

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.



2.0 Location / Access - Waikirikiri Reserve, Kaiti, Gisborne

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.