



GISBORNE

District Council

Waikirikiri Reserve Management Plan



Waikirikiri Reserve Management Plan

This Management Plan has been prepared in compliance with Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 and became operative in February 2000.

GISBORNE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Seton Clare

MANAGER: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

De-Arne Gibson
ASSISTANT RESERVES PLANNER

Location Map — Figure 1.0

1.0 Purpose and Function of Reserve Management Plans

- 1.1 Reserve Management Plans — Statutory Planning Process
- 1.2 Flow Chart : The Reserve Management Planning Process

2.0 Location / Access

- 2.1 Introduction
- 2.2 Management Planning Objectives
- 2.3 Legislation and Classification
- 2.4 Status / Area
- 2.5 Recreational Opportunities in Kaiti, Gisborne

3.0 Objectives and Policies

- 3.1 Main Objectives
- 3.2 Policies
 - 3.2.1 Development
 - 3.2.2 Location of Structures
 - 3.2.3 Substandard Buildings
 - 3.2.4 Leases
 - 3.2.5 Overnight Camping
 - 3.2.6 Commercial Activities
 - 3.2.7 Charge Events
 - 3.2.8 Visitor Numbers
 - 3.2.9 Tree Maintenance and Removal
 - 3.2.10 New Tree Planting
 - 3.2.11 Landscaping
 - 3.2.12 Ground Maintenance
 - 3.2.13 Site Furniture and Fittings
 - 3.2.14 Fences
 - 3.2.15 Vehicle Access and Parking
 - 3.2.16 Signs
 - 3.2.17 Lighting of Reserves
 - 3.2.18 Dog Control
 - 3.2.19 Fire Control
 - 3.2.20 Play Equipment
 - 3.2.21 Weed Control
 - 3.2.22 Pest Control
 - 3.2.23 Vandalism
 - 3.2.24 Litter Control and Dumping of Wastes
 - 3.2.25 Noise Control

4.0 Development

- 4.1 Signage
- 4.2 Fitness Trail / Training Stations
- 4.3 Netball / Basketball Court
- 4.4 Future Recommendation — Community Centre
- 4.5 Site Plan (including proposed development)

5.0 Management Issues

- 5.1 Reserve Linkages
 - 5.1a Reserves Linkages Map
- 5.2 Landscape Work
- 5.3 Tree Management
- 5.4 Vehicle Restraints
- 5.5 Use of Facilities
- 5.6 Reserve Users
- 5.7 Vandalism
- 5.8 Maintenance Costs

6.0 Appendix

- 6.1 Site Description
- 6.2 Proposed Fitness Trail and Path Costings
- 6.3 Recommendation for Recreation / Community Centre (submission)

1.0 Purpose and Functions of Reserve Management Plans

Under the Reserves Act 1977 all administering bodies are required to prepare and develop management plans for reserves under their control. The purpose of a reserve management plan is to *“...provide for and ensure the use, enjoyment, maintenance protection and preservation, as the case may require, and to the extent that the administering body’s resources permit, the development as appropriate, of the reserve for the purposes of which it is classified....(Reserves Act 1977, Section 41 (3)”*.

Reserve management plans are not simply created for reserve design purposes. Essentially the function of a reserve management plan is to create a set of objectives and policies through which design proposals can be critically and effectively assessed.

Within regions and communities there exist different needs and social demands over resource availability. One of the primary goals of a reserve management plan is to manage available resources in a way that will meet current needs and facilitate resources and opportunities to meet desired needs. To achieve this management plans must be objective and critical in their analysis of resource availability. Opportunities for outdoor recreation experiences must be identified and classified. Present and future uses of reserve land must be critically examined and analysed. The public must be given the opportunity to participate in the planning process through consultation and the public submission process.

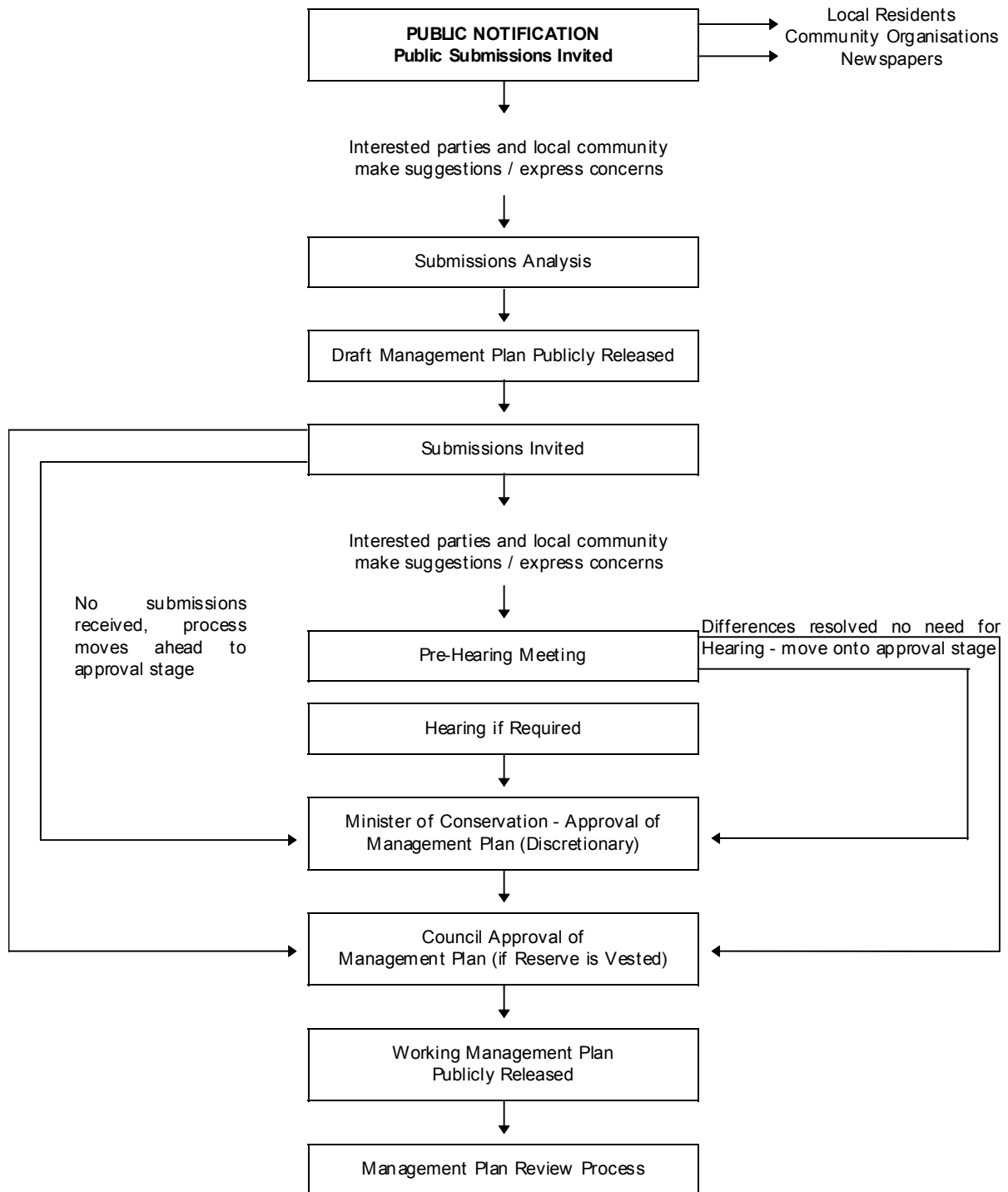
1.1 Reserve Management Plans - Statutory Planning Process

- a. Council gives public notice of its intention to prepare a reserve management plan.
- b. Submissions are collected over a two month period from the date of notification.
- c. Council publicly releases its draft management plan and invites interested parties and the local community to make suggestions/express concern in the submission process.
- d. Council can have a Reserves Management Plan hearing to consider submissions received.
- e. Preparation and release of final management plan.



1.0 Purpose and Functions of Reserve Management Plans

1.2 Reserve Management Planning Process



2.1 Introduction

In June 1992 the Gisborne District Council successfully negotiated the purchase of the former Kaiti secondary school site (situated on the corner of Tyndall Road and Dalton Street) from the Ministry of Education. The intention of Council's purchase was to obtain a large area of land in the inner Kaiti area for future development of a multi purpose sports ground. The site was in pasture, dominated by rye grass and clover. A network of open drains ran within the site.

Since purchasing the Waikirikiri Reserve area in 1992 there has been a great deal of landscaping and facility development. The reserve has four major tile drained sports fields, is bordered to the north by a stop bank and large drain, and bordered on the west by a stop bank. The reserve has an area with play equipment including hoops for older children, landscaped garden and newly planted trees, a surfaced walkway off Tyndall Road, picnic tables and seating, and a substantial toilet, shower and changing room complex. A car park accommodating 140 vehicles has also been developed.

Waikirikiri Reserve has been developed into a large recreation reserve with quality facilities, fields, and furniture in an area of Gisborne with a high population of active sports people. The reserve was developed at this location for the benefit of those especially living in the surrounding area, and the socio-economic problems of Kaiti have had a major impact on the appearance and functions of the reserve. Vandalism and graffiti are major problems visually and socially, minimising recreation experiences and opportunities.

Waikirikiri Reserve is possibly the most hard hit by vandalism out of all of the reserves in the District. All of the Waikirikiri Reserve facilities have been vandalised to some degree. The toilet and changing facilities are constantly attacked by youths, and broken glass is continually found around this building and on the grass surroundings. The newly installed play module has also been graffitied. Graffiti covers the play equipment from top to bottom. Every inch of the furniture is also covered in graffiti. A number of deciduous tree species that were planted in early 1995, and again in 1999, have also been attacked by vandals. These actions hinder further development plans.

2.2 Management Planning Objectives

2.2.1 To satisfy the statutory requirements of the Reserves Act 1977 by preparing management plans for reserves under Council's control, management, or administration.

2.2.2 To produce a clear set of policies that will allow Council to develop and manage Waikirikiri Reserve meeting the present and future recreation needs of the community.

2.2.3 To achieve community agreement through consultation on the management of Waikirikiri Reserve and inviting public submissions on the draft Waikirikiri Reserve Management Plan.

2.3 Legislation and Classification

Reserve Management Plans are a statutory requirement of the Reserves Act 1977:

“The administering body shall prepare and submit to the Minister for his approval a management plan for the reserve under its control, management, or administration” (Section 41 (1)).

The management plan shall provide for and ensure the use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection, and preservation, as the case may require...the development, as appropriate, of the reserve for the purposes for which it is classified” (Section 41 (3)).

Waikirikiri Reserve is classified as a Recreation Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977. Recreation Reserves under the Reserves Act 1977 have *“the purpose of providing areas for the recreation and sporting activities and the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public, and for the protection of the natural environment and beauty of the countryside, with emphasis on the retention of openspaces and on outdoor recreational activities, including recreational tracks in the countryside”*(Section 17 (1)).

Waikirikiri Reserve is zoned as a Recreation Reserve in the *Proposed* Gisborne District Combined Regional Land and District Plan. The Recreation Reserve Zone covers those reserve areas that enable active and organised recreation.

The Recreation Reserve resource provides for sportsfields, tennis courts, sites catering for indoor recreation and leisure pursuits which have the potential to attract large numbers of people brings with it the possible loss of amenity. The purpose of the zone is to enable the community to provide for its sports and leisure needs in such a way that the scale and organised nature of such activities does not create adverse effects. The Resource Management Act 1991 is the statutory basis for the *Proposed* Gisborne District Combined Regional Land and District Plan.

2.4 Status/Area

Waikirikiri Reserves legal description is Section 16 & 17 Blk VII Turanganui Survey District SO 7574. Waikirikiri Reserve has a total area of 9.11774 hectares.

2.5 Recreational Opportunities in the Area of Kaiti, Gisborne

Gisborne is fortunate to have a generous portion of open space under reservation for recreational purposes. Waikirikiri Reserve in Kaiti, is a more densely populated area (person per square metre) than the rest of Gisborne. Waikirikiri Reserve is a large area of openspace containing sports fields and changing sheds incorporating toilets and showering facilities. Play equipment has been provided catering for the play needs of young children and intermediate children with a play module and a basket and ball game. New planting has also occurred around the perimeter of the reserve.

Other reserves in the immediate surrounding area are mainly zoned Neighbourhood Reserves in the *Proposed* Gisborne District Combined Regional Land and District Plan. The Neighbourhood Reserves provide small areas of open space for passive and informal active recreation. These reserves are Martin Road Reserve, Ida Road Reserve, Coldstream Road Reserve, London Street Reserve, Titirangi Park. There are other Recreation Reserves in Kaiti, these are Anzac Park, Kaiti Memorial Park and Heath Johnstone Reserve. Anzac Park has a soccer field and Heath Johnstone Reserve caters for Rugby League and Softball purposes.

The purpose of Recreation Reserves (according to the *Proposed* Gisborne District Combined Regional Land and District Plan) is to enable the community to provide for its sports and leisure needs in such a way that the scale and organised nature of such activities does not create adverse effects. The objectives and policies for Waikirikiri Reserve need to reflect the purpose of the reserve under the District Plan and the Reserves Act 1977.

3.1 Main Objectives

- 3.1.1 To provide quality open space and recreation facilities which meet the sporting, leisure, and recreation needs of the community.
- 3.1.2 To allow for sustainable recreation opportunities.
- 3.1.3 To provide open space for active recreation with subsidiary uses being passive recreation including child's play.

3.2 Policies

3.2.1 Development

- a. Any development on Waikirikiri Reserve shall comply with the objectives and policies of the *Proposed* Gisborne District Combined Regional Land and District Plan and this management plan.
- b. Development shall recognise the value of open space for active and passive recreation opportunities.

3.2.2 The location of structures

Sculpture, artwork, plaques, and play equipment at Waikirikiri Reserve will be located where:

- a. They will be most highly utilised by reserve users.
- b. The reserve retains optimum open space.

3.2.3 Substandard Buildings

Substandard buildings and structures shall be removed and replaced if necessary.

3.2.4 Leases

Short term leases (up to 5 years) will be permitted to be entered into with reputable summer or winter sporting bodies.

3.2.5 Overnight Camping

Overnight camping at Waikirikiri Reserve is prohibited.

3.2.6 Commercial Activity

Temporary small scale commercial activity such as gala days, flea markets, and concerts will be permitted if the following conditions are met:

- a. Organisers must gain the written permission of the Council to hold such events.
- b. Council may require a bond to cover damage to vegetation or buildings, and rubbish collection.
- c. Commercial activities on Waikirikiri Reserve may only be an occasional event at the Reserve Supervisors discretion. Regular commercial events will not be permitted.

3.2.7 Charge Events

Charge events will be permitted if the following conditions are met:-

- a. Organisers gain the written permission of Council to hold such events.
- b. Council may require a bond to cover any damage resulting from the charge event activities.

3.2.8 Visitor Numbers

There is no restriction on the number of visitor numbers at Waikirikiri Reserve (except in those conditions outlined below);

- a. Special events such as galas and charge events that may attract large numbers of people to a particular reserve may require a permit from the Council (See policy 3.2.7(a). Council will determine whether visitor numbers maybe too high and can impose conditions, transfer the event to another park or not permit it to go ahead.

3.2.9 Tree maintenance and Removal

Existing trees shall be maintained in good condition and may be removed only for reasons of safety or good management as set out below:

- a. The tree is dead, dying or diseased.
- b. The tree has become a danger to public safety (i.e. the tree is growing into power lines).
- c. The tree is obstructing the water flow in any drainage system, or the stream.
- d. The tree is suppressing or inhibiting growth of a more desirable specimen of tree or other vegetation of greater interest to the public (i.e. native).
- e. The tree is a poor specimen or is unsuited to the site due to soil type or other factors and needs to be removed in order that the area be replanted with trees that will make better specimens.
- f) No tree removal will commence without the approval of the Reserves Supervisor. Before any major planting Reserves Planning and Reserves Supervisors should be consulted.

3.2.10 New Tree Planting

New planting will take place in appropriate areas where they will enhance the environment of the reserve in order to;

- a. Provide shelter and shade for reserve users.
- b. Replace trees removed for reasons listed above.
- c. Increase soil stability and control erosion.
- d. Screen the boundaries of the Park.
- e. At appropriate opportunities native species shall be selected for new planting.
- f. New planting will be undertaken as staffing and financing permits.
- g. No trees are to be planted on reserves by members of the public without written permission from the Reserves Supervisor.
- h. The type of tree chosen must be appropriate for the site and the selection must be approved by the Reserve Supervisor.

3.2.11 Landscaping

All landscaping will take into consideration the location of the reserve within the immediate neighbourhood and the recreational needs of the surrounding community.

3.2.12 Ground Management

The Council will maintain Waikirikiri Reserve's grounds to a level acceptable for formal active recreation (adequate sports fields) and passive recreation including child's play.

3.2.13 Site Furniture and Fittings

To provide site furniture and fittings appropriate to Waikirikiri Reserve and compliant with the reserves policies to facilitate public use and enjoyment of the reserve.

- a. Furniture and fittings shall be designed so that they relate to one and other. They should be 'user-friendly' to users of all ages and abilities.
- b. Seating and picnic tables shall be placed under trees where appropriate for shade coverage and give regard to visibility and views.
- c. Rubbish receptacles should be placed in high use areas.

3.2.14 Fences

- a. The fence shall be of a height and design to minimise visual impact.
- b. The fence shall restrict vehicle access and parking on non-designated areas.
- c. All fences and boundaries must comply with the provisions of the *Proposed* Gisborne District Combined Regional Land and District Plan and Building Act 1991.
- d. Fences and boundaries will be of a design which is consistent with their intended function and use.
- e. The Fencing Act (1977) will be invoked to ensure cost sharing for the maintenance and construction of boundary fences if necessary.

3.2.15 Vehicle Access and Parking

- a. Council vehicles and other vehicles authorised by the Council shall have access to all parts of the reserve where there use is necessary.
- b. Parking should occur in the designated carparking area or on adjacent street berms.

3.2.16 Signs

Signs located on reserves will be subject to the following design criteria;

- a. All signs on reserves are to comply with the provisions of the *Proposed* Gisborne District Combined Regional Land and District Plan.
- b. A sign will be erected on Waikirikiri Reserve in a prominent position that will give the name of the reserve and relevant reserve information as to permitted activities.

3.2.17 Lighting of Reserves

- a. Lighting on reserves will follow those standards set out in the *Proposed* Gisborne District Combined Regional Land and District Plan, and shall comply with the operative New Zealand Standard for outdoor lighting.
- b. Lighting of the proposed path shall be provided if required for the safety and convenience of the public.
- c. Cables for light fixtures should be underground wherever possible.
- d. Hours of operation of lights shall be limited to those approved by Reserve Supervisor.
- e. Lighting and installations shall be designed to avoid excessive light spill and glare into surrounding residential areas.

3.2.18 Dog Control

Waikirikiri Reserve is a 'Dog Exercise Area'. This area allows dogs to be exercised only when on a lead or harness.

3.2.19 Fire Control

The lighting of open fires on Waikirikiri Reserve is prohibited. Permission may be granted for barbeques if written permission has been sought from the Reserves Supervisor.

3.2.20 Play Equipment

- a. Existing play equipment will be maintained to a level of safety complying with recognised safety standards to be specified by Council. This standard is presently NZS 5828 Parts 1-3, “General Guidelines for New and Existing Playgrounds, Equipment and Surfacing”. This item may be reviewed by Council on the production of a successive joint Australia/New Zealand Safety Standard.
- b. New play equipment will require a building consent if there is a fall height of over 2.4 metres.

3.2.21 Weed Control

- a. Council and its contractors are required to adhere to the ‘Agrochemical Users Code of Practices NZS 8409:1995 produced by Standards New Zealand and the New Zealand Agrichemical Education Trust, or any successive code of practice adopted by Council.
- b. Community Facilities Division with the assistance and guidance of the Noxious Plants and Pests Division of Council will actively monitor, identify and remove where present all known and classified noxious plants and pests within Neighbourhood Reserves.

3.2.22 Pest Control

Animal pests may be controlled on Waikirikiri Reserve as required or where their presence effects the recreation opportunities for reserve users (also see 3.2.21 b).

3.2.23 Vandalism

- a. Where possible, facilities will be located to reduce the risk of vandalism and be constructed in a way that will reduce the effects of vandals.

- b. If vandals are apprehended and brought to the notice of the Police, Council will seek restitution for their damage, or repair if practicable and sufficient supervision can be provided.
- c. Vandalism on Waikirikiri Reserve will be repaired/removed as soon as funding and staffing allow.

3.2.24 Litter Control and Dumping of Wastes

- a. Council will provide rubbish receptacles on Waikirikiri Reserve where considered necessary by the Reserve Supervisor.
- b. Litter will be removed prior to the mowing of Waikirikiri Reserve (especially concerned about broken grass and aluminum cans).
- c) The dumping of refuse, including garden wastes on Waikirikiri Reserve will not be permitted. This is enforced under the terms of the Resource Management Act 1991, Litter Act, and Council Bylaws.

3.2.25 Noise Control

Noise levels must abide with the 11.12.2 of the *Proposed* Gisborne District Combined Regional Land and District Plan.

4.1 Signage

Waikirikiri Reserve requires a reserve sign. The sign should be placed on the corner of Tyndall Road and Dalton Street. The sign should illustrate permitted and prohibited activities for Waikirikiri Reserve. If possible the sign should be made of materials and designed in a way to mitigate the effects of possible vandalism. Signs are important for public information and to encourage appropriate recreational use of the reserve.

4.2 Fitness Trail/Training Stations

A fitness station including 5-6 training stations could be established along one side of the reserve (*see site plan of proposed development 4.5*). The trail running from just beyond the ablution block straight to the end of the reserve. A walkway could also be developed running along side the fitness trail for runners. The walkway would also provide easier access for spectators to the fields during the wet winter months. The walkway should run the length of the reserve from the ablution block (approximately 300m in length) and be 1.5-2 metres wide allowing enough room for dual use. Eventually this path may be continued around the full perimeter of the reserve providing a walkway around the reserve away from the built environment. The path should be made of materials which are as graffiti proof as possible.

4.3 Netball/Basketball Court

Netball and basketball are popular sports in Gisborne. Netball/basketball courts have been identified by Reserves Planning and community facilities asset management as a recreation facility which would be well utilised in the Kaiti area. Waikirikiri Reserve is an excellent site for such an activity (*see 4.5 site plan including proposed development*). It is proposed that such a court be developed along the Tyndall Road street frontage, alongside the carpark. Community facilities Asset Management have estimated the cost of one court to be approximately \$25,000.

Of course this further development could only be considered when funding allows. Council is currently spending a lot of money on Waikirikiri Reserve simply maintaining the reserve and ridding present recreation and community facilities of graffiti. Unfortunately this expenditure effects the recommendations and possibilities for further development for Waikirikiri Reserve.

4.4 Future Recommendation : Recreation and Community Centre

A Recreation and Community Centre could provide a useful facility for the Kaiti community. A proposal has been made by a member of the community through the submission process (*see Appendix 6.3*) for such a facility.

The proposed centre includes basketball/volleyball/netball courts, meeting rooms, IT suite, gym/aerobics room and toilets/showers/changing area.

This proposal may need to be revisited in the future when/as funding and the community's needs dictate. Currently there are other centres offering similar facilities which exist in Gisborne (including Kaiti) which are currently under-utilised and under-funded.

5.1 Reserve Linkages

Waikirikiri Reserve is part of a Recreation Reserve system within the Gisborne District. There are three other Recreation Reserves in the Kaiti area. Most reserves quickly attract a sports code affiliation to the reserve. Gisborne is fortunate to have a number of recreation reserves to cater for a range of sporting activities.

Waikirikiri Reserve is in outer Kaiti surrounded by Neighbourhood Reserves and Recreation Reserves used for informal active recreation. Neighbourhood reserves and recreation reserves offer different recreation opportunities. Recreation Reserves provide for passive and formal/informal active recreation. The purpose of the recreation reserve zone is to enable the community to provide for its sports and leisure needs in such a way that the scale and organised nature of such activities does not create adverse effects. Where as Neighbourhood Reserves tend to be rather limited in size with landscaping and play equipment key facilities in providing for the surrounding neighbourhoods needs. The Neighbourhood Reserve zone provides for those reserves generally of limited size which contribute to neighbourhood amenity and provide openspace relief in the built environment. Passive recreation is provided for with an emphasis on children's play equipment, seating and landscaping. The purpose of this zone is to maintain and enhance amenity in the residential environment.

Martin Road Reserve is a Neighbourhood Reserve opposite Waikirikiri Reserve. This reserve has play equipment and provides a play area for children in the neighbourhood. Waikirikiri Reserve also has an area with a new play module and basketball hoop.

5.1a Reserve Linkages Map

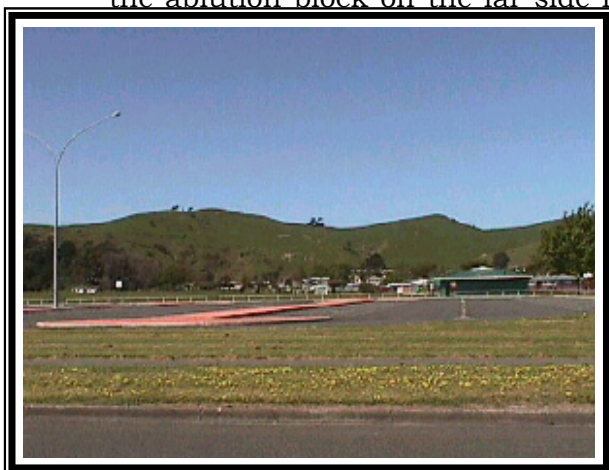
Waikirikiri Reserve and Other Reserves in Kaiti, Gisborne



5.2 Landscape Work

The area known as Waikirikiri Reserve was once a swamp. Council drained the reserve. Field tiles were laid (under the playing fields surface) to relieve the reserve of excess water, and the surface was mole ploughed. Unfortunately the ploughing (normally successful) had adverse effects. The reserve's soil (clay based), once ploughed the cracks in the surface grew rather than rejoining. These cracks had to be filled with sand. The four playing fields have since returned to quality sports fields.

A number of trees have been planted around the perimeter of the reserve. Trees planted are; Butia Palms along Dalton Street frontage , Titoki near the ablution block on the far side from Dalton Street, and Prunus trees



around the perimeter of the sports fields and at the corners of the car park. A small boxed garden has also been planted near the play equipment.

A carpark has also been provided with access off Tyndall Road. The carpark accommodates 140 carpark spaces including disability carpark spaces.

5.3 Tree Management

New trees have been planted at Waikirikiri Reserve. These trees should receive good management practices and will need to be pruned in an effective manner with correct pruning methods. Trees that have been planted are appropriate for the reserve and they should not need to be heavily pruned.

Picnic tables should be placed under these trees. As the summer months are very hot, there needs to be seating placed under the trees so that there is a shaded seating area for reserve users to sit.

The control of tree management is best exercised through tree policies (see 3.2.9 and 3.2.10). Trees are arguably the most significant form of vegetation used in the urban landscape, and can generate great benefits for urban dwellers and make reserves a much more pleasant area to recreate.

5.4 Vehicle Restraints

Council vehicles and other vehicles authorised by Council shall have access to all parts of the reserve. Other vehicles should park in the designated carpark area.

5.5 Use of Facilities

Waikirikiri Reserve is a recreation reserve with a number of facilities providing for the sports needs of the larger Gisborne community and facilities and furniture typical of a neighbourhood reserve catering more for the immediate community.

As already mentioned Waikirikiri Reserve has four sports fields. These are used by a number of different sports codes for formal sports programmes. The ablution blocks are normally locked (as when



unlocked they are mistreated, i.e. graffiti and vandalism), though different sports codes using the reserve are given keys to the block to open whilst their teams are utilising the sports fields. Furniture such as

seating and picnic tables are provided by the play equipment. The provision of furniture allows caregivers the opportunity to sit whilst watching their children play. Furniture is also comforting for reserve users partaking in passive recreation who wish to read, or simply rest and enjoy the open space away from the built environment of the residential area. Picnic tables are also a popular piece of reserve furniture. The play equipment area is used by members of the local community and spectators and their children.

The carpark allows for the parking of 140 vehicles. The carpark can full up during sports seasons.

The proposed fitness trail will also be a heavily utilised recreation facility. This facility will be popular with the local community and with sports team which have practices at the reserve.

5.6 Reserve Users

Gisborne reserves are most commonly utilised by members of the immediate surrounding neighbourhood. Neighbourhood Reserves are very popular. Even if members of the community are not physically using the reserve their presence is often appreciated as retaining openspace in the built environment.

Waikirikiri Reserve is a relatively new recreation reserve in Gisborne. This reserve has not yet been adopted by a specific sports code (most recreation reserves are, i.e Harry Barker Reserve has been adopted by Hockey and Cricket clubs). This can be attributed to the fact that the reserve is relatively new, and initially there were issues with the quality of the sports fields due to open cracks especially during the summer months of 1997/1998 (since have largely been resolved).

Council wish to encourage the adoption of the reserve by at least two sports code (one sports code for summer use and another for winter use of the reserve) for two main reasons. Firstly to encourage the frequent and continual use of the reserve. Secondly, adoption of the reserve by a sports code would hopefully discourage graffiti of the reserve because the reserve is being frequently used (as currently the reserve looks derelict, encouraging bad behaviour) and out of respect for the affiliated sports code and its members.

Waikirikiri Reserve has an area with play equipment and picnic tables. This encourages the immediate neighbourhood to utilise the reserve as a Neighbourhood Reserve, not just as a recreation reserve for formal active recreation (i.e. Rugby/ Soccer). Members of the immediate community also use the reserve as a thoroughfare to the opposite corners of the reserve, as a dog exercise area and to play golf etc.

Waikirikiri Reserve provides a large area of well maintained and landscaped open space providing relief from the built and densely populated residential area of Kaiti.

5.7 Vandalism

Waikirikiri Reserve suffers from constant vandalism. It is one of the worst hit reserves in the Gisborne District. Council recognises that vandalism is an on-going social problem, and this behaviour can expect to heighten in areas with social-economic concerns. Graffiti-ism can be seen as a youth subculture resistance to mainstream culture. A popular form of rebelling against society. Vandalism at Waikirikiri Reserve is an almost daily event.

The most prolific form of vandalism is graffiti or 'tagging'. The ablution block, picnic tables, and the play equipment is covered from top to bottom in graffiti. It is virtually impossible to remove the graffiti from the play equipment. The ablution block has recently been painted in 'anti-graffiti' paint. This painted surface makes the removal of graffiti easy (wipes off) and the colouring also deters graffiti (as it is difficult to see graffiti over the coloured paint). Unfortunately less than 24 hours after painting the ablution block the tagging started again.

Neighbours of the reserve have a rather neutral response to the graffiti. Reserves Planning was hoping to encourage neighbours to report to Council or to the Police when these offences were occurring. There was no interest from the neighbours to get involved. Many of the surrounding community did not believe that the graffiti affected their enjoyment of the reserve. Some members of the community did not notice the graffiti anymore as it is "everywhere" (graffiti is common around the Waikirikiri neighbourhood and the Kaiti area).



Photo 1 : The ablution block is always covered in graffiti.

Other forms of vandalism at Waikirikiri Reserve have been the attack of newly planted trees, breaking the ablution block locks and chains (the ablution block was originally left unlocked for reserve users to utilise, after misuse they remain locked until the reserve is used for organised sport), broken glass over the carpark and around the ablution block, and the scattering of rubbish.

Graffiti and broken glass at the reserve remains the main concerns for Council. Unfortunately the continual concerns with mistreatment and abuse of Waikirikiri Reserve facilities and furniture results in a lack of enthusiasm for future development and improvements for the reserve. A lot of money was spent by Council to develop the reserve, a lot is still unnecessarily being spent to maintain it.

Mitigation Practices to Control Graffiti

It has been found that the fast removal of graffiti discourages others vying for the space with their signatory tag. Lack of visibility reduces the incentive to tag, whereas graffiti that endures proliferates the quantity and so called esteem or recognition gained from it.

The best method for containing graffiti at Waikirikiri Reserve identified by Council is to paint out the graffiti. Educating teenagers and young children in the area is another method, or controlled access to tagging equipment such as responsible retailing of spray paint. Sting operations are another method, this is using newly painted walls to catch offenders. The paint out option has been identified as the least taxing on Council resources and achieves immediate results.



Photo 2 : Newly planted trees vandalised within 24 hours.

5.8 Maintenance Costs

Maintaining reserves at a high quality encourages reserve users and allows for quality recreation experiences. The quality of the experience is very important. Maintaining recreation reserves used for organised sport, especially ones such as Waikirikiri Reserve which suffer from constant vandalism and graffiti can be very expensive.

Below are the approximate annual costs to Council to maintain Waikirikiri Reserve:



5.0 Management Issues

1996	\$38,000
1997	\$32,000
1998	\$30,000
1999	\$30,000

From these figures Reserves Planning estimates an average of \$30,000 will be spent maintaining this reserve in the following years as well.

6.1 Site Description

The soil profile comprise of Kaiti clay loam 0.2 - 0.4m overlying an impermeable clay. Drainage is very poor and due primarily to poor permeability of the clay loam topsoil and irregular surface contours.

Since the reserve was opened there were initial problems with the field surfaces. As described above the reserve soil is clay. After the field tiles were laid contractors suggested mole ploughing the fields to assist drainage. This is normally a very effective procedure where there are drainage problems. However, because of the clay soil the cracks of the mole plough did not close up (as they would in normal soil) and in summer when the soil dried up the cracks got larger as the clay condensed. Thus leaving big cracks in the field surfaces, rendering the fields unsafe for formal sports games over the summer of 1997/1998. The cracks were filled with sand and the fields have been returned to an acceptable standard.

Mole ploughing alone is not appropriate for Waikirikiri Reserve soil type and shall not be used in the future without the insertion of suitable drainage materials.

6.2 Fitness Trail Design/Path Design and Costings

Approximations made by the Reserves Supervisor

Estimated Costings

Path \$10,000 (300m x1.5m)

Fitness Trail - \$10,000

Sit up bench x2	\$1,000
Step up steps	\$1,000
Pull up bars x 2	\$2,000
Monkey bars x 2	\$3,000
Jogging obstacle posts	\$1,500
TOTAL	\$8,500
Contingency	\$1,500
TOTAL	\$10,000



6.0 Appendix

6.3 Recommendation for Recreation/Community Centre

On the following pages is the Recreation/Community Centre proposal made by a member of the public received by Reserves Planning during the submission process. This proposal should be revisited in the future.