

**From:** Heritage <[heritage@ps.gen.nz](mailto:heritage@ps.gen.nz)>  
**Date:** 26 March 2018 at 10:04:50 AM NZDT  
**To:** <[mike.lee@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:mike.lee@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** Pukekohe Rail Station Building

Hello Mike Lee,

We are an umbrella organisation covering the old Franklin area plus the south east part of Manukau City and North Waikato District and advocate for heritage organisations, to identify, protect and promote the heritage of the Franklin and surrounding districts. This enables the people of the area to better understand and appreciate their history and to share it with others into the future. Our Franklin Local Board representatives are invited to our meetings.

We have worked with Auckland Council to help research the Pukekohe Heritage Survey but at present our major concern is for the future of the town's Historic Railway station. I am hoping you or a representative from the Auckland Heritage Advisory Panel may assist us in the investigation to save this part of our history.

We have managed to arrange a workshop meeting between interested parties and the Franklin Local Board for Tuesday 17th April at 11.30am in Pukekohe. All correspondence to date tells us the station is in a sorry state and to use Kiwi Rails words:-

*"It is likely the existing station will need to be moved from its current site or demolished. Kiwi Rail is aware of local interest in the building, and it is currently in discussions with interested parties. However, the efficient use of Pukekohe as a station will be the primary determinant of the future of the building."*

We now understand it can stay in place until electrification arrives in Pukekohe.

A group of people interested in saving the building on its present site have set up a Friends of Pukekohe Rail Station Building Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofpukekoherailstationbuilding> where the Forum and others have been posting photos and comments.

The present station has provided the people of Pukekohe with rail services and shelter from the rain since 1913. Because Pukekohe doesn't have an information centre or a museum telling the history of the district, the building could be used as a museum and café for locals and tourists to this southern Auckland town.

We are attempting to arrange a visit to view the inside of the building. I have been inside previously, when the station was still in use and was pleasantly surprised that so many of the original features are still in place.

I have details of the station from the Pukekohe Heritage Survey, the Paerata - Drury Structure plan and the Heritage Assessment Report prepared for the Heritage Unit of Auckland Council in July 2017 by The Heritage Studio, Architectural & building Conservation. This incorporates the 2010 report commissioned by Franklin District Council. See:-

<https://1drv.ms/f/s!AgoeJrYvbZXQt3BT4pIB5OD76pYL>

These reports confirm the importance of saving this important part of Pukekohe heritage for future generations.

We have made a submission to Plan change 7 Auckland Heritage since, despite its district importance, this building was not included in the plan. We have corresponded with Bill Cashmore,

Andrew Bayly, Kiwi Rail, Auckland Transport and had articles published in our local "Post" Newspaper.

As a community we would like to see, as shown by the plan displayed at the station, it being left where it is and used for its original purpose, or the uses suggested above.

Attached information was written in December 2017.

Christine Madsen  
Secretary Franklin Heritage Forum  
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This email is to let you know that Auckland Council's PROPOSED Plan Change 7 was notified on Thursday 16th November and is now open for submissions until the 15th December

There are a total of 47 places and 3 areas across the region which have been put forward for heritage scheduling, following planning review. Those which may be of interest closest to our Franklin geographic area of interest are:

- St Andrews Vicarage, Church and Memorial Arch, Pukekohe
- St Pauls Anglican Church, Buckland
- Pukekohe Municipal Chambers, Pukekohe
- Franklin County Council Chambers, Pukekohe

Also, a bit beyond Pukekohe but that may be of interest to you too are:

- Waiuku Town Centre Historic Heritage Area
- Old Papakura Central School
- Papakura Courthouse and Lock-up
- Papakura First Presbyterian Church 1926 and 1859 buildings
- Papakura Centennial Plunket and Restrooms
- Papakura - Karaka War Memorial

You will see that the **Pukekohe Train Station** does not feature on this list. A response from Kiwi Rail says is likely the existing station will need to be moved from its current site or demolished. KiwiRail is aware of local interest in the building, and it is currently in discussions with interested parties. However, the efficient use of Pukekohe as a station will be the primary determinant of the future of the building.

Link to plan change material: <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/plans-projects-policies-reports-bylaws/our-plans-strategies/unitary-plan/auckland-unitary-plan-modifications/proposed-plan-changes/Pages/pc-7-additions-to-schedule-14-historic-heritage.aspx>

I believe a letter was sent to some Historical Societies across Auckland but The Franklin Heritage Forum were not included.

I hope other members of the Community could respond to Kiwi Rail, Auckland Transport, and Auckland Council showing that as a community ( if this is your wish) it should be used in its present position for the purpose it was built for, shelter, toilets and perhaps a Coffee shop with provision for future use . Once it's gone we will not be able to get it back.

For further Information, please contact

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