

Report To: Council



Meeting Date: 24 February 2026

Subject: **Deliberation of Submissions and Adoption of Amendments to the Waitomo District Comprehensive Reserve Management Plan**

Type Decision Required

Author(s): Alex Bell
General Manager – Strategy and Environment

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this business paper is to consider and deliberate on submissions received, and to adopt amendments to Council's Proposed Waitomo District Comprehensive Reserve Management Plan (RMP).

2. Suggested Resolutions

- 2.1 The following are suggested resolutions only and do not represent Council policy until such time as they might be adopted by Resolution.
- 1 The business paper on Deliberation of Submissions and Adoption of Amendments to the Waitomo District Comprehensive Reserve Management Plan be received.
 - 2 Council agree to adopt the amended Waitomo District Comprehensive Reserve Management Plan as enclosed as Attachment 1.

3. Background

- 3.1 Council at its meeting of Tuesday 9 October 2025 considered a business paper -
- 1 Presenting the amended version of the Waitomo District Comprehensive Reserve Management Plan; and
 - 2 Seeking approval from Council to publicly notify the amended version of the Proposed Waitomo District Comprehensive Reserve Management Plan for feedback from the community.
- 3.2 At that meeting Council resolved as follows:
- Resolution**
- 1 *The business paper on review of the Waitomo District Comprehensive Reserve Management Plan be received.*
 - 2 *Council agree to publicly notify the amended Waitomo District Comprehensive Reserve Management Plan for feedback on the proposed amendments for 20 working days.*
 - 3 *The Chief Executive be delegated authority to make corrections to the Waitomo District Comprehensive Reserve Management Plan prior to notification to correct any minor spelling, grammatical and formatting errors.*
- 3.3 A copy of the 9 October 2025 business paper is attached as background information.

4. Commentary

4.1 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

4.2 At its meeting on 9 October, Council considered the consultation requirements under section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 and resolved that the formal process set out in section 41(6) did not need to be followed. While section 41(8) requires the full subsection (5) and (6) process where a comprehensive review of a Reserve Management Plan is undertaken, section 41(9) provides discretion to the administering body where the review is not comprehensive. As the proposed changes are limited and targeted amendments to reflect updated circumstances, rather than a full review of the RMP, elected members agreed that Council could adopt a more proportionate consultation approach. Accordingly, Council resolved to undertake a shorter public feedback process, including public notice and an opportunity for written submissions, prior to considering adoption of the amended RMP.

4.3 Consultation was undertaken between 15 January 2026 and 13 February 2026. A total of 7 submissions were received. All of the seven submissions received related to the naming of the Piopio Village Green to Te Nohoanga in the RMP.

4.4 SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED

4.5 The submissions are summarised below, and a staff response has been added next to each submission. Please note that where a submitter has asked a question in their submission these have been responded to via email and phone. There are no additional outstanding queries from submitters that I am aware of.

Submitter	Submission	Recommended Response
01 Chudleigh Haggett	<p>I read recently that it is Councils intention to change the name of the Piopio Village Green.</p> <p>Personally I find the idea abhorrent. That a well known community asset should suffer an identity change for what appears on the surface to be nothing more than council staff virtue signaling.</p> <p>I understand that my view is only one view, but on discussing the proposal with many Piopio residents I find that all share the exact same view. Most residents accept that if the proposed name was more inclusive such as The Village Green. (Te Nohoanga) Or The Village Green, (large font) Te Nohoanga (smaller font). or The Village Green Te Nohoanga (a place to rest) The villager's would be more receptive. But losing our Village Green name is unacceptable to the vast majority. I cannot find one resident in decent.</p> <p>I am happy to present my submissions in person before Council. Should that be possible.</p> <p>In addition, if the original offer and sale agreement contained the request you claim was in that sale agreement, (nearly 50 years ago). I and the villagers would like a copy of that agreement clause, as there were many I spoke to who vehemently disagree such a clause would ever have been there . So proof of such a clause would</p>	<p>When the land was purchased by Council in 2021. The agreement was subject to conditions that were imposed by the Vendor. These conditions included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Classify the Piopio Village Green area as a Recreation Reserve pursuant to the Reserves Act 1977; 2. Consult with Tangata Whenua with respect to an appropriate Māori name for the property; and 3. WDC to install a plaque on the Piopio Village Green in consultation with the Andrews and Smyth families. <p>Council has been working to complete the subdivision of the reserve land from the area of land behind the reserve for the past three years. As Council is now close to completion of the subdivision, we have been working to complete the conditions in the Sale and Purchase Agreement.</p> <p>Council is consulting on the name, as Council is reviewing the Reserve Management Plan (RMP), so now was the appropriate time to consider that part.</p>

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	<p>ease the tension and ill feeling, that has arisen amongst the community. Also an explanation as to why, suddenly some 50 years of an established identity, it is suddenly an issue?</p>	
<p>02 Evelyn Smith</p>	<p>I am both concerned and confused regarding the proposed name change for The Village Green in Piopio.</p> <p>I am concerned that the 'name is being gifted by 'mana whenua and is in accordance with the requirements of the conditions of the sale and purchase agreement when Council purchased the land'.</p> <p>It my understanding, and that of my family, that the land was gifted by the late Ian Andrews who inherited it after the death of his parents, Alf and Ada (nee Smyth) Andrews. It was the wish of Ian and his wife, Margaret, to have a plaque erected acknowledging the Andrews and Smyth contribution of this land/venue to the Piopio community. Margaret Andrews now lives in Australia.</p> <p>Therefore, how and why is 'mana whenua' getting to change a name on land that was owned by the Andrews family - and which includes members of my extended family: Ada Andrews, nee Smyth, was my late husband's aunt, his father's sister.</p> <p>We knew nothing of this proposed, and waste of money, change.</p> <p>I totally oppose the name change; The Village Green is a welcoming familiarity everyone knows and therefore requires no explanation as to its function and place in our community.</p> <p>I look forward to your reply.</p>	<p>When the land was purchased by Council in 2021. The Sale and Purchase Agreement was subject to conditions that were imposed by the Vendor. These conditions included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Classify the Piopio Village Green area as a Recreation Reserve pursuant to the Reserves Act 1977; 2. Consult with Tangata Whenua with respect to an appropriate Māori name for the property; and 3. WDC to install a plaque on the Piopio Village Green in consultation with the Andrews and Smyth families. <p>Council has been working to complete the subdivision of the reserve land from the area of land behind the reserve for the past three years. As Council is now close to completion of the subdivision, we have been working to complete the conditions in the sale and purchase agreement.</p> <p>We are consulting on the name, as we are reviewing the RMP, so now was the appropriate time to update the name in the RMP.</p>
<p>03 Peter Nicol</p>	<p>I'm writing this email to oppose the name change or added name of "Village Green" in Piopio and as a rate payer would like to propose that we make the official name The "Village Green"</p> <p>My Great Aunt and Uncle, Fred and Margs Cocking ran the Boarding House which was situated on the Village Green. My mother use to work in the boarding house. So I have a family connection to the Village Green. The community have donated trees and worked hard to form this park. As you can see from the facebook comments the community is opposing the added</p>	<p>When the land was purchased by Council in 2021. The agreement was subject to conditions that were imposed by the Vendor. These conditions included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Classify the Piopio Village Green area as a Recreation Reserve pursuant to the Reserves Act 1977; 2. Consult with Tangata Whenua with respect to an appropriate Māori name for the property; and 3. WDC to install a plaque on the Piopio Village Green in

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	<p>name. Even the Māori people don't want it changed. Places are named for a reason. I feel we have a good balance of Maori and English names in our area and to change or add names creates a racial division. Like what happened in Bennydale. If we added English names to places like Piopio and Tekuiti. With the Maori name written in small writing under the English name, imagine the racial turmoil and publicity. I have many Maori clients and friends, they all understand and are also tied of this created separation. Please think carefully and make the right decision.</p>	<p>consultation with the Andrews and Smyth families.</p> <p>Council has been working to complete the subdivision of the reserve land from the area of land behind the reserve for the past three years. As Council is now close to completion of the subdivision, we have been working to complete the conditions in the sale and purchase agreement.</p> <p>Council is consulting on the name, as Council is reviewing the Reserve Management Plan (RMP), so now was the appropriate time to consider that part.</p>
<p>04 Tracey and Andrew Neal</p>	<p>I wish to state our objection to the proposed name change for the Piopio Village Green.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the justification of the name change? 2. The 'Heritage Values' states 'no known heritage values' This is untrue as this parcel of land commemorates the Andrews family, HG Andrews arrived in Piopio in 1898, his wife in 1900 and their son Les, was the first pakeha child in Piopio. The Andrews butcher shop opened in 1903. It has been recorded that the land made over for the use of the village of Piopio was on the site of the former Temperance Hotel and Boarding house, which had been bought earlier by Alf and Boss Andrews, was shifted to the rear of the site and was demolished in 1987. 3. There appears to be some discrepancy as to the piece of land being used as the Village Green and the actual size and boundary of the parcel shown in the WDC map. Also the size of the parcel which is given as 1014sqm but the same parcel in qvnz is shown with the same boundary line, as 2023sqm, which suggests more research should be done on the actual boundary of the Village Green before any other decisions are made. <p>As an aside: In the mid 2000's the Piopio community asked if public toilets could be built in the centre of the village, which aside from the benefit to other businesses, it was also hoped a pedestrian crossing might be created in the centre of town for the</p>	<p>The land was purchased by Council in 2021. The agreement was subject to conditions that were imposed by the Vendor. These conditions included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Classify the Piopio Village Green area as a Recreation Reserve pursuant to the Reserves Act 1977; 2. Consult with Tangata Whenua with respect to an appropriate Māori name for the property; and 3. WDC to install a plaque on the Piopio Village Green in consultation with the Andrews and Smyth families. <p>Council has been working to complete the subdivision of the reserve land from the area of land behind the reserve for the past three years. As Council is now close to completion of the subdivision, we have been working to complete the conditions in the sale and purchase agreement.</p> <p>Council is consulting on the name, as Council is reviewing the Reserve Management Plan (RMP), so now was the appropriate time to consider that part.</p> <p>In terms of the heritage values, this is if the site is identified as containing a heritage building or structure, the site and area are of significance to Māori, or an archaeological site.</p> <p>The Heritage Values portion is what is listed in the District Plan, which is the methodology that has been</p>

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	<p>safety of pedestrians. At the time, a WDC staff member told the proposers the Andrews family would not allow a building on the Village Green.</p>	<p>applied to every other reserve listed in the RMP.</p> <p>The size of the site shown is what the size of the reserve will be once the subdivision of the reserve from the land at the rear is completed (i.e. new titles issued).</p>
<p>05 Shirley and Jeff Andrews</p>	<p>As the last Andrews family living in Piopio we would like to see the Village Green name stay as it is.</p> <p>The business people of Piopio including Jeffrey Andrews tidy the site and donated trees so the town had a beautiful area to use.</p> <p>Alot of Piopio people refer to the town as the Village hence the name the village green seems most appropriate.</p> <p>The people that have contacted us have been most surprised this name change has suddenly been brought to light and are not happy with the suggestion of a name change of any kind.</p>	<p>The land was purchased by Council in 2021. The agreement was subject to conditions that were imposed by the Vendor. These conditions included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Classify the Piopio Village Green area as a Recreation Reserve pursuant to the Reserves Act 1977; 2. Consult with Tangata Whenua with respect to an appropriate Māori name for the property; and 3. WDC to install a plaque on the Piopio Village Green in consultation with the Andrews and Smyth families. <p>Council has been working to complete the subdivision of the reserve land from the area of land behind the reserve for the past three years. As Council is now close to completion of the subdivision, we have been working to complete the conditions in the sale and purchase agreement.</p> <p>Council is consulting on the name, as Council is reviewing the Reserve Management Plan (RMP), so now was the appropriate time to consider that part.</p>
<p>06 Sue Crawford</p>	<p>Introducing myself. I am Sue Crawford(nee Andrews) therefore not a local rate payer, but do have an interest in your RMP. My parents were Ted and Natalie. I grew up in Piopio, was educated there and married in the local church. I still have family ties there and visit often.</p> <p>I am writing about the name change to the Village Green. My understanding was that my Uncle Boss(Ernest Hugh Andrews) had gifted this piece of land to the Village. The locals gathered to clean up the eyesore, planted it with trees and laid</p>	<p>When the land was purchased by Council in 2021. The agreement was subject to conditions that were imposed by the Vendor. These conditions included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Classify the Piopio Village Green area as a Recreation Reserve pursuant to the Reserves Act 1977; 2. Consult with Tangata Whenua with respect to an appropriate Māori name for the property; and 3. WDC to install a plaque on the Piopio Village Green in

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	<p>lawn. The locals have maintained this beautifully for nigh on 40 years.</p> <p>There is a history with that piece of land, originally housing a two story boarding house.</p> <p>Anyway, my question is why change?</p> <p>I have been advised that the land was sold to you in 2021, I would love to know who sold it to you, as both Phylis Andrews and Ian Andrews had both passed at this date. I am of the understanding that Ian had been Phylis sole beneficiary to the Piopio buildings business.</p> <p>If you are adamant in name change, would it be possible to have both names on your sign.</p>	<p>consultation with the Andrews and Smyth families.</p> <p>Council has been working to complete the subdivision of the reserve land from the area of land behind the reserve for the past three years. As Council is now close to completion of the subdivision, we have been working to complete the conditions in the sale and purchase agreement.</p> <p>Council is consulting on the name, as Council is reviewing the Reserve Management Plan (RMP), so now was the appropriate time to consider that part.</p>
<p>07 Lynne Aldridge</p>	<p>I would like to comment on the recent discussion about the Village Green in Piopio. Approx 30 years ago we had a Piopio Business Promotions committee who were very keen to get Piopio (tidied up). It was about the time that the cobblestones were laid. After discussion with the Andrews family and council at the time we agreed to make that parcel of land into The Village Green. I owned a small plant shop at the time in the old building next to Wrightson's which is no longer there. I arranged for the business's in Piopio at the time to donate the trees that are still on the green. My late husband volunteered his time with his digger and tidied the bank at the back and placed pongas there. As far as I'm aware council then kept it tidy with lawnmowing.</p> <p>So rather than change the name of the Village Green I think it would be a good idea to perhaps have another sign with the Maori name and its meaning as per the terms of the Sale and Purchase Agreement signed in 2021. I do feel quite passionate about this as along with others on our committee we spent many hours discussing this. I actually came up with the name and designed the sign as well so considering this piece of land has been The Village Green for just over 30 years I wouldn't like to see it called anything else.</p>	<p>The conditions around naming were imposed by the Vendor (seller) of the property, which Council is required to comply with under the terms of the Sale and Purchase Agreement. Council is only consulting on the name for the purposes of the RMP.</p> <p>Council does not have any operational budget for physical signs, etc.</p>

4.6 **DELIBERATION OF SUBMISSIONS**

4.7 No requests were made by submitters to speak to their submissions in person. Therefore, no Hearing is required.

5. Analysis of Options

5.1 OPTION 1 – DO NOTHING

5.2 Council could resolve to not amend the RMP. However, this would mean that the RMP does not contain the most up to date and recent information.

5.3 OPTION 2 - UNDERTAKE FURTHER ENGAGEMENT REGARDING NAMING OF THE PIOPIO VILLAGE GREEN TO TE NOHOANGA

5.4 In accordance with the sale and purchase agreement for 51 Moa Street, the vendor (seller) specifically included a condition that Council consult with Tangata Whenua with respect to an appropriate Māori name for the property. Council consulted with Mokau ki Runga, who provided the name Te Nohoanga.

5.5 One option that could be explored, is Council could resolve to undertake further engagement with mana whenua and the community to explore whether a dual name is possible. Staff have discussed whether Te Nohoanga could be used in conjunction with the Piopio Village Green, but were advised that as the translation is "a place of settlement and a place to call home", a dual name would not be appropriate, as this is not a translation of Piopio Village Green.

5.6 OPTION 3 – ADOPT THE AMENDED RMP AS CONSULTED ON

5.7 Council may resolve to adopt the amended RMP as consulted on, on the basis that it reflects the most current and accurate information available, gives effect to the terms and obligations contained in the Sale and Purchase Agreement entered into in 2021, and aligns with recent legislative amendments. Adoption of the amended Plan would ensure the RMP remains up to date, legally robust, and consistent with Council's contractual commitments and statutory responsibilities.

6. Considerations

6.1 RISK

6.2 It is considered if Council does not adopt the amended RMP, there is a risk that the current RMP will remain out of date and misaligned with both the 2021 Sale and Purchase Agreement and subsequent legislative amendments. The Reserves Act 1977 contemplates that Reserve Management Plans are to be kept up to date so they continue to reflect changing circumstances and community needs, and failure to do so may result in the Plan no longer meeting its statutory purpose.

6.3 CONSISTENCY WITH EXISTING PLANS AND POLICIES

6.4 The RMP has been written to align with the Proposed Waitomo District Plan in order to reduce duplication and streamline administration between the two documents. The RMP is high level but suggests that provision should be made for detailed development planning for some of the larger reserves. This allows these reserves to use development plans to complement the RMP and address the specific needs of a reserve (or parts of a reserve).

6.5 SIGNIFICANCE AND COMMUNITY VIEWS

6.6 It is considered that seeking feedback on the amendments over a 20 working day period would be sufficient time to understand the community's views.

7. Attachments/Separate Enclosures

Attachments:

- 1 Council Business Paper – 9 October 2025 (Doc # 916520)
- 2 Submissions 01–07 (Doc # 951924)

Separate Enclosure:

- 1 Proposed amended Waitomo District Comprehensive Reserve Management Plan (Doc #916611)

Report To: Council



Meeting Date: 9 October 2025
Subject: **Review of the Waitomo District Comprehensive Reserve Management Plan**
Type: Decision Required
Author(s): Alex Bell
General Manager – Strategy and Environment

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this business paper is twofold:

- (1) To present to Council the amended version of the Waitomo District Comprehensive Reserve Management Plan; and
- (2) To seek approval from Council to publicly notify the amended version of the Proposed Waitomo District Comprehensive Reserve Management Plan for feedback from the community.

2. Suggested Resolutions

2.1 The following are suggested resolutions only and do not represent Council policy until such time as they might be adopted by Resolution.

- 1 The business paper on review of the Waitomo District Comprehensive Reserve Management Plan be received.
- 2 Council agree to publicly notify the amended Waitomo District Comprehensive Reserve Management Plan for feedback on the proposed amendments for 20 working days.
- 3 The Chief Executive be delegated authority to make corrections to the Waitomo District Comprehensive Reserve Management Plan prior to notification to correct any minor spelling, grammatical and formatting errors.

3. Background

3.1 Waitomo District Council (WDC) is required under section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 ('Reserves Act') as an "administering body" to prepare Reserve Management Plans for any reserves under its control, management, or administration. Section 41(4) requires that Reserve Management Plans (RMPs) are kept under continuous review so that a plan adapts to changing circumstances and/or is amended in accordance with increased knowledge.

3.2 Council adopted the Waitomo District Comprehensive RMP at the 27 June 2023 Council meeting.

3.3 Prior to notification, Council also identified a list of 10 reserves that Council staff were to investigate disposal of, as these were identified as reserves that were not being used for their identified purpose. These reserves were:

- Aria Road Quarry Reserve
- Eight Mile Junction Quarry Reserve
- Gadsby Road Quarry Reserve
- Marokopa Quarry Reserve
- Oparure Recreational Reserve
- Piopio Quarry Reserve
- Te Maika Quarry Reserve (*Will revert back to the Crown*)
- Te Waitere Recreational Reserve
- Rangitoto Road Reserve
- Rangitoto Quarry Reserve

- 3.4 We have now engaged a Land Research Specialist to investigate the underlying status of these reserves as we need to understand –
- (a) How Council came into possession of the reserves
 - (b) Whether Council is the underlying owner of the reserve or it is Crown derived
 - (c) Whether the land can be disposed of and via what method (i.e. is there Public Works Act 1981 requirements)
- 3.5 The advice we receive from the Land Research Specialist will form a future business paper to be presented to Council, which will consider options for these reserves.

4. Commentary

4.1 CHANGES REQUIRED TO THE RMP

- 4.2 There is a need to update the RMP to make the following amendments:
- (a) Update the zoning of the reserves listed in the RMP as decisions have now been issued on the Proposed District Plan (PDP) and none of the zoning for the reserves is under appeal.
 - (b) Amend the definition of self contained vehicle to align with the definition of self contained in the Freedom Camping Act 2011.
 - (c) The process to finalise subdividing off Redwood Park from the Te Kuiti Water Treatment Plant is almost complete, so we need to amend the legal descriptions, record of title reference, values information.
 - (d) The Piopio Village Green subdivision is almost complete, so we need to prepare an Individual Reserve Schedule for this reserve. We are also awaiting a name to be provided by mana whenua for this reserve, in accordance with the terms of the sale and purchase agreement for this property.
 - (e) We have received a request to enable vehicular access to the land parcels that adjoin the Te Kuiti Skate Park reserve.

4.3 RMP REVIEW

- 4.4 Pursuant to section 41(4) of the Reserves Act 1977, the administering body of any reserve shall keep its management plan under continuous review so that a plan adapts to changing circumstances and/or is amended in accordance with increased knowledge.
- 4.5 It is considered that given the changes occurring with the PDP, the subdivisions, and the request for access, now would be an appropriate time to undertake an administrative review of the RMP to update it to reflect the changing circumstances.
- 4.6 Council officers consider that we should consult with the community on the proposed amendments to the RMP as these changes are more than administrative amendments, so we should seek the community's views on these amended provisions.
- 4.7 In terms of undertaking consultation, section 41(8) of the Reserves Act states that where an administering body of any reserve resolves to undertake a comprehensive review of its RMP, the administering body shall follow the procedure specified in subsections (5) and (6) as if the review were the preparation of a RMP.
- 4.8 The process under section 41(6) involves a 2 month consultation period and publishing a public notice in the newspaper, writing to all persons and organisations who or which made suggestions to the administering body on the RMP and draft RMP.
- 4.9 However, section 41(9) of the Reserves Act, provides the flexibility if an administering body is not undertaking a comprehensive review, then it is at the discretion of the administering body whether to undertake the process set out in section 41(6).

- 4.10 Given that the review is not comprehensive in that we are not seeking to amend and engage on the entirety of the RMP, but are instead seeking to make targeted amendments to bring the RMP into line with updated circumstances (i.e. completion of subdivisions, rezoning through the PDP, etc.), it is considered that a shorter public feedback period of 20 working days where the community can provide written feedback would be a more appropriate approach. This feedback could then be presented to Council for consideration prior to adoption of the amended RMP. Public notification would be undertaken via Facebook and a public notice in the King Country News.

5. Analysis of Options

5.1 OPTION 1 – DO NOTHING

- 5.2 Council could resolve to not amend the RMP. However, this would mean that the RMP does not contain the most up to date and recent information (i.e. legal descriptions, record of title references, and the addition of the Piopio Village Green etc.).

5.3 OPTION 2 - UNDERTAKE CONSULTATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 41(6) OF THE RESERVES ACT 1977

- 5.4 Council could resolve to undertake the consultation process in accordance with section 41(6) of the Reserves Act. However, it is considered that this level of consultation should only be undertaken when Council is proposing a comprehensive review of the RMP. Given the relatively targeted amendments to the RMP it is considered that this level of consultation is not required.

5.5 OPTION 3 – UNDERTAKE A TARGETED CONSULTATION

- 5.6 It is considered that given the relatively minor amendments to the RMP, seeking public feedback over a 20 working day period would provide sufficient time to receive feedback from the community, should they have any feedback on the proposed changes. This feedback would then be presented to Council to consider prior to adoption of the amended RMP.

6. Considerations

6.1 RISK

- 6.2 It is considered that updating the RMP is consistent with the requirements of section 41(4) of the Reserves Act, and that given we are not undertaking a comprehensive review of the RMP, there is not a need to undertake consultation in accordance with section 41(6) of the Reserves Act. Council officers consider that undertaking consultation on the specific amendments over 20 working days would be sufficient to obtain the community's views on the amendments.

6.3 CONSISTENCY WITH EXISTING PLANS AND POLICIES

- 6.4 The RMP has been written to align with the Proposed Waitomo District Plan in order to reduce duplication and streamline administration between the two documents. The RMP is high level but suggests that provision should be made for detailed development planning for some of the larger reserves. This allows these reserves to use development plans to complement the RMP and address the specific needs of a reserve (or parts of a reserve).

6.5 SIGNIFICANCE AND COMMUNITY VIEWS

- 6.6 It is considered that seeking feedback on the amendments over a 20 working day period would be sufficient time to understand the community's views.

7. Attachments/Separate Enclosures

Separate Enclosure:

- 1 Proposed amended Waitomo District Comprehensive Reserve Management Plan (Doc #916611)

From: Chudleigh Haggett <chudleigh@xtra.co.nz>
Sent: Thursday, 5 February 2026 4:53 pm
To: Mx InfoClass <mx.InfoClass@waitomo.govt.nz>
Subject: Piopio Village Green: Submission

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Attn:
Alex Bell,
General Manager
Strategy and Environment

Sir,
I read recently that it is Councils intention to change the name of the Piopio Village Green.

Personally I find the idea abhorrent. That a well known community asset should suffer an identity change for what appears on the surface to be nothing more than council staff virtue signaling.

I understand that my view is only one view, but on discussing the proposal with many Piopio residents I find that all share the exact same view. Most residents accept that if the proposed name was more inclusive such as The Village Green. (Te Nohoanga) Or The Village Green, (large font) Te Nohoanga (smaller font). or The Village Green Te Nohoanga (a place to rest) The villager's would be more receptive. But losing our Village Green name is unacceptable to the vast majority. I cannot find one resident in decent.

I am happy to present my submissions in person before Council. Should that be possible. In addition, if the original offer and sale agreement contained the request you claim was in that sale agreement, (nearly 50 years ago). I and the villagers would like a copy of that agreement clause, as there were many I spoke to who vehemently disagree such a clause would ever have been there . So proof of such a clause would ease the tension and ill feeling, that has arisen amongst the community. Also an explanation as to why, suddenly some 50 years of an established identity, it is suddenly an issue?

Kind Regards
Chudleigh Haggett
1 Huia St Piopio
021504034

From: Evelyn Smyth <evelynsmyth@xtra.co.nz>
Sent: Monday, 9 February 2026 9:17 pm
To: DistrictPlan
Subject: Proposed name change for The Village Green, Piopio

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Good morning

I am both concerned and confused regarding the proposed name change for The Village Green in Piopio.

I am concerned that the 'name is being gifted by 'mana whenua and is in accordance with the requirements of the conditions of the **sale and purchase agreement when Council purchased the land**'.

It my understanding, and that of my family, that the land was gifted by the late Ian Andrews who inherited it after the death of his parents, Alf and Ada (nee Smyth) Andrews. It was the wish of Ian and his wife, Margaret, to have a plaque erected acknowledging the Andrews and Smyth contribution of this land/venue to the Piopio community. Margaret Andrews now lives in Australia.

Therefore, how and why is 'mana whenua' getting to change a name on land that was owned by the Andrews family - and which includes members of my extended family: Ada Andrews, nee Smyth, was my late husband's aunt, his father's sister.

We knew nothing of this proposed, and waste of money, change.

I totally oppose the name change; The Village Green is a welcoming familiarity everyone knows and therefore requires no explanation as to its function and place in our community.

I look forward to your reply.

Evelyn Smyth

Piopio

From: Three Way Motors Ltd <threewaymotors@xtra.co.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 11 February 2026 11:22 am
To: DistrictPlan
Subject: Village Green

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To Whom it may concern,

I,m writing this email to oppose the name change or added name of “Village Green”in Piopio and as a rate payer would like to propose that we make the official name The “Village Green”
My Great Aunt and Uncle, Fred and Margs Cocking ran the Boarding House which was situated on the Village Green. My mother use to work in the boarding house. So I have a family connection to the Village Green. The community have donated trees and worked hard to form this park. As you can see from the facebook comments the community is opposing the added name. Even the Maori people don’t want it changed. Places are named for a reason. I feel we have a good balance of Maori and English names in our area and to change or add names creates a racial division. Like what happened in Bennydale. If we added English names to places like Piopio and Tekuiti. With the Maori name written in small writing under the English name, imagine the racial turmoil and publicity. I have many Maori clients and friends, they all understand and are also tied of this created separation. Please think carefully and make the right decision.

Regards Peter Nicol
0272800180

From: Tracey and Andrew Neal <potawa488@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 11 February 2026 3:36 pm
To: DistrictPlan
Subject: Re: Objection: Name change for Piopio Village Green

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Hi Alex

Thank you for your clarification. Yes, we would still like to submit our objection, there isn't much time to allow for more discussion at present.

Regarding Heritage values: is this definition one which WDC have chosen? It seems a bit dismissive of the pioneer heritage, which is very young in terms of our country, but in generations to come may be viewed differently.

We are also a little confused by your explanation regarding the site size, as the picture in the RMP shows only a red boundary which encompasses the current Village Green and the former Farm Source yard only - not any subdivision reserve. On a separate note, will this subdivided land be offered up for sale as surplus to requirements? Why wasn't it included in the Village Green in the first place, especially after WDC purchased it?

Cheers

Andrew and Tracey Neal

On Wed, 11 Feb 2026 at 13:46, Tracey and Andrew Neal <potawa488@gmail.com> wrote:

I wish to state our objection to the proposed name change for the Piopio Village Green.

1. What is the justification of the name change?

2. The 'Heritage Values' states '*no known heritage values*' This is untrue as this parcel of land commemorates the Andrews family, HG Andrews arrived in Piopio in 1898, his wife in 1900 and their son Les, was the first pakeha child in Piopio. The Andrews butcher shop opened in 1903. It has been recorded that the land made over for the use of the village of Piopio was on the site of the former Temperance Hotel and Boarding house, which had been bought earlier by Alf and Boss Andrews, was shifted to the rear of the site and was demolished in 1987.

3. There appears to be some discrepancy as to the piece of land being used as the Village Green and the actual size and boundary of the parcel shown in the WDC map. Also the size of the parcel which is given as 1014sqm but the same parcel in qvnz is shown with the same boundary line, as 2023sqm, which suggests more research should be done on the actual boundary of the Village Green before any other decisions are made.

As an aside: In the mid 2000's the Piopio community asked if public toilets could be built in the centre of the village, which aside from the benefit to other businesses, it was also hoped a pedestrian crossing might be created in the centre of town for the safety of pedestrians. At the time, a WDC staff member told the proposers the Andrews family would not allow a building on the Village Green.

For and on behalf of Andrew and Tracey Neal

Kind Regards

Tracey Neal

Phone: 07 877 8009

Email: potawa488@gmail.com

Address: 488 Mangaotaki Rd, RD1, Piopio - 3971

From: Shirley Andrews <specs_shirley@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 11 February 2026 4:21 pm
To: DistrictPlan
Subject: Submission
Attachments: PIOPIO VILLAGE GREEN .eml

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Our submission for the planned name changes of the Piopio Village Green

Regards

Shirley and Jeff Andrews

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PIOPIO VILLAGE GREEN

From Shirley Andrews <specs_shirley@hotmail.com>

Date Wed 11/02/2026 4:12 PM

To districtplan@waitomo.govt.com <districtplan@waitomo.govt.com>

To Whom it may concern

As the last Andrews family living in Piopio we would like to see the Village Green name stay as it is.

The business people of Piopio including Jeffrey Andrews tidy the site and donated trees so the town had a beautiful area to use.

Alot of Piopio people refer to the town as the Village hence the name the village green seems most appropriate.

The people that have contacted us have been most surprised this name change has suddenly been bought to light and are not happy with the suggestion of a name change of any kind.

Please consider your carefully.

Regards

Jeffrey and Shirley Andrews

32a Kea Street

Piopio 3912

Ph 0212140171

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From: Sue Crawford <suetaupo@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 12 February 2026 1:05 pm
To: DistrictPlan
Subject: Piopio Village Green

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Good afternoon Alex,

Introducing myself. I am Sue Crawford(nee Andrews) therefore not a local rate payer, but do have an interest in your RMP. My parents were Ted and Natalie. I grew up in Piopio, was educated there and married in the local church. I still have family ties there and visit often.

I am writing about the name change to the Village Green. My understanding was that my Uncle Boss(Ernest Hugh Andrews) had gifted this piece of land to the Village. The locals gathered to clean up the eyesore, planted it with trees and laid lawn. The locals have maintained this beautifully for nigh on 40 years.

There is a history with that piece of land, originally housing a two story boarding house.

Anyway, my question is why change?

I have been advised that the land was sold to you in 2021, I would love to know who sold it to you, as both Phylis Andrews and Ian Andrews had both passed at this date. I am of the understanding that Ian had been Phylis sole beneficiary to the Piopio buildings business.

If you are adamant in name change, would it be possible to have both names on your sign.

Thankyou for your time

Sue Crawford

Tauranga

From: Lynne Aldridge <lynne.aldridge58@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 13 February 2026 9:12 am
To: DistrictPlan
Subject: Village Green

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Hi Alex

I would like to comment on the recent discussion about the Village Green in Piopio. Approx 30 years ago we had a Piopio Business Promotions committee who were very keen to get Piopio (tidied up). It was about the time that the cobblestones were laid. After discussion with the Andrews family and council at the time we agreed to make that parcel of land into The Village Green. I owned a small plant shop at the time in the old building next to Wrightson's which is no longer there. I arranged for the business's in Piopio at the time to donate the trees that are still on the green. My late husband volunteered his time with his digger and tidied the bank at the back and placed pongas there. As far as I'm aware council then kept it tidy with lawnmowing.

So rather than change the name of the Village Green I think it would be a good idea to perhaps have another sign with the Maori name and its meaning as per the terms of the Sale and Purchase Agreement signed in 2021. I do feel quite passionate about this as along with others on our committee we spent many hours discussing this. I actually came up with the name and designed the sign as well so considering this piece of land has been The Village Green for just over 30 years I wouldn't like to see it called anything else.

Kind Regards
Lynne Aldridge
Mob 021 0224 4700