



28 February 2023

File Ref: 5-IM-2

[REDACTED]

Via email [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

**Local Government Official Information Request**

Thank you for your request for information from Council. All requests to the Council for information are required to be considered in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA). More information about how the Council handles LGOIMA requests can be found in the Council's LGOIMA Request Policy, which is available on the Council's website.

Your request for information was received on 27 January 2023 and related to the Taihape Community Board regarding NZMCA's proposals to establish a motorhome stopover in Taihape. Our response is below:

1. Confirmation whether the Taihape Community Board opposed the NZMCA's proposal to establish a motorhome stopover and/or NZMCA POP site, and if so, why? Copies of any relevant documents, including letters and minutes etc from the community board, would be helpful

**Response:**

Attached are snippets from Taihape Community Board meetings that reference anything relating to the NZMCA. Please note that all Community Board minutes can be found on our website:

<https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/council/meetings/community-boards/taihape-community-board>

As stated in the attachment there is now motorhome parking in Taihape at Spooners Hill Road. There is also the option for campervans to park down by the Kokako Street Hall.

2. A copy of the Taihape Community Board's terms of reference (or similar) that the board and Mr Rowland Signed when discussing the NZMCA's proposals.

**Response:**

During the time frame of your enquiry, the Chairperson (at that time) has advised that Mr Rowland did not discuss NZMCA's proposals at the Taihape Community Board meetings therefore there are no Terms of Reference.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

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Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests, where appropriate. Our response to your request will be published shortly at <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/council/about/contact-us/official-information> with your personal information removed.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Lisa Daniels on 06 327 0099.

Yours sincerely



**Carol Gordon**

*Making this place home.*

**Group Manager Democracy & Planning**

*Making this place home.*

*Making this place home.*



*Making this place home.*



*Making this place home.*



*Making this place home.*



*Making this place home.*



*Making this place home.*



*Making this place home.*

### **13 Building of the Hub on Memorial Park**

Ms Larsen spoke to her submission. She said that a large portion of the Taihape Community were concerned that the town was now no longer the thriving place that it used to be back in 2006 when this project was first proposed. These members of the community were keen to see the present venues preserved, rather than a new building built.

**Resolved minute number**                      **13/TCB/196**                      **File Ref**

That the issues submission on Building of the Hub on Memorial Park be received.

Ms Larsen/Cr Rainey. Carried

### **14 Proposed location of Leisure Hub facility on Taihape Memorial Park**

Mr Hodder summarised Council's decisions on this item. He advised that as a condition to making a commitment to a deed of lease for the site proposed by Clubs Taihape, Council had required a financial business plan and agreed to fund it. The building commencement date was to be within two years, at minimal expense to the ratepayer.

**Resolved minute number**                      **13/TCB/197**                      **File Ref**

That the report "Proposed location of Leisure Hub facility on Taihape Memorial Park" be received.

Cr Gordon/Ms Larsen. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **13/TCB/198**                      **File Ref**

That the Taihape Community Board endorse the decision that Council commit to a draft deed of lease for the site proposed by Clubs Taihape provided that the proposed development is fully funded, and an independently reviewed financial business plan is provided.

Mrs Fannin/Cr Rainey. Carried

### **15 Proposal to establish an NZMCA park at the old Camping Ground site, Spooners Hill Road, Taihape.**

Ms Prince tabled a letter from the Department of Conservation regarding ownership of the Old Camping Ground site on Spooners Hill Road. She advised that the land was currently being leased for grazing. This would expire in March 2014.

A NZMCA representative informed her today that they were also considering land on Manu Road by the Waste Transfer Station.

There was some discussion on issues that could arise from NZMCA having exclusive rights to the site.

The Mayor advised that NZMCA had successfully turned the old campsite at Marton into an attractive site which could accommodate 30 vehicles. The association promotes the district for free through their website. Many of their members are involved in community events.

The Board were all in favour of supporting the leasing of the Old Camping Ground site to NZMCA.

**Resolved minute number**                      **13/TCB/199**                      **File Ref**

That the proposal from NZMCA to establish a NZMCA park at the old Camping Ground site, Spooners Hill Road, and the DOC response be received.

Mrs Fannin/Cr Rainey. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **13/TCB/200**                      **File Ref**

That the Taihape Community Board supports in principle the leasing of part sections 109, 110 and 111 Block XIV Ohinewairua SD, known as the Old Camping Ground, or another parcel of land to New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Inc and that representatives be invited to submit and speak to their plan at the 12 February 2014 TCB meeting.

Cr Gordon/Ms Larsen. Carried

The Chair to write to the association conveying the Board's decision.

## **16 Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda – progress update**

### **Tui Street loading zone**

The Board asked that Mr Hodder write to Taihape businesses that had requested another loading zone in Tui Street along with a parking bylaw and advise them that these requests were not justified.

### **CCTV**

The Mayor advised that CCTV cameras were to be installed district wide. The Powerco Trust had made a favourable decision and the CCTV working group would meet soon and prioritise which cameras were to be installed.

### **Car park in Gumboot Park**

The Board were keen to see improved off road parking by the Gumboot sculpture.

Mr Hodder to ask that the Roading Manager provide costed options for this project and that they be included in the February meeting agenda for further discussion. The Board would then put a submission into the draft 2014/15 Annual Plan.



**Gumboot Park car park**

Mr Siau to discuss this item with the NZTA Safety Engineer.

**3 Confirmation of order of business**

There was no change to the order of business.

**4 Members' conflict of interest**

Members were reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest that they may have in respect of the items on this agenda.

**5 Minutes of previous meeting**

Resolved minute number

14/TCB/205

File Ref

That the Minutes of the Taihape Community Board meeting held on 27 November 2013, be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Mrs Fannin/Cr Rainey. Carried

**6 Presentation from the New Zealand Motor Caravan Association**

Terry Steedman spoke on NZMCAs proposal to establish a park-over in Taihape.

He said that they had considered various sites. These included the old motor camp site on Spooners Hill Road and land on Manu Road. Both of these sites had various issues.

The Association's preferred site is currently where the Croquet and Women's Bowling Club were once situated by Memorial Park. Clubs Taihape presently have first option on this site for construction of "The Hub". Mr Steedman said that NZMCA was prepared to wait to see what the outcome of this project may be. He said that NZMCA was willing to work in with other groups eg Horse Society and A&P Association if they were to secure this site.

Ms Larsen was in favour of this initiative. She said that recently there had been 23 campervans staying over on this site and more were due to stay on the weekend of Gumboot Day in March.

The Mayor asked that Council staff review the Reserves Act to determine if the old Croquet Club site can be used for this purpose.

**7 Chair's report**

The Chair's report was tabled and read.

## Matters arising not elsewhere on the Agenda: Progress reports

### 1. Off-road parking bay at Gumboot Park

The plan for the parking bay is attached. It is intended that work be undertaken before Christmas.

### 2. Repairs to Koeke Road

The Roading Operations Manager has confirmed that this work (cement stabilisation) will be undertaken in the third week of November.

### 3. Disposal of surplus building son the former Taihape College site, Rauma Road

A licence to occupy is expected very soon to cover the buildings which the Ministry of Education has agreed will remain on the site and be available for community use. This will include the gymnasium building, the hall, and some (if not all) of the administration building; the science blocks will be moved at the Ministry's expense, to a private site in Taihape for continued use by the School for Dance; the boiler will be able to be lifted onto a truck for disposal.

### 4. New Zealand Motor Home Association

At the Board's last meeting, members expressed a desire to see the Association have a confirmed location for its members in time for Christmas. However, Clubs Taihape has since indicated it is reluctant to allow having the croquet grounds used for this purpose. It is not clear whether this is an urgent matter for the Association. Information Centre staff have heard that the Camping Ground at Old Abattoir Road has been sold for private use only. Staff have made enquiries and are awaiting confirmation on this. Campervans and house trucks have (for a number of years) been parking by the Weather Station (by the ex-women's Bowling Club) at Memorial Park; this informal arrangement will continue.

### 5. Events Board signage

The Chair will provide a verbal update to the meeting on the initiative noted at the last meeting.

### 6. Signage at Gumboot Park

The Chair will provide a verbal update to the meeting on progress with the proposed wooden 'Taihape' sign by the Gumboot.

The Roding Manager replied that the original plan was fraught with difficult intricacies which would have resulted in costing a lot more. He acknowledged the Boards concerns regarding safety, but advised that signage would be put in place.

There was some suggestion that the 50kms signs be moved further north of the Gumboot. The Road Manager advised that this would involve quite a process with the NZTA Safety Engineer first having to prepare a report.

Following further discussion, the Board agreed to go ahead with the proposed parking bay.

#### Taihape Swimming Pool Parking

The Roding Manager spoke to the proposed upgrade of the car park at the Taihape swimming pool.

He said that at this stage only the entrance to the pool would be upgraded. The budget for this project was \$30,000, which Mr Pokiha advised would not cost this much.

His Worship the Mayor advised the Board to be wary that their decision would not impinge on the Steering Group options given that the Taihape Town Centre Plan process is considering the long term future of Council owned facilities.

Cr Rainey felt that the Board should wait to hear the Steering Groups outcomes rather than commit to spending money on this project.

Dr Oliver reported that the swimming pools had not been discussed with the Steering Group. He added that any Town Centre Plan projects were unlikely to happen for 3-5 years so he was keen to see the upgrade go ahead.

#### **Resolved minute number**

**14/TCB/227**

#### **File Ref**

That the Taihape Community Board agrees to the parking upgrade at the front of the Taihape Pool.

Mrs Fannin/Ms Larsen. Carried

#### Repairs to Koeke Road

Ms Larsen to be advised when this job is to be undertaken so she can inform the local school bus drivers.

#### New Zealand Motor Home Association

His Worship the Mayor reported that he had met with a member of the Vintage Club who spoke of their concerns regarding the New Zealand Motor Home Association having exclusive use of the old croquet grounds. He suggested that they write to Council with their concerns.



The Board discussed other options for campervans following the recent closure of the Riverview Motor Camp. These included the old bowling green and an area by the weather station.

#### Event Board signage

Ms Larsen spoke to the tabled letter from the Secretary of Keep Taihape Beautiful.

She said that the "Litter Group" originally formed from the Creative Communities Project had now joined Keep Taihape Beautiful. The groups were seeking the Boards permission to make use the back of the Events Boards to promote "Tidy Taihape". Ms Larsen advised that Keep Taihape Beautiful had funds available to pay for the signs.

The Board were happy for Keep Taihape Beautiful to make use of the Events Boards. They asked that they provide them with the final concept.

The Board suggested that Keep Taihape Beautiful log a Request For Service with Council staff regarding their concerns about the condition of the main street and Triangle gardens.

Ms Larsen to report back to Keep Taihape Beautiful that the Town Hall lighting has now been fixed.

#### Signage at Gumboot Park

Mrs Fannin advised that that the Taihape sign would be installed by the Gumboot on 24 November. The Taihape Meet and Greet Group had sent out invites for the official opening.

**Resolved minute number**                      **14/TCB/228**                      **File Ref**

That the Taihape Community Board gives Keep Taihape Beautiful permission to make use of the two Event signs.

Ms Larsen/Cr Rainey. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **14/TCB/229**                      **File Ref**

That the report 'Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda – progress update' be received.

Mr Fannin/Cr Rainey. Carried

## **16 Late items**

#### Taihape Community Christmas Dinner

The Board agreed that the Taihape Community Christmas Dinner be funded up to \$200.00 from the Small Projects Fund.

**Resolved minute number**                      **14/TCB/230**                      **File Ref**

That the Taihape Community Board supports the Taihape Community Christmas Dinner by



## Matters arising not elsewhere on the Agenda: Progress reports

**1. Off-road parking bay at Gumboot Park**

It now looks unlikely that this work will be completed before Christmas.

**2. Repairs to Koeke Road**

Repairs are complete.

**3. Disposal of surplus building son the former Taihape College site, Rauma Road**

Council has not yet received the anticipated licence to occupy covering the buildings which the Ministry of Education has agreed will remain on the site and be available for community use.

**4. New Zealand Motor Home Association**

There is no change to the situation outlined to the Board's last meeting. Council has not received any correspondence on this matter from the Vintage Car Club.

**5. Linnett Street driveway – St John's Ambulance**

The Roading Operations Manager has confirmed that this is being actioned (on the basis that Council pays one third of the cost).

## 17 Current infrastructure projects/upgrades and other Council activities in the Taihape Ward.

Resolved minute number

14/TCB/246

File Ref

That the report 'Current infrastructure projects/upgrades and other Council activities within the Taihape Ward – November 2014' be received.

Mrs Fannin/Ms Larsen. Carried

## 18 Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda – progress update

### Disposal of surplus buildings on the former Taihape College site.

His Worship the Mayor advised that he was still waiting to receive a formal letter from the Ministry of Education regarding the licence to occupy. This would then need to go to Council for further consideration. There would be consultation with current users of the facilities before determining the allocation of costs for utilities etc.

### Koeke Road repairs

Mrs Fannin expressed disappointment that the promised advice of when this work would be done had not been given

### New Zealand Motor Home Association

Mrs Fannin to ask that Mr Wilton submit a letter to Council on behalf of the Vintage Car Club regarding their concerns about NZMHA having exclusive use of the old croquet grounds.

Resolved minute number

14/TCB/247

File Ref

That the report 'Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda – progress update' be received.

Mrs Fannin/Cr Aslett. Carried

## 19 Loader Drive

Mrs Fannin spoke to her submission regarding the proposal of a street sign "Loader Drive" to be erected on the road to the swimming pool.

Council agreed to this proposal and that following further research from Archives, the sign would be named "Loader Avenue" in memory of Ernest Loader, a former Mayor of the Taihape Borough Council.

Mrs Fannin/Dr Oliver. Carried

## 19 Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda – progress update

### New Zealand Motor Home Association

The Chair reported that she had met with a representative from NZMHA who confirmed that the group was still keen to have their own park over site in Taihape.

His Worship the Mayor advised the Board to consider the Vintage Car Club's request and suggested that they meet with this group.

Cr Rainey felt that campervans should be encouraged to stop at Mangaweka.

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/TCB/010**                      **File Ref**

That the report 'Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda – progress update' be received.

Mrs Fannin/Cr Gordon. Carried

## 20 Community Initiative – “Good Sorts”

The Chair tabled a draft certificate and spoke to her submission on the “Good Sorts” initiative.

The Board discussed the criteria and agreed that this be awarded every 6 months to someone that has contributed something positive to the Taihape Ward.

Nominations to be done electronically or dropped off at the Taihape Service Centre. This initiative to be advertised in the local paper in April and November.

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/TCB/011**                      **File Ref**

That the issues submission on the Community Initiative – “Good Sorts” be received.

Mrs Fannin/Mrs Sicely. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **15/TCB/012**                      **File Ref**

That the Taihape Community Board introduces the “Good Sorts” award to acknowledge the work of our people in the Taihape Ward.

Cr Gordon/Ms Larsen. Carried



## **14 Quarterly report from Taihape Community Development Trust (December 2014)**

The Chair reported that the Taihape Community Development Trust was currently working on a new website with help from Lathan Ashton. She said that the Trust would not be organising 'Taihape's Got Talent' this year, but hoped that the Taihape Musicians Club would take over this event. She added that 'The Taihape Hour' had gone into recess due to a drop in numbers.

There was further discussion on Gumboot Day. Although numbers had been down, the Chair reported that this year they had had a lot more local support and she felt that there had been a great atmosphere.

**Resolved minute number** 15/TCB/033 **File Ref**

That the memorandum 'Quarterly report from Taihape Community Development Trust (December 2014)' be received.

Mrs Fannin/Cr Gordon. Carried

## **15 Current infrastructure projects/upgrades and other Council activities in the Taihape Ward.**

The Chair advised that there had been some confusion following the recent water shut down in Huia Street. Residents were unsure as to what part was to be turned off and the Kohanga Reo reported that they had received their notification too late.

Mr Hodder to ask that the Infrastructure Group Manager follow up with this issue.

**Resolved minute number** 15/TCB/034 **File Ref**

That the memorandum "Current infrastructure projects/upgrades and other Council activities in the Taihape Ward" be received.

Mrs Fannin/Cr Gordon. Carried

## **16 Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda – progress update**

Cr Aslett reported that the Gretna Hotel was making available some of its land for use as a park-over for campervans.

Ms Larsen added that the New Zealand Motor Home Association was currently investigating the option of using land in Wren Street owned by Mick Martin.

**Resolved minute number** 15/TCB/035 **File Ref**

That the report 'Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda – progress update' be



## Matters arising not elsewhere on the Agenda: Progress reports

### 1. **Provision of portable tablet for the Board's Chair**

The Chair has received the tablet.

### 2. **Off-road parking bay at Gumboot Park**

Physical works have started at the site.

### 3. **Disposal of surplus building son the former Taihape College site, Rauma Road**

There is no change from the situation reported to the Board's April meeting, i.e. Council has not yet received the anticipated licence to occupy covering the buildings which the Ministry of Education has agreed will remain on the site and be available for community use.

### 4. **New Zealand Motor Home Association**

There is no change to the situation outlined to the Board's previous three meetings. Council has not received any correspondence on this matter from the Vintage Car Club. Council is currently processing resource consents from property owners wishing to provide facilities for motor homes.

### 5. **Maps of potential cycleways**

Council's GIS Officer has provided maps to the Board's Chair for consideration.

### 6. **Additional dog exercise on Office for Treaty Settlements land at Robin Street**

This will be fully in place from 1 July 2015, from when Council's licence to occupy takes effect. Arrangements are in hand to erect signage and a doggy doo bin. Council's Control of Dogs Bylaw was amended (to include this area) by resolution on 30 April 2015.

### 7. **Ownership of gumboot sculpture**

The gumboot sculpture was commissioned by Gumboot County Promotions, which was struck off the register of incorporated societies in 2010.

When the Council's procurement and management of public art policy was being developed during 2006, the sculpture was specifically identified as covered by that, and Council's records show the sculpture was regarded as being in Council ownership at the time the sculpture was relocated to Gumboot Park.

Repainting would be at the discretion of Council, including any consultation with the sculptor.

said he understood the Board's frustration, pointing out that it was up to Council to follow up with the contractors if they had not delivered the service within the time frame allocated.

Profile for the Board on Council's website

It was agreed that individual photos of Board members would be taken.

**Resolved minute number**

**15/TCB/093**

**File Ref**

That the report 'Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda – progress update' be received.

Mrs Fannin/Cr Aslett. Carried

## 16 Late items

Taihape urban berm mowing

Ms Larsen reported that she had received a number of complaints regarding the overgrown berms around town. Of concern was the long grass on the top corner of Swan Street which was obstructing visibility.

Mr Hodder to determine which contractor was responsible for the mowing of berms in Swan Street and Ruru Road.

Te Moehau Junction signage

Cr Aslett tabled design options and information regarding the proposed Taihape sign which is to be erected by the Te Moehau junction.

The Board preferred the landscape option and suggested that the phone icon be replaced with toilet and distance icons.

Walkway

The Chair advised that there had been no further progress with the walkway from Dixon Way into town. She suggested that the Board come up with some ideas and then present them to Council.

Availability of croquet ground for motorhome parking

Members sought clarification on this, in the context of the provisional lease to Clubs Taihape. Mr Hodder to investigate and advise.

## 17 Future items for the agenda

None.

Council has a clear understanding of how it will provide the necessary supply, through storage tanks, and tenders will be called for this work during February.

**9. Banner over Hautapu Street**

Work is in progress for the installation of a pulley system extending from the Town Hall.

**10. Taihape Pool**

The remedial work was completed just before Christmas. As anticipated, the Pool remained open while the work was done. The cost of inspection, drawings and repairs was \$19,000.

Since then, investigation has been undertaken on the loss of water from the learners' pools but this is not yet conclusive. So far, this has incurred additional cost of \$5,000. Closure of these two small pools has had limited effect on attendance: Council's decision to allow preschoolers and their caregivers free entry has meant caregivers going into the main pool with their little ones.

**11. Availability of croquet ground for motorhome parking**

In the Deed of Assignment to Clubs Taihape, nothing is said to vary clause 3 in the original lease 'That the lessee will use the said land solely to provide facilities for the sport of croquet....' and gives the Council the ability to terminate the lease if the land is not being used (or sufficiently used) for that purpose.

In addition

- Clause 4 prohibits transferring and sub-leasing (which is why the Deed of assignment was needed).
- Clause 23 provides "the right or option" on written notice no later than three months written before 22 August 2017 for one renewal of the term for a further ten years.

This means that Clubs Taihape would need to surrender the lease for the croquet land to be used as a motor home park.

**12. Profile for the Board on the Council website**

A new page has been made in the website for the two Community Boards, with the suggested text following this update. A group photo of the Board will be taken at the 3 February 2016 meeting to be included on that page.

**13. Te Moehau Junction sign**

Cr Aslett may wish to report further on this.

**14. Walkway from Dixon Way to the CBD**

Board members agreed to consider possible actions at this meeting. .