

Mauao Advisory Group Meeting Minutes

14 April 2003

at Tauranga District Council Chambers

Meeting commenced at 9.30am

Present

§ 7(2)(a) - Privacy - Ngaiterangi Iwi
§ 7(2)(a) - Privacy - Ngaiterangi Iwi
§ 7(2)(a) - Privacy - Ngati Pukenga Iwi
§ 7(2)(a) - Privacy - Ngati Ranginui Iwi
§ 7(2)(a) - Privacy - Waitaha Iwi
§ 7(2)(f)(ii) - Department of Conservation
§ 7(2)(f)(ii) - Tauranga District Council
§ 7(2)(f)(ii) - Tauranga District Council
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§ 7(2)(f)(ii) - Tauranga District Council

Apologies

§ 7(2)(f)(ii) - Tauranga District Council

Hauata started the meeting with a Karakia

§ 7(2)(a) - Privacy from Tauranga Intermediate presented a speech on her passion to have a formal Marine reserve at the base of Mauao from the boat ramp to the end of Sandy Beach
Attached.

§ 7(2)(f)(ii) passed on thanks from Mayor Jan and will ring § 7(2)(a) in a few days to talk to her about her presentation.

Technically the water area is out side the parameters of the Mauao Advisory Group. The existing signage was put up years ago by Forest and Bird but the area is not formally recognised as a Marine Reserve.

§ 7(2)(a) - Privacy was going to Auckland today to present a paper to a parliamentary select committee opposing the Marine Reserve Amendment Bill.

To make the area around Mauao a Marine Reserve is in conflict with customary fishing rights.

§ 7(2)(f)(ii) suggested that maybe the issue is not so much making the area a reserve but about preserving and conserving what we already have.

§ 7(2)(f)(ii) said it may be possible to have the area as a Marine Park but at the moment it is unclear what a "Marine Park" is. Any action would involve consultation with Iwi.

There are other ways to manage the resource and a Mahinga mataitai was suggested as a possible solution. The restrictions could control species taken at certain times of the year, numbers, and the customary fishing could be under the control of a Kaitiaki group.

s 7(2)(f)(ii) to circulate a copy of his submission.

Presentation from Graeme Trainor – Principle Rural Fire Officer

s 7(2)(f)(ii) spoke on his report of Fire behaviour and fire control on Mauao. One of the interesting things to come out of the report is that the fire was not high intensity. The more fuel you have the higher intensity the burn would be, by revegetation Mauao we are adding more fuel.

s 7(2)(f)(ii) suggested planting clumps of trees surrounded by grass may be a better option than planting all the areas with trees and shrubs.

s 7(2)(f)(ii) said that it is difficult for a fire to start from a cigarette butt carelessly thrown away or from glass on the site intensifying the heat of the sun.

There is about 15 minutes from when a fire starts to put it out – otherwise it is too intense. Once the fire is established it could reach the top of Mauao in 15 minutes.

There is now easy answer and what ever we plant on Mauao will burn, there have been 4 fires on Mauao in the last 16 years.

Fire Restoration

It was discussed that at the last Mauao Advisory Group meeting the decision was made to plant the burnt areas.

We will now not mass plant the area below the Oruahine track but maintain it in grass, with pockets of revegetation.

Whatever options we take weed control will be an ongoing issue.

The track sides will be planted densely with species like flax which is hard to light. Dense planting will make it difficult for people to access the vegetated areas and reduce the risk of rocks falling on to the track.

Boffa Miskell have kindly donated their time to produce a planting plan. This will be used as a guide only.

At this stage the Oruahine track will not be open as in some areas the track has been damaged so much that it is unsafe to the general public.

We may have to look at erecting fences above and below the Oruahine track in some places to lesson the risk of rock fall on to the track.

The old track from the summit is not a formal track and we have not maintained it for many years, to discourage use this track will plant it up.

The 4WD track to the light house has been re-metalled (there was an article in the BOP Times) there was no extensive earthworks and rather than scraping the ground metal was

bought in. There are also judder bars on the track to act as water control. The track was very rutted and will now be safe for vehicle carrying plants and people to this area.

Annual Plan Submissions

s 7(2)(f)(ii) asked s 7(2)(f)(ii) if what had transpired (the reduction of the planting programme) did the submission for the annual plan needed to be so high?

s 7(2)(f)(ii) said that we may get a contribution from Environment Bay of Plenty, but is unsure what their contribution will be.

s 7(2)(f)(ii) will debate the contingency sum from this year. The costing for next year is \$419,000. \$100,000 of that is for the fire Hydrant to be installed above the stone steps.

Archaeological Survey Update

s 7(2)(a) - Privacy is working on this at the moment.

Ranger Update

Applications closed on 9 April.

25 Applications

s 7(2)(f)(ii) will represent the Iwi on the interview panel.

Interviews will take up to two days.

Grey Faced Petrel

After reading the report from the Ornithological Society of New Zealand (OSNZ) the question was how did the birds fare after the fire. This will be answered after the banding this week and next.

Events Debrief

Caught by the Dawn was very successful. If the event happens again we will ensure the organisers talk to s 7(2)(f)(ii) early so the Tangatawhena display can be put up in time.

The Downhill Mountain race – did not happen this year because the event had no sponsorship wants to continue, their application is still open.

King and Queen of the mountain normally race up one track and down the other, they will have to be informed that the Oruahine track may still be closed.

Access through Motor Camp

The Resource consent has been lodged.

Structures around Base Track

Council have received requests to remove the styles that people have to climb on the base track.

In the future we may be able to realign the fences and maintain the grass by hand.

For now there are keys available at the Hot Pools for the base track.

The Mauao Advisory Group are comfortable with this at the moment.

Rock Climbing

Mauao Advisory Group says no to commercial rock climbing on Mauao.

With the individuals who climb on Mauao there is not a lot we can do to stop them s 7(2)(f)(iii) will talk to s 7(2)(a) - Privacy (geologist) and this may need to be prohibited due to safety reasons.

At the moment there is nothing to prevent individuals climbing on Mauao, groups are not given permission.

As it stands Council do not give permission for people to climb the rock faces on Mauao.

Update from Airways

Council have heard no more from Air ways but have received a letter from the lifeguard service, expressing concern at what the proposal may cost them.

s 7(2)(f)(iii) has spoken to the surf club and it would cost them \$11,000 to relocate their repeater.

Airways must co-operate with the coast guard and lifeguard service as these volunteer services could not afford this kind of expense.

Mauao Advisory Group asks that any more proposals that we see include pictures of what they are planning.

Mauao Adventure Tours

Iwi are comfortable with passive activities like walking or jogging and have given s 7(2)(a) - Privacy permission to carry out guided tours around Mauao. s 7(2)(a) - Privacy is concerned with the name Mauao Adventure Tours as it applies adventure activities.

s 7(2)(f)(ii) said s 7(2)(a) is only offering guided tours of Mauao and if anyone else asked for permission all cases are treated equally and fairly.

s 7(2)(f)(ii) said that any activates operating in the area would need a concession if money was changing hands on the reserve.

Motor Camp Permanent Structures

s 7(2)(f)(iii) would like to propose that the camp ground review its rules with regard to permanent sites. At the moment there is no definition of what constitutes a Permanent site, or how long vans are allowed to stay on one site. Currently there are long term vans in the camp ground that have been there for years without moving. s 7(2)(f)(iii) has suggested that all vans have a current warrant of fitness.

If vans are not being used they could be moved to the back of the camp so the better sites could be utilised.

This problem has been around for a long time and the group would like to see this issue resolved. This proposal has full support from the Mauao Advisory Group.

General Business

Waka Ama – s 7(2)(f)(ii) has not heard back from the group with their proposal for Waka storage. There has been space put aside for the wakas.

The meeting was closed with a karakia from Hauata.

Actions

1. [REDACTED] to circulate a copy of his submission re Marine Reserve.
2. [REDACTED] forward copies of Petrel report when it comes in.