



Otorohanga Community Board

AGENDA

19 June 2014

4.00pm

Members of the Otorohanga Community Board

Mr R Prescott
Mr NS Chetty
Mrs EM Cowan
Mrs AC Laws
Mr PD Tindle
Mr DR Williams

Meeting Secretary: Mr CA Tutty (Governance Supervisor)

OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD

19 June 2014

Notice is hereby given that an ordinary meeting of the Otorohanga Community Board will be held in the Council Chambers, Maniapoto St, Otorohanga on Thursday 19 June 2014 commencing at 4.00pm.

10 June 2014

DC Clibbery
CHIEF
EXECUTIVE

AGENDA

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PRESENT

IN ATTENDANCE

APOLOGIES

ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN GENERAL BUSINESS

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 8 MAY 2014

REPORTS

Item 35 **FURTHER CONCERNS REGARDING CRICKET PRACTICE WICKETS**

To: **Chairman and Members
Otorohanga Community Board**

From: **Engineering Manager**

Date: **19 June 2014**

Relevant Community Outcomes

- Ensure services and facilities meet the needs of the Community
-

Executive Summary

Concern has been expressed by the Otorohanga Domain Sports Association in respect of the proposal to permit cricket practice wickets on the Otorohanga Domain, on the basis that the proposed location of these wickets would adversely affect use of the Domain for soccer practice.

Staff Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. The report be received.
2. That the 'Camp Kiwi' camp site is not allowed to extend further into the Otorohanga Domain.
3. That the cricket practice wickets shall be located as shown in the attached plan, so as to permit potential future expansion of the 'Camp Kiwi' camp site.

Report Discussion

As members are aware in late 2013 the Otorohanga Cricket Clubs requested permission to install cricket practice wickets on the Otorohanga Domain, but the Otorohanga Zoological Society expressed concern that the placement of the wickets would constrain future expansion of the camp site, that night-time use of the wicket might disturb campers and that the removal of trees is undesirable.

The Board discussed this matter at its meeting of 13 February 2014, making resolutions that included the following:

- *The cricket practice wickets shall be located as shown in the attached revised plan, so as to permit potential future expansion of the 'Camp Kiwi' camp site.*

- *That a limited extension of the 'Camp Kiwi' camp site into the Otorohanga Domain, as indicated on the attached revised plan be approved in principle, providing that such an extension occurs within the next 3 years.*

This resolution has not however provided a conclusion to this matter, as representatives of the Otorohanga Domain Sports Association then raised objection that the proposed placement of the practice wickets would intrude into an area used as a practice soccer pitch.

It had previously been assumed that the Cricket Clubs, in agreeing to the revised position for the wickets, had consulted with and obtained agreement from the relevant local soccer organisers, but it subsequently became apparent that they had not.

There has most recently been discussion involving all of the affected parties to try and find a mutually acceptable outcome, but unfortunately this has not been achieved. A location could not be found for the cricket wickets that permitted the requested extension of the campsite whilst not adversely affecting sporting use of the Domain.

The attached letter reflects the collective views of the Cricket Clubs and the Domain Sports Association, which is that the Zoological Society should not be permitted to occupy a greater area of the Domain than they currently do. The representatives of these clubs state that the area between the camp site and the soccer pitches is not unutilized, and instead forms part of an unmarked soccer training pitch area used during the winter.

Whilst the extent of this usage is very limited, the fact remains that the primary purpose of the Otorohanga Domain is for active recreation, and as such it is difficult to argue that an area should be lost to such recreational use if the organisers of sporting activities at the Domain believe that doing so would be detrimental to this primary purpose.

The original suggestion that the camp site might be able extend further

At this stage Council staff have not yet received a plan showing the exact proposed new location for the wickets, but it is hoped that such a plan will be received prior to the discussion of this report.

Consideration has been given to the possible location of the practice wickets at a site other than the Domain, but to have completely separate locations for different aspects of a single sport does not seem desirable.

As such it is suggested that the most appropriate decision is to withdraw the previous in-principle approval for extension of the camp site, and that the cricket wickets are installed alongside the existing campsite boundary at a location agreed by the Cricket Clubs and the Domain Sports Association.

Dave Clibbery
ENGINEERING MANAGER

Attachments:

- Letter from Domain Sports Association and Cricket Clubs
- Domain Services and Drainage Plan

ITEM FOR AGENDA
OTOROHANGA COMMUNITY BOARD
19 June 2014

To the Otorohanga Community Board

Re: Proposed Caravan Park 8m boundary extension into the Domain

The Otorohanga Domain Sports Association, Otorohanga Cricket and Otorohanga Junior Cricket Clubs would appreciate the opportunity to provide the Otorohanga Community Board with information that may assist them with their discussions regarding the boundary extension of the caravan park. We thank the OCB for considering and approving our proposal in December 2013.

We appreciated meeting staff from ODC recently when we were able to gain a shared understanding of the governance, management and use of the Domain Reserve. We also met with Jo Russell and Alan Buckman from the Otorohanga Zoological Society where we were able to openly discuss the extension.

The purpose of this document is to inform the Otorohanga Community Board of our collective perspectives on how the proposed boundary extension will impact on sports and recreation at the Domain. Moving the boundary 8m into the Domain will have a flow on affect, and several different sports will be negatively affected.

The Current Situation

At least 400 people use the Domain throughout the year by the following groups:

- Summer soccer
- Winter soccer
- Otorohanga Cricket
- Otorohanga Junior Cricket
- North King Country Junior Football reps
- Otorohanga College
- Local schools

Implications for Winter Football/Soccer

The winter practice field is approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of the size of the full pitch on the Kakamutu Road side of the Domain. To preserve the quality of this match field, practices were moved to a designated practice field adjacent the caravan park. A significant financial investment was outlaid to install lights to allow for night time practices. Moving the winter practice and summer soccer fields would be problematic.

This area of the Domain until now has erroneously been considered 'dead space' and may have been considered so due to the winter practice field never being marked. To avoid the cost and time associated with field marking, coaches use cones and flags to mark their fields. Aerial photographs of this area during winter will not show the winter practice field, which may have caused confusion about the perceived use of this space.

Even with the current boundary, the space in this area in reality is at a premium as the proposed cricket facility will take up 8.5m of its width. In the original site for the cricket wicket, we are able to angle it slightly away from the caravan park for safety reasons. This would not be feasible if we lose a further 8m of the Domain, so the pitch itself would require a clearance of about 10m between the new boundary and the side of the wicket.

During winter months up to eight teams use this field for practices (including adults, college, women's and junior soccer teams). All players are advised to use this field to preserve the match field. If the boundary is extended 8m into the Domain the winter practice field will need to be moved closer to the centre of the Domain OR reduced further in size. This is not sustainable in the long term as use of the Domain has increased and we wish to promote it even further as a hub for cricket and soccer events. Having an increased number of users on a reduced space is less than ideal.

To allow for the proposed extension we will have to make space for:

- A safe zone of 10m between the new boundary and cricket practice wicket
- 8.5m for the practice pitch
- 6m minimum between the practice pitch wall and practice soccer field
- Up to 54m wide winter soccer practice field

This will mean that the winter practice pitch will sit 10m from the cricket pitch in the centre of the Domain. These soccer fields are placed as far away from the cricket pitch as possible for safety reasons.

The proposed extension will significantly affect the use and placement of the winter practice and summer soccer fields, and the quality of the infield surface for cricket.

Implications for Cricket

Moving the winter practice and summer soccer fields closer to the cricket pitch in the centre of the Domain will heavily affect the quality of the infield surface. Divots created during games and practices in the infield area would pose a safety risk for all users of the pitch and are already of concern with the current field placement. You will note that in the aerial photograph of the Domain, the three summer soccer fields are strategically placed on the perimeter of the infield. The Otorohanga Domain Sports Association work very strategically to balance the needs of all sporting codes that use the area.

During a recent meeting between ODC staff and several users of the Domain, we discussed six site options for the proposed cricket practice facility, including the original site already approved by the Otorohanga Community Board. After this discussion it became clear that the most appropriate site for the double practice facility is next to the caravan park boundary.

The following factors were taken into account when deciding the preferred site:

- Safety of Domain users
- Drainage, water and sewer pipes
- Access in and around the Domain by users
- Sun (affecting batting and bowling) and trees (affecting pitch)
- Aesthetics of the Domain

- Physical space available
- Cost of retaining walls

Implications for lighting

Existing lights will have to be moved further into the Domain at the cost of the Zoological Society. If the lights are not moved, half of the winter practice field will not be directly under the floodlights which are also used by summer soccer players at the start of their season. Also, if the lights are not shifted, flood lights will be cast over the proposed cabins at the caravan park. This could be a potential conflict when Domain users require lighting, yet caravan park users may not. Soccer players will also require access to the caravan park to turn lights on when necessary, impacting on the privacy of campers.

Where to from here?

Due to the factors highlighted above, our preference is for the boundary to remain in its current position. We believe that reducing the size of our sporting fields will compromise short and long term plans for sports development at the Domain. The provision of sport requires considerable space and restricting our boundaries will be counterproductive to the needs of an increasing number of users of the Domain throughout the year.

We hope that the Community Board are able to reassess the plans to extend the caravan park boundary. We believe that keeping the boundaries as is will support the goals in the 2014/15 Draft District Plan to *“enhance our communities quality of life, which provide a sense of place, active recreation spaces and opportunities for communities to interact – contributing to our community outcomes.”* We believe that providing sporting amenities for our own community members must be considered a priority.

While we support the increase in tourism activity in Otorohanga also outlined in the Draft District Plan, we believe that it should not be at the expense of existing and proposed structures at the Domain.

There is some urgency to the project as our goal is to install the cricket practice wicket by the first week of October, ready for the 2014/15 season. We hope that work can commence on the pitch in late June. We have a secured total of \$11,200 towards the pitch. We have garnered a lot of support from interested sponsors and they are keen to see the pitch in the ground.

Thank you for allowing our collective groups the opportunity to express our points of view regarding the proposed extension. We look forward to hearing from you so we can begin work on our exciting project.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me any time on 873 2847.

Yours sincerely

Lorraine Fox on behalf of:

Otorohanga Domain Sports Association
Otorohanga Cricket
Otorohanga Junior Cricket

**Item 36 DRAFT MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31
MARCH 2014**

**To: Chairperson and Members
Otorohanga Community Board**

From: District Accountant

Date: 19 June 2014

Relevant Community Outcomes

- Ensure services and facilities meet the needs of the Community
-

Executive Summary

The Draft Management Accounts for the period ending 31 March 2014 are attached under separate cover.

Staff Recommendation

It is recommended that:

The Draft Management Accounts for the period ending 31 March 2014 be received.

**Brendan O'Callaghan
DISTRICT ACCOUNTANT**

Item 37 OCB MATTERS REFERRED 8 MAY 2014

**To: Chairperson and Members
 Otorohanga Community Board**

From: Acting Executive Assistant

Date: 19 June 2014

Executive Summary

1. BOARD

8 May 2014

- i. To hold a Workshop on the matter of open stormwater drains, with onsite visits of proposed projects and also to review the current Policy.

2. CHAIR

8 May 2014

- i. To meet with Council's Community Facilities Officer to review the layout of the Cemetery and the request for additional Ash Berms.

3. MRS COWAN

13 February 2013

- i. To have discussions with representatives of the Beattie Home Rose Show Committee to ascertain if they would be interested in carrying out the Annual Community Garden Competition.

4. MR CHETTY

13 February 2014

- i. To provide Members with information in support of establishing a City/Community sister relationship with a similar Community in an Asian country.

5. COMMUNITY FACILITIES OFFICER

8 May 2014

- i. To consult with Mrs Rosemary Davison to discuss various options to re-garden the Burt McKenzie Reserve with low maintenance plantings.

**CA Tutty
GOVERNANCE SUPERVISOR**

GENERAL
