
4.0 Management Aims, Objectives and Policy

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Aim

To provide access to the Waimata River, and passive recreation opportunities for the public, while retaining the open space amenity values of the Park.

Management Objectives

Anzac Park should be maintained using the following criteria:

1. To direct use to specific areas.
2. To increase user's appreciation of the Park and riverbank.
3. To discourage use of or provide access over environmentally sensitive areas.

The following management objectives pertain to Anzac Park.

4.1 Recreation Management Objective

Objective

To provide for passive recreational use, taking into consideration the Park is popular with a variety of stakeholders including sports clubs, families and individuals.

Policy 1)

To encourage low intensity, passive recreational activities such as picnics, walking, field sports and playing on playground equipment.

Discussion 1)

Providing facilities for the water-based sporting groups should be balanced against the need to supply facilities and open space amenity values for other recreation groups such as picnickers, walkers, football clubs and families using the playground facilities. Zones were agreed by various groups with Council in 2000. To ensure recreation groups are clear on zones, the zones should be noted on the signs to be erected at each boat ramp. Given the Management Plan is suggesting changes such as extending carpark areas Council should consult with user groups when signs are designed to ensure agreement of zones and codes of conduct by all parties. Codes of conduct will also require user groups to consider the safety of bathers. Swimming off the riverbanks of Anzac Park is popular during the summer months. Signs will be erected by the boat ramp and steps highlighting the need for watercraft users to be conscious of swimmers.

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Currently, facilities for other user groups are adequate when watersport groups are not present. Adequate car-parking is one main issue within the Park when the groups are present. Therefore, the car park in front of the clubrooms/storage facilities should be extended and delineated as noted in Annex 1 Map of Proposed Developments for Anzac Park. Carparks should be delineated around the main playground area. This carpark would also service the boat-ramp located on the riverbank, across the road from the playground. These carparks would be under the mature trees and constructed using organic materials such as stone and wood. They should not be painted with coloured paint. Facilities such as tables should be provided for picnics at the main playground and barbeque area and current seating could be upgraded in a similar nature (organic materials).

The barbeque area is situated near the main children's playground and is a well-used facility, especially over the summer months. It should continue to be maintained. The additional seating and car-parking proposed for the playground area, will similarly provide for those using the barbeque facilities.

Ensuring the safety of people within the Park should be paramount and fencing the perimeter of the flat grass area, complemented by appropriate planting, would stop vehicles driving onto the grass where children can be playing. Areas of the fencing, near the playground/barbeque and sport field viewing locations, should have a solid flat surface to double as seating.

Finally, the grass area used as a sports field should have drainage instituted to enable the field to be used year-round.

Policy 2)

To provide river access for water sports.

Discussion 2)

Anzac Park is located on a section of the Waimata River that is optimal for launching water-craft such as kayaks, skiffs and waka ama. Over the years it has also been used to launch small motorized boats and other craft. With the popularity of these sports, particularly waka ama, growing nation-wide, Anzac Park has the potential to be increasingly popular for these user groups in the future. Facilitating this recreation group to access the river by maintaining the boat-ramp and stairs down to the water should be a priority. Maintenance of the boat ramp occurs twice a year and includes removing silt and broken glass. Council should continue to monitor the build-up of silt with assistance from the waka ama groups and increase the frequency of the current maintenance regime should it be required. The outdoor shower at this location should also continue to be maintained and upgraded.

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An additional small craft launching facility should be developed in front of the clubrooms facing Riverside Road to provide for increased use by water craft at Anzac Park.

Similarly, providing adequate car-parking and storage facilities should be a priority in order to avoid congestion and haphazard storage of recreational equipment that could impinge on other's enjoyment and maintenance of the Park grounds.



Figure 6 Waka Ama stacked on the grass area beside the football field

One of the main issues when providing adequate storage for water-craft, is that the current rowing and kayak facilities, as well as the proposed Mareikura Waka Ama storage facility, will not provide for the 25+ Waka Ama currently placed on the grass areas along the river-bank. Ensuring that all craft are safely stored in a manner that does not impinge on other Park user-groups needs to be addressed.

Zones and codes of conduct were agreed by various groups with Council in 2000. To ensure recreation groups are clear on zones, the zones should be noted on signs to be erected at each boat ramp. Given the Management Plan recommends changes, such as extending carpark areas Council should consult with user groups when the signs are designed to ensure agreement on zones and codes of conduct by all parties.

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Policy 3)

To ensure the safety of the public at Anzac Park.

Discussion 3)

At this time, some of the grass area within Anzac Park is fenced (the football field). As mentioned in Policy 1) above, the safety of children playing on grass areas, or those seated having picnics outside of the currently fenced area, could be improved by erecting a low boundary fence around the entire grass area. The boundary fence could be enhanced with appropriate planting.

Cars are driving above the speed-limit within the Park. Speed bumps are located in one of the access streets into the Park (Hurahura Road) and residents in Score Road are seeking to have speed bumps introduced. Speed bumps should also be placed on the access road within the Park to keep speeds low.

Local residents note that the Park can be used at night for undesirable activities. It is recommended that the Park is locked at night, during the hours of darkness, and pedestrian access only is allowed. Times of opening should be noted on the entrance signs to the Park.

Similarly, residents have reported that undesirable activities take place along the Heta Road pedestrian access leading to Anzac Park. Council should investigate the impact of closing this access-way by consulting with local residents including those from the near-by rest-home. One resident has offered to purchase the access-way from Council and this option should also be explored. Council may dispose of land within Anzac Park under s.24 (2) of the Reserves Act 1977.

Policy 4)

Play equipment will continue to be provided. Play equipment will be maintained to comply with the national safety standards for play equipment and the play area will be enhanced through seating, tables and appropriate landscaping.

Discussion 4)

It is not considered necessary to provide any further play areas or equipment, however, the two playground areas should be combined to form one larger playground for both older and younger children with adequate seating, rubbish bins and carparking. It is recommended the Roctopus swing and other play equipment be moved to a combined playground area located under the mature trees at the southern end of the Park.

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Play equipment will be maintained and upgraded to New Zealand Playground Equipment and Surfaces Standard (NZS5828:2004).

Policy 5)

Applications to develop new storage facilities (or extend existing buildings) will be considered. Applications will be publicly notified under the Reserves Act 1977.

Discussion 5)

Where there is an approved management plan, and new buildings have been contemplated in the plan Council has the mandate to approve lease applications to develop new buildings (section 54(2) Reserves Act 1977). However, Council has resolved that all new building applications must be publicly notified regardless. Annex 1 identifies the preferred location for any new buildings.

Buildings on the Park will be limited to their existing footprint, applications to extend will require public notification.

Council is clear on the views of the public pertaining to this matter and has investigated it thoroughly. Submitters on the draft Anzac Park Management Plan preferred new developments to be placed next to the current storage facilities clustered near Score Road. Council will review available information and make a decision on the application as advised by the Hearings Committee on the 3 November 2005. The Committee advised Council will make a decision for the location and development of a waka ama facility by the 1 July 2007. Further, the Committee instructed Council to reconsider the Mareikura Waka Ama Club application after 1 July 2007.

The Management Planning process has facilitated the gathering of the view of the public on facility provision for recreation groups and individuals. If any clubrooms are approved no licenses will be granted for the sale of liquor. Similarly, no existing clubrooms will be granted liquor licenses.

The recent (June 2006) independent review of 24 potential sites for Waka Ama storage found that Anzac Park is the most appropriate location for storing Mareikura Waka Ama²². Given that Waka Ama belonging to other Waka Ama groups are also stored at Anzac Park, a solution to this management issue needs to be found.

Options to provide adequate storage facilities for Waka Ama need to be addressed by the Waka Ama groups, Council, local residents and other stakeholders.

²² Global Leisure Group 2006.

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Council has provided the opportunity for the public to comment on the proposed application for Mureikura Waka Ama to build storage facilities at Anzac Park on two occasions. The first opportunity was when the Club made the application to construct a facility at Anzac Park. The second opportunity was during notification of this draft Management Plan where four options were provided and the public were invited to comment and provide other suggestions. Further, Council contracted an independent consultant to advise them on suitable sites for this particular Club, and the recommendation was for Anzac Park to be the site due to high value attributes which were superior to other options. Council is clear on the views of the public pertaining to this matter and has investigated it thoroughly. Submitters on the draft Anzac Park Management Plan preferred new developments to be placed next to the current storage facilities clustered near Score Road. Council will review available information and make a decision on the application as advised by the Hearings Committee on the 3 November 2005. The Committee advised Council will make a decision for the location and development of a waka ama facility by the 1 July 2007.

Further, the Committee instructed Council to reconsider the Mareikura Waka Ama Club application after 1 July 2007.

Policy 6)

No new clubrooms will be approved, and existing clubrooms will not be granted liquor licenses.

Discussion 6)

Noise and night time activities has been identified as key concerns for neighbours of Anzac Park. Locking the gates during the hours of darkness should reduce inappropriate behaviour at night. Policy 6 is a recommendation of the Hearing committee and is an outcome of the hearing of submissions to the management plan.

Policy 7)

To ensure dogs are controlled as per Gisborne District Council Dog Policy and Education 2004 as a Dog Exercise Area.

Discussion 7)

During the management planning process it has become clear local residents walk their dogs within the Park. Council has noted that the closest dog walking area for Inner Kaiti are the local beaches which are some distance away. It is therefore recommended that a request to change the regulations (from dogs not being permitted) governing dog control at Anzac Park be made to Council. Anzac Park should be a Dog Exercise Area, which would enable dogs to be in the Park on a lead.

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4.2 Environment Management Objective

Objective:

To enhance Anzac Park's riverbank and open space amenity values.



Figure 7 View across the football field to the kayak, rowing and scout buildings

Policy 1)

To maintain the exotic and native trees.

Discussion 1)

The trees in Anzac Park contribute to stabilizing the river-bank, providing shade, providing habitat for birds and beautifying the area. Council has a comprehensive management plan and budget for maintaining the mature trees in Anzac Park. Maintenance should continue to occur on a regular and timely basis. It is suggested the planting of appropriate native bushes and trees such as Puriri and Kowhai, would encourage species such as kereru, tui and kaka, which are found in the Inner Kaiti area, to frequent the Park²³.

The two native bush areas within the Park are a unique feature of the Park and provide one of the only native bush areas within the area. They should continue to be maintained and not removed to allow for extensions to current clubrooms/storage facilities or new structures to be built.

Policy 2)

To remove plant pests and weed infestations.

²³ Personal Communication, 2006, Grant Vincent, Gisborne Forest & Bird Society.

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Discussion 2)

Council regularly remove plant pests and weed infestations within the Park. NGO's such as Keep Gisborne Beautiful, Forest & Bird and Weedbusters also contribute to weed and plant management from time to time. Prior to removing weeds, planting new vegetation, construction and earthworks, particularly near the river-bank, the Soil Conservation and Reserves Management Sections of Council must be consulted and in some cases resource consent will be required.

Policy 3)

To stabilise and protect the riverbank.

Discussion 3)

The riverbank is prone to erosion, flooding and occasionally damage from recreation users. Stabilising the areas prone to accretion through appropriate planting, particularly flaxes where appropriate, such as on the boundary of the native tree area on the riverbank, as well as continuing the wooden embankments along the length of the perimeter of Anzac Park is recommended²⁴.

Policy 4)

To address litter management.

Discussion 4)

Litter does not appear to be a big issue at Anzac Park however there can be more rubbish in the bins and on the ground during the summer months and when sport and recreation groups use the Park. It is suggested all rubbish bins not replaced since 2000 be upgraded and during weekends, when the park receives more use, rubbish should be collected and public toilets cleaned. Further, it is recommended a rubbish receptacle be placed outside the north-eastern club-room facilities and main car-park area. A rubbish bin should be placed near the car-park boundary of the children's play area.

Policy 5)

To avoid diminishing the open space amenity values of the landscape.

Discussion 5)

As a Recreation Reserve, public works and services can be accommodated with appropriate consent from Council. Parts of the Park could be requested as sites for future water/sewerage infrastructure.

²⁴ Dave Peacock, Drainage & Works GDC, advises stabilizing the Anzac Park perimeter of the riverbank is the responsibility of the Reserves Division.



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It is not desirable to build any new water/sewerage infrastructure above the ground at Anzac Park as these structures/buildings may diminish the open space amenity values.

Development of new infrastructure, and maintenance and upgrading of existing infrastructure will be permitted, however, no new structures should be built above the ground for public works/services.

If additional facilities are needed to accommodate recreation user-groups they should be located in areas which least impact on the open space amenity value of the Park and constructed to complement the setting. Existing and new structures should be painted in brown, grey or green, constructed of organic materials (exposed wood/stone) as possible and trees/shrubs/flaxes planted to screen the buildings from the open spaces within the Park and from Riverside Road. Planting along the riverbank will have the additional benefit of stabilizing the riverbank. Further, appropriate landscaping and screen planting is recommended.

There will be no more than two sponsorship signs per building. The signs will be no larger than 600mm x 600mm.