus stop from Wahanui Crescent to Maniapoto Street.

Initially I would expect a drop in visitor numbers to the Centre until the public get used to the new location but otherwise cannot foresee any major problems concerning a shift.

Yours faithfully

T E Ferguson
 Manager





12 October 2010

The Chief Executive
Otorohanga District Council
PO Box 11
OTOROHANGA

Dear Dave

Proposed relocation of Otorohanga i-Site

Further to the Public Notice placed in the Waitomo News and to your verbal suggestion, I am enclosing a written submission on the above proposal.

In general, I am supportive of the proposal. I believe that co-location of the i-Site with the Library has the potential to work well.

I do, however, have reservations about the proposal, which are outlined in my submission.

I would like to attend the Council meeting at which submissions are discussed, in order to answer questions from elected members.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "S. Osborne".

Sarah Osborne
DISTRICT LIBRARIAN

Encl.

Copy to: Graham Bunn



PROPOSED RELOCATION OF OTOROHANGA I-SITE

Overall, I am supportive of the proposal to relocate the i-Site to the Otorohanga Library meeting room.

I feel that the services provided by the Otorohanga Library and the i-Site are complementary to the extent that we are both, in the broadest sense, in the “information” business.

I feel that having more people both working in and visiting our building would create a very welcome buzz about the complex during the day.

There is potential for the library to expand the capability of our broadband and wireless Internet service into the meeting room wing – offering a further incentive for travellers and tourists to spend time in town.

My reservations about the proposal are set out below:

1. Library programmes

My main regret about the meeting room no longer being at our disposal would be the loss of this facility as a venue for our library programmes, in particular those that we offer for children.

I would miss the opportunities for fostering positive public relations that arise when children and their families visit the adjacent library space before, during and after the activities scheduled in the meeting room.

We do not have another venue readily available to us in which to hold our programmes. Although we can no doubt relocate our activities to other premises in town, we would probably be required to pay hireage fees.

2. Meeting room hire

In the 2009/10 financial year, hireage of the Library meeting room to external organizations generated a total of \$6,650 in revenue for the Council.

Agriculture ITO currently hire the meeting room for two or three days per week, with advance bookings having been made up to the middle of 2011. If the relocation does proceed, this organisation would need to be informed at the earliest possible date of the need to find an alternative venue.

3. Toilets

It is my opinion that the public toilets in the Library foyer would not cope with an increase in patronage from i-Site visitors. The unpleasant odour which occurs

occasionally in the foyer and toilets has already been noted by Community Board members – whether this is a problem with the drainage or with the ventilation I am not qualified to judge.

4. Parking and vehicle access

The number of parking spaces dedicated for library patrons is sufficient for current visitor requirements. Any extension to the parking area would need to take into account the needs of elderly patrons and young children using the library entrance facing Turongo Street. At present, heavy vehicles attempting to use the right of way on the northern side of the library building to access the rear of the Maniapoto Street cafe premises pose a safety hazard to pedestrians.

5. Exterior landscaping

I feel that the external outlook from the meeting room needs be scrutinized through the eyes of out-of-town visitors and overseas tourists. In addition to screening of the scrap metal yard, decorative planting and an improvement to paving surfaces would offer visitors a more pleasant impression of the town beyond the main street.

Sarah Osborne
District Librarian

18th October 2010

To Otorohanga District Council
Maniapoto Street
OTOROHANGA



Re: I SITE in Otorohanga

According to an article in the Waitomo News, 14th October 2010, the Council is asking for submissions regarding the proposal to move the I Site from its present site to the Meeting room in the Council-owned library building.

I wish to register my total opposition to this proposal.

The present position of the I Site is clearly visible to visitors coming into our town, particularly those coming from the north, and that is the majority.

Having recently spent some weeks travelling by car through France I can speak from experience about the value of having an easily-seen I Site in a strange town.

The motive for moving the I Site to the Council-owned room is wrong. It's about money, it is not about what is most convenient, what is best, for people.

In the newspaper article Mr Cato is quoted as saying that the present I Site is cluttered. Well, that's no reason to move! The Council would have been wiser to employ an interior designer to re-arrange the I Site than to pay for this statement and the other gratuitous reasons put forward by Mr Cato for moving away from the main thoroughfare of the town.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ruve C Wallace".

Ruve C Wallace

Ruve C Wallace
46 Gradara Avenue PO Box 46 Otorohanga
phone 07 8738123 email: rr.wallace@xtra.co.nz

The Chief Executive
Otorohanga District Council
PO Box 11
Otorohanga

October 21, 2010



Re: Proposed relocation of Otorohanga i-SITE

To Whom It May Concern:

As a visitor and resident of Otorohanga, I have some concerns regarding the proposed relocation of the Otorohanga i-SITE. The main and more obvious concerns are as follows:

1. What will replace the loss of the Library Meeting Room facility? Granted, there are many alternative community meeting facilities available but it seems like the loss of the Library Meeting Room will impose an inconvenience (no matter how small) to the organizations that regularly use it. More important than the organizations are the children and students of the community. Where will the Library School Holiday Programs be held? Having the school holiday programs at the library provides an educational environment that encourages learning. Shifting the school programs to any other location would take away the book-filled backdrop and reduce the didactic under-toning and effectiveness.
2. What will become of the space that the i-SITE currently occupies? In Tony Cato's statement, he mentions that perhaps Bank of New Zealand would like to have sole occupation of the premises. I would like to verify if this would be the case as I am afraid there will be another empty store front. Given the location as the InterCity bus stop and one of the first things drivers see as they travel south along SH3 into Otorohanga, this does not give the best first impression of the town.

It is clear that both current and proposed locations of the Otorohanga i-Site can fulfill the specific requirements as set out in i-SITE NZ membership standards. (Please refer to the bottom of page 2 of Tony Cato's report for the detailed list.) Both are in a central CBD position and within walking distance to major visitor attractions. The difference then depends on how well each site fulfills the ideal and desired qualifications as set by the Council but can differ depending on public views. Herein lies the dispute.

I think most would agree that the center be easy to find. I believe the current i-SITE location on the corner of Maniapoto and Ballance Streets is ideal. It is easily spotted on the main street when driving into town from the north and is also where the InterCity bus stops, naturally attracting newly-arriving visitors. The bus stop is next to, but does not obscure the visibility of, the current i-SITE location.

In contrast, not only is the proposed Library Annex building set back from the main street footpath, one has to enter through the main doors of the library complex only to go through another set of doors to access the premise. This also disrupts the library environment, which should be a quiet educational place for patrons to study. Though some can argue that the Village Green will be a conduit to attract patronage, being a frequent traveler myself, it is my opinion that it actually serves more as a distraction as visitors are more likely to gather there for lunch or pictures at the Poupou than to enter into the library building itself. The bus stop in front of the green initially seems like it would draw fresh tourists but does so at the cost of obscuring accessibility and visibility of the

proposed location to other passers-by and potential patrons. In addition, parking at the *rear* of the building further redirects traffic off from the main street, thereby affecting local businesses. Several times through his report, Tony Cato quotes: "i-SITE Visitor Centres are generally located in prime central city locations with a highly visible building and directional signage." Yet, given the obstacles discussed, the proposed location does not seem like it would be highly visible at all or at least not as visible as the current location. In either case, I agree that better signage needs to be placed at the SH31 intersection.

I am aware that cost-effectiveness is one of the key factors in consideration for the proposed location. However, given the expense of relocating and creating new signage on the library complex, it seems to me that it would be most cost effective to keep the current location. If the impression is that of clutter, then the interior can be rearranged at no more cost for a professional design consultant than that which would have been funded for the new proposed site anyway.

I agree that the proposed location more adequately reflects the culture and heritage of Otorohanga, both European and Maori. However, all things considered, this bonus feature alone does not outweigh the drawbacks of the proposed location nor does it outweigh the benefits of the i-SITE's current location. Please weigh the pros and cons of each location carefully.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my input. Feel free to contact me should you need elaboration on any of my statements.

Sincerely,



Hansie Wong
hansie920@yahoo.com

Otorohanga District Development Board

P.O. Box 152
Otorohanga
Ph/Fax: (07) 873 6132
Email: otovin@otorohanga.co.nz
www.otorohanga.co.nz

OTOROHANGA i-SITE RELOCATION PROPOSAL

Following extensive investigation and a report commissioned from independent i-SITE consultant, Tony Cato [reports attached] the Otorohanga District Development Board:

- Recommends relocating the Otorohanga i-SITE from the current premises to the Library Meeting Room
- Requests approval from the Otorohanga District Council for the relocation

Our reasons are as follows:

1. The cost-effectiveness of the proposal – no structural alterations or building additions are required. Other options investigated were: retention of the current site, construction of a purpose-built kiosk on the Council forecourt, purchase of a CBD building, extension of the library building.
2. The proposed location is in a council-owned building giving security of tenure
3. The Library Meeting Room meets all the requirements regarding an ideal location [cf Cato Report]
 - Stand- alone site independent of any major tourist attraction
 - Easy to find main street frontage
 - Central CBD position
 - Close to main visitor flows, Ed Hillary Kiwiana Walkway, cafes etc
 - Parking plentiful within 5 minutes walking distance (Maniapoto Street, Wahanui Crescent, rear of library building)
 - Public toilets within 5 minutes walking distance
 - Better utilisation of space & size (a “blank canvas” for a purpose-designed fit out - note clutter comments in Cato report)
 - Reflects the culture and heritage of Otorohanga, both European and Maori
4. Council currently receives a minimal income from the Library Meeting Room
5. Many alternative community meeting facilities are now available – St John’s, Harvest Rock, Beattie Home Wilshier Centre, Services and Citizens Club,

