## Waiheke Local Board

### OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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**Note:** The attachments contained within this document are for consideration and should not be construed as Council policy unless and until adopted. Should Councillors require further information relating to any reports, please contact the relevant manager, Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.
Proposal for an all-weather path through the Pohutukawa reserve

Presented by Ganno Deuper on behalf of the Onetangi Residents Association Committee.

Current situation

• There has always been a path through the reserve but:
  • It is not usable in winter
  • And over the last few years it has become unsafe (twisted ankles) as the ground has been churned up by various vehicles: e.g. Mower and boy racers (so fewer people use it).
  • For a time the mower used to mow the path in between mowing the whole reserve but not anymore, so it is often overgrown.

• The option of walking down the road is also dangerous:
  • No footpath
  • Increasing vehicular and foot traffic (including parents with prams)
Proposal and Rationale

- That Parks and Reserves build an all-weather track for pedestrians, as shown.

Rationale:
- Encourage year-round use of the reserve
- It will encourage more people to walk (Do I have to say why this is important?)
- The number of pedestrians using Waheke Road is increasing
  - and will continue to increase as more houses are built
  - and there appears to be no plan for a footpath at this stage.
  - The proposed path would be a useful interim measure.
  - AT could be asked to contribute to the cost.
- Vehicular traffic is also increasing and will continue to increase.
- In the future it could form part of an exercise route in the reserve.
2- MAUHARARA flame (Mflame)

Headlands on Waiheke Island (Matiatia)

Police ✔
Fire ✔
DOC (ytbc- confirmed13/02/18) ✔
Manawhenua ✔
Māori Landowners ✔
Pirntah Marae ✔
Local Bd (ytbc - 22nd Feb)
Fullers (ytm- yet to meet)
WI RSA (ytm)
Māori Pyrotechnic- Te Rangi Huata (ytm - 25th Feb Hastings) Heritage NZ (ytm)

The one week event will showcase on the last week of Matariki (Mflame) and then on the closing day include a 5 minute firework format.

Two (Mflame)- blowers will ignite @ 7pm which in terms of Ngati Paoa is when Karakia takes place.

Whether observed on the shoreline or any other vantage point the ignited flame will be a 1x5 sec blast with each day increasing to 7. This is done to signify the 7 sisters. (There maybe variables due to the request of the lead agencies)

PURPOSE of MAUHARARA flame

All publicity will be focused for residents and ratepayers of WI to take time to ponder on those who they wish to commemorate who are no longer here or further back in time. A symbolic element of Matariki this commemoration: REMEMBRANCE

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

A flame burner that shoots flames up to 5 meters in the air (as at rugby games) will be active for 5secs on the first night concluding with consecutive flames 7 times. 1min 5secs inclusive of 5sec gaps on the last night with a 5min fireworks recognising the closing of the Matariki season 2018

The burner will be confined by a manuka fence as if to depict a palisade of a Pa site. As both sites of Matiatia are pa sites Manawhenua has been the first port of call to source for consent followed by Police, Fire Chief, DOC and other key agencies yet to meet. WI RSA will be asked to participate for those who have fallen which may be on the last night with the ‘last post’ to close the Taamakimakaurau observation of 2018 Matariki.

2 teams of three people to oversee the preparation, igniting of the burner then to check the area of no burning implements. The time of operation would begin at 6.15pm with flames ignited at 7pm. Communication is by phone to ensure timing of both flames are ignited simultaneously.

PLEASE RECEIVE THIS PROJECT AS IN DRAFT FORMAT AS MANY OTHERS YET TO BE MET WITH TO REACH AGREEMENT.

George
Nga Mihi
Protecting the Night Skies of Waiheke Island

22 February 2018

Nalayini Davies

Benefits to Waiheke

- Starry night skies - for us and future generations to enjoy
- Conservation – night skies, eco systems, wildlife, human health
- Increased cultural, artistic, scientific, educational and historic appreciation
- Economic – low impact astro-tourism during shoulder season

The benefits to Waiheke are diverse and over the long term
Strong and Diverse Community Support

- Many 100s of residents
- Forest and Bird
- Waiheke Community Art Gallery
- Piritahi Marae
- Waiheke Walking Festival
- Mana Whenua – Ngati Paoa
- Department of Conservation (DoC)

*We are yet to encounter any nay-sayers in the community*

In accord with Waiheke Local Board’s initiative:

“Work to protect our night skies for present and future generations”
In Close Sync with "Essentially Waiheke"

- Protects half the island’s natural environment (i.e. the sky)
- Nurtures an iconic Waiheke natural asset retaining its rural environment / character
- Minimises damage to biodiversity from disruption to circadian rhythm through excess
- Conserves the cultural / spiritual heritage of Maori

*We show responsible guardianship of a natural asset*

How do we Protect our Night Skies?

- Engage with the International Dark-sky Association (IDA)
- IDA offers dark sky accreditation for the Island
- IDA offers a solid framework for ongoing protection / preservation
- IDA accreditation approach educates and unites the community

*This approach is “Best Practice” for protecting the night skies*
Waiheke’s IDA eligibility

- **Criteria 1**: Night Sky Quality of 21.3 mpsas meets IDA standard (measured)

- **Criteria 2a**: Artificial Lighting Compliance minimum standard of 67% is also met (assessed)

- **Criteria 2b**: Compliance standard need to reach 90% in 5 years is achievable as current estimate is 75-85%

- **Criteria 3**: Community interest evident (partially documented)

  *Waiheke is eligible - but only under current IDA Rules*

The Window of Opportunity for Waiheke

- Submit an expression of interest (EoI) to IDA before 31 March

- Current IDA rules will apply – for continued accreditation

- No commitment, cost or risk associated with the EoI

- If no subsequent action is taken the EoI will simply lapse

  *Heads, Waiheke wins – Tails, we don’t lose!*
What Action is Required?

- Express Interest to IDA while the window of opportunity is open
- Locally manage the Island’s lighting standards—i.e. agree a local standard with the responsible agencies (Auckland Transport / Auckland Council / Public Transport etc)
- This does NOT mean no more lighting at night or no more new lights on the Island – we just need to be smart about our lighting choices
- Educate the community about the impact of lighting

*Better community understanding of the impact of lighting will result in darker night skies for Waiheke Island*
Dear Members of the Waiheke Local Board

The Hauraki islands Branch of Forest & Bird fully endorses the Dark Skies initiative for Waiheke. There is research indicating deleterious effects on bird life, changes to plant physiology and other unforeseen, adverse consequences from the use of artificial lighting.

In a local context, this is of particular concern for little blue penguins who nest in designated wharf areas and whose life cycle can be disrupted by overly bright night skies. The recent little blue penguin surveys have identified penguins both at Matiatia and Kennedy Point.

We also support initiatives to direct light downwards, implement shielding, limit the number of street lights and create smaller pools of light to reduce overall light pollution levels across Waiheke.

Waiheke is lucky enough to have areas of outstanding natural beauty where native wildlife coexists closely with human communities. It would be superb to do what we can to maintain our ecosystems in as natural a state as possible.

Yours faithfully

Jonah Kitto-Verhoef

Chair, Hauraki Islands Forest & Bird
22 January 2018

To Waiheke Local Board

The Waiheke Community Art Gallery is happy to support the Local Board’s initiative to create a Dark Sky place on Waiheke Island.

In 2017 the Gallery hosted “Light through the night”, an exhibition of Dark Sky imagery, which was extremely popular and received many positive comments from the community.

The community were engaged and responsive, leading us to conclude that this Dark Sky place initiative is a good community fit.

Sincerely,

Linda Chalmers

Director
To the Waiheke Local Board,

In support of Dark Skies on Waiheke

Following the strong interest noted at the Waiheke Walking Festival 2016 at which the Astronz nightwalk was booked out and there were a large number of registrations for the Astronz family viewing event, Night Shift – Stargazing Waiheke was established on 29 January 2017 to support this interest on the island. Night Shift – Stargazing Waiheke Facebook page was also created at this time and over the past year is has gathered 181 followers of whom 170 are friends.

During 2017 we carried out a number of free public telescope viewing sessions in association with Astronz (part of Auckland Astronomical Society) and Dark Sky NZ teams. These, held at the space behind the Library building, were all successful drawing over a hundred participants each time. The premises around the artworks courtyard were very supportive of these events dimming their lights to assist.

Our most popular Facebook post had a reach of 1,897 people. In addition 84 people have subscribed on our sign-up sheets left at the Waiheke Walking Festival 2017 event and the Waiheke Community Art Gallery night sky exhibition (Light Through the Night) and at our free public telescope viewing sessions. We share night sky and stargazing information with our sign-up subscribers and Facebook followers on a regular basis which includes information specific to Waiheke Island such as the popular Starwatching on Waiheke monthly columns in the Waiheke Weekender, dark sky findings to date on the island and night sky photographs. Various educational and informative news from around New Zealand and overseas is also shared.

Based on the above and anecdotal feedback and comments received from fellow islanders we can attest to very strong community interest in Waiheke night skies. In view of this, we are pleased to learn about Waiheke Local Board’s initiative to “work to protect our night skies for present and future generations” and strongly support it. We are happy to make ourselves available to assist with this initiative as and when required.

Kim Wesney
for Night Shift – Stargazing Waiheke
31.01.18

To Whom It May Concern

RE: WAIHEKE DARK SKY INITIATIVE

Tēna koutou katoa,
We are writing this letter in support of this initiative as we feel it will be beneficial for our island in the following ways:

- facilitates reconnection with nature;
- protects half the island’s natural environment (i.e. the sky) from light pollution;
- conserves the cultural/spiritual heritage of Maori astronomy knowledge and practice;
- paves the way for low-impact ecotourism economic development opportunities from sharing world-class night skies;
- supports environmentally-responsible guardianship of a natural asset.

As a Marae we already practice ways of protecting our night skies by way of having external lights on timers, hooded external lights and no garden lighting.

Nga mihi,

[Signature]

Chris Bailey
Chairperson
Piritahi Marae Committee

piritahimarae@xtra.co.nz 372 8860 35 Tahatai Road, Te Huruhi, Waiheke
12 January 2018

RE: Waiheke Walking Festival's support of the proposal to work towards Waiheke Island attaining dark sky status

Dear Waiheke Local Board,

I am writing in support of the work by the Local Board with the support of Nalayini Brito and Kim Wesney to commit to activity that reduces light pollution and supports Waiheke Island attaining dark sky status.

I understand that the 2017 Local Board Plan states that you will "Work to protect our night skies for present and future generations", this commitment to protecting our night sky is fantastic, thank you.

As you know, the Waiheke Walking Festival and the Waiheke Walking Trust are committed to activity that encourages both local residents and visitors to celebrate our beautiful natural environment with minimal impact.

In years past we have had night walks to glow worm grottos, and for the past two years we have worked with Astron and the Auckland Astronomical Society to deliver walks and events that showcase how beautiful and special the night sky view is here on Waiheke. Each of these events have been full to bursting, so we know the demand is very high for such events, people want to know more about the night sky.

I see so many opportunities to promote local and visitor experiences at different times of the year to showcase the night sky. Everything we can do to minimise light pollution and attain dark sky status will only enhance these opportunities. These are gentle experiences for our environment and encourage visitors outside and away from those that are already congested.

In short, creating night sky experiences and gaining dark sky status will;
- facilitate reconnection with nature for both locals and visitors
- offer special recreational, leisure and educational opportunities
- provide a memorable visitor experience after daylight hours sharing great night skies
- enable 24-hour enjoyment of the island's reserves and parks
- maintain Waiheke's attractive nightscapes

I am in full support of initiatives to reduce light pollution on Waiheke Island and to work towards dark sky status. It would be my pleasure to do all I can to work alongside the Waiheke Local Board, Nalayini and Kim to make that happen.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require any clarification about the contents of this letter of support. My phone number is 0213717213 and or email denise@waihekewalkingfestival.org

Kind regards,

Denise Whitfield
Waiheke Walking Festival Manager
Walking By Nature
44 Hekerau Rd
Waiheke Island 1081

30th January 2018

Dear Local Board Members,

As an operator of walking tours that are focused on our natural environment, I am writing in support of Nalayini Davies and Kim Wesney’s application to reduce light pollution on Waiheke Island and seek Dark Sky status.

I am also a trained nature and forest therapy guide with the Association of Nature and Forest Therapy Guides and Programmes and facilitate a wellbeing programme in corporate organisations (Optimise Your Potential developed by Jane Davis and delivered through the Flourishing Institute and Capability Group) and have a strong scientific evidence based approach to my work.

Reducing existing light pollution and achieving Dark Sky status will:

- maintain Waiheke’s attractive nightscapes and therefore its integrity and character in sharp contrast to the urban Auckland location

- provide the opportunity to offer unique and diverse community activities such as those undertaken during 2017

- Support environmentally-responsible guardianship of a natural asset

- minimise damage to biodiversity from any disruption to circadian rhythms through excess lighting and increase the ability to see and experience wildlife. For example, there is anecdotal evidence of reduced number of Ruru in where brighter lights have now been installed.

- facilitate reconnection with nature; for both Islanders and those visiting Waiheke. There is ample scientific evidence that connection with nature has beneficial impacts on people - it reduces stress levels, boosts their immune systems, is a source of positive emotions such as awe and wonder which enable people to thrive and protects their telomeres (which are the biological basis for aging). Many people now have little access to nature and there is a critical need to ensure it is accessible and available for all. Danielle Shanahan (Head of Zealandia) published an article in Nature magazine over 12 months ago that just 30 mins of connection with nature per week would generate significant health benefits and have a significant impact on population health outcomes. (See references below).
• offer unique recreational and leisure opportunities; related to enjoying our natural environment which includes the night sky - the night sky is a source of awe and wonder which are important positive emotions for people to experience.

• protects half the island’s natural environment (i.e. the sky) from light pollution

• nurture an iconic Waiheke natural asset retaining its rural environment/character

• pave the way for low-impact ecotourism: economic development opportunities from sharing world-class night skies

• enable 24-hour enjoyment of the island’s reserves and parks.

It is critical for us to consider this at this time as we are seeing significant development pressure across the Auckland region and our access to natural assets need to be protected where possible.

The downsides of not protecting our access to the night sky are many – loss of connection to nature and the natural world for Islanders, Aucklanders and our visitors, disruption and additional pressure on wildlife and the loss of a valuable opportunity to capitalise on our wonderful natural assets. It seems to me we are at risk of losing our precious taonga without understanding the impacts.

I hope you will seriously consider this proposal and do the right thing.

Gabrielle Young  
Director, Walking by Nature and Stratus Consulting

References:

The Telomere Effect, A Revolutionary Approach to Living Younger, Healthier, Longer, Dr Elizabeth Blackburn and Dr Elissa Epel, 2017

Health Benefits from Nature depend on dose, Dr Danielle F. Shanahan, Robert Bush, Kevin J. Gaston, Brenda B. Lin, Julie Dean, Elizabeth Barber and Richard A. Fuller, published in Nature magazine and online, 23 June 2016


From: "a.naive" <gtkahi@yahoo.com>
> To: Kim Wesney <gammaray@xtra.co.nz>
> Date: 08 February 2018 at 09:27
> Subject: No email for Nayalini so please forward
>
> I have secured from the Chair (via phone) for the current authority to represent Ngati Paoa Iwi (Ngati Paoa Iwi Trust) to represent the tribe to support the Waiheke Island night sky proposed policy. I also represent Ngati Paoa Trust Board that has the mandate for our Treaty claims and other civic sundries whereby both require a report to both indicating effects on papaianuku and allied environmental impacts.
>
> Therefore the intent of this email is to acknowledge the Iwi support for this community driven concern to secure recognition the DARK SKY PARK certification with IDA as proposed with Nayalini Davies and Kim Wesney.
>
> From feedback provided in a conversation with Kim Wesney we are aware of the Iwi input made with the Aotea certification and the collaborative efforts forged their and with Manawhenua.
>
> This email will be transferred to a Ngati Paoa letterhead however please accept the content as being valid and endorsed by Iwi.
>
> George
> Nga Mihi
> gtkahi 0220889700
Department of Conservation  
Maungauika/North Head Historic Reserve  
18 Takarunga Road  
North Shore 0624

21 February 2018

**Letter of Support – Waiheke Island Dark Sky Classification**

Tena koutou katoa,

Waiheke Island forms part of the group of islands described by the Department of Conservation as the Auckland inner Islands and as such, is administered by the Maungauika/North Head office of the Department of Conservation.

It is the understanding of the Maungauika/North Head office that ASTRONZ and the Auckland Astronomic Society have undertaken light value readings across Waiheke establishing that light spill/pollution is within the thresholds set by the International Dark Sky Association.

We further understand that a proposal to establish Waiheke Island’s classification as a Dark Sky Heritage Site has been presented to the Waiheke Local Board.

This office of the Department of Conservation is fully supportive of the Dark Sky Heritage Site proposal.

Naku noa,

---

Patrick Clarke  
Senior Community Ranger
Wharetana Bay Esplanade Reserve

- Private Front Lawn
- or Public Reserve?

Venue for Private Functions
with structures left erected for days
Item 9.4

Attachment A

Rubbish Left Overnight on the Reserve
Attachment A

Item 9.4

Cars Parking on the Reserve in an Area of Archaeological Significance Including the De Witts Gardeners Grave and Two Maori Kumara Pits or House sites.

Private Contracters Mowing the Reserve Like a Front Lawn.
Attachment A

Item 9.4

Weedeaters Ringbarking Pohutukawa

Flooding of Reserve, Runoff From Driveway
Concept Plan

- Needs to rectify the privatising of the reserve
- Needs to help residents and the public to feel more comfortable using the reserve
- Needs to make the reserve more accessible
- Lack of action to address these on-going problems could encourage others to appropriate reserves for private use.

Public Track from Rothschild Tce
Other Options

- Public Walkway access for Wharetana Bay is from 15 Rothschild Terrace, Te Whau
- The track is mainly formed (see following), apart from one steep incline requiring work
- Council signs have been installed, including dog on leash request
- Sufficient car parking at the top of public track
- A truly stunning walkway to the Esplanade Reserve.

Public Easement
Turn along walking track

Part of track needing work
Pole and rope? Approx 30 m
Public walkway meets the Bay

Historic Places Trust

- Quoted as ‘most assessed reserve’ from Historic Places Trust, with at least 3 archaeological assessments in place
- All report the midden along the foreshore
- Twenty metres to boundary of house
- Perhaps one-off shade trees could be planted along with interesting educational signage referring to this historic landscape; historic grave, well and house.
To plant or not to plant?

No planting after truck damage to reserve?
Item 9.4

Public utilising Wharetana Bay

Concerns of public notification and loss of amenity values
<table>
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<th>Applicant Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>DIS60312566</td>
<td>Dec 11, 2017</td>
<td>Discharge Consent</td>
<td>Warwick Owen Spedding</td>
<td>16 Korora Road Waiheke Island Auckland 1081</td>
<td>New wastewater treatment and disposal system</td>
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<tr>
<td>LUC60312558</td>
<td>Dec 11, 2017</td>
<td>Land Use Consent</td>
<td>Warwick Owen Spedding</td>
<td>16 Korora Road Waiheke Island Auckland 1081</td>
<td>Additions and alterations to an existing dwelling</td>
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<td>TRE60312523</td>
<td>Dec 11, 2017</td>
<td>Tree Consent</td>
<td>Shirley Anne O'Brien</td>
<td>38 Albert Crescent Waiheke Island Auckland 1081</td>
<td>Tararire tree felling due to weight, prune Whitewood and Kanuka root system is cracking soil near access</td>
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<tr>
<td>DIS60312667</td>
<td>Dec 12, 2017</td>
<td>Discharge Consent</td>
<td>Fadia Sami</td>
<td>56 Cinetangi Road Waiheke Island Auckland 1081</td>
<td>Wastewater discharge of new buildings, including single dwelling and visitor accommodation (up to 10 people) within three units, barn, swimming pool and pavilion</td>
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<tr>
<td>LUC60312665</td>
<td>Dec 12, 2017</td>
<td>Land Use Consent</td>
<td>Fadia Sami</td>
<td>56 Cinetangi Road Waiheke Island Auckland 1081</td>
<td>New buildings, including single dwelling and visitor accommodation (up to 10 people) within three units, barn, swimming pool and pavilion, tennis court, driveway, and landscaping (including WW)</td>
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<td>DIS60312634</td>
<td>Dec 14, 2017</td>
<td>Discharge Consent</td>
<td>Barnett Roy Bond</td>
<td>3 Brown Road Waiheke Island Auckland 1081</td>
<td>Wastewater Discharge permit</td>
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<td>TRE60312831</td>
<td>Dec 14, 2017</td>
<td>Tree Consent</td>
<td>Mary-Ellen MacDonald</td>
<td>16 Nakora Avenue Waiheke Island Auckland 1081</td>
<td>Pruning of several generally protected trees</td>
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<td>WAT60312750</td>
<td>Dec 14, 2017</td>
<td>Water Consent</td>
<td>William James Kermode</td>
<td>21 First Avenue Waiheke Island Auckland 1081</td>
<td>Permit for a water bore</td>
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