

8. FORMAL NAMING OF PARK KNOWN AS PEACOCKS GALLOP

General Manager responsible:	General Manager City Environment, DDI 941 8608
Officer responsible:	Asset and Network Planning Unit Manager
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the recommendation of the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board to the Council to formally name the park currently known as Peacocks Gallop, and a decision of the Board confirming support in principle for installation of an interpretative panel.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Peacocks Gallop is a local park situated on Main Road at the base of Clifton Hill and opposite Shag Rock.
3. Since 2003, several requests have been made by the Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society to remove the name "Peacocks Gallop" from this park on the basis that it is not historically correct. Further information is provided under the Background (The Issues) section of this report.
4. The Council has a current naming practice for new parks and reserves, which is to give them the name of the adjoining road. This convention makes it easy for people, and for emergency services, to locate the parks, since the names match the street names. However this area is not known to have been named after Main Road at any time. The Council's policy for the naming of reserves and facilities states that for existing reserves, whether previously formally or informally named, and through common usage are accepted by the community, generally these names will be retained. While no records have been located on the formal naming of the park as Peacocks Gallop, the name appears to have been widely used and accepted by members of the community for some time, and has been shown to have a historical basis. During public consultation on the Monck's Bay to Scarborough Beach Parks Issues and Opportunities document in 2008, 19 out of 25 submissions on this naming issue preferred the name "Peacocks Gallop" to be retained. On the basis of these results, the change of name was not pursued further by staff.
5. Funding was then sought by staff for an interpretation panel for the park as an alternative means of acknowledging aspects of the history of the park, but it became evident that the Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society still wished to see the name "Peacocks Gallop" removed. It is the view of staff that it is necessary to formally adopt a name for the park before proceeding with any further signage in the park. In conjunction with the formal adoption of a name for the park, staff are now seeking confirmation from the Board that the installation of the interpretation panel is still supported in principle. If this is confirmed, a further report presenting a proposed draft design and seeking funding will be presented to the Board for their recommendation to Council that the project be funded from the Board's Local Discretionary Response Fund.
6. The Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society have suggested alternative names for the park, but now believe that the park should be known by what they consider to be its original name "Shag Rock Reserve". This name is very similar to "Shag Rock", the name by which the area of beach around Shag Rock opposite is known. However the Coastal Area Ranger Team consider that the two sites are visually and geologically linked in close proximity, and they would have no issues with the use of this name.
7. Overall, taking into account historical research, along with community views and current parks naming policy, it is the view of staff that the name of Peacocks Gallop should be formally adopted for this park.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8. If a name other than Peacocks Gallop is proposed, the financial implications (excluding staff time) would be limited to the cost of installing new park signage. The cost of installing a medium sized double post entrance sign in accordance with the new signage standards for park signs is approximately \$4,368.
9. Currently there is no specific funding in the 2009 -19 LTCCP for the renaming of reserves.
10. Funding may be sought from the local Discretionary Response Fund at a future date to install a new interpretation panel in this park for the further information and benefit of the public.

Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2009-19 LTCCP budgets?

11. Yes, as above.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

12. The Council Policy for Naming of Parks and Reserves, adopted by the Council in July 1993, states that the Council has the final decision regarding names of parks and reserves. The Councils Register of Delegations states that the following is a Council decision: "*To declare that a reserve shall be known by a specified name and can change the name of any reserve (by resolution): Section 16(10) Reserves Act 1977.*"

Have you considered the legal implications of the issue under consideration?

13. Yes, as above.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

14. While the naming of features is not specifically mentioned in the LTCCP, the costs associated with this process are covered within the existing operational budgets.

Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2009-19 LTCCP?

15. Not applicable.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

16. The recommendations align with the Council's Policy Register's code of practice for the naming and re-naming of reserves, and the *Monck's Bay to Scarborough Beach Parks Issues and Opportunities* document.

Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?

17. Yes, as above.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

18. The naming of the park was addressed within the context of the Council's proposed Master Plan for the Monck's Bay to Scarborough Beach Parks, a much wider management and development planning programme for the overall area. Public consultation on the *Monck's Bay to Scarborough Beach Parks Issues and Opportunities* document was undertaken over August/September 2008. The document provided information about the reserve land including the likely origin of the name, and asked the following questions:

"Should the name be used only for the old roadway, or should it be used for the parkland between the road and the cliffs? Should a new name be chosen for the parkland?"

A total of 150 submissions were received from the community, 25 of which included comments about the naming of Peacocks Gallop. Of these, a majority of 19 submitters wished to retain the name Peacocks Gallop, with 6 suggesting the name be changed. Four alternative names were suggested; Clifton, Clifton Cliffs, Clifton Park and Soldiers Memorial Reserve. On this basis, it was considered by staff that the matter not be pursued further.

19. The Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society have been asked for their preference for the name of the park at this time. The Society is of the view that the original name of Shag Rock Reserve should be kept. This name has never been altered or removed to the Society's knowledge. Although the Society has previously suggested the new name of Soldiers Memorial Reserve, they now believe this would require more consultation with associated costs in time and money. The Society believes that the park may have been named Shag Rock Reserve because it is near Shag Rock, or the sand from around Shag Rock was used in the 1930s to fill in the area that is now the park. The Society have noted that their records include an undated newspaper report stating that the Sumner Beautifying Society would be planting native trees on Shag Rock Reserve. Staff have subsequently identified that the newspaper article is from The Press dated 31 August 1940 (p.7) suggesting that the name was in use at that time.
20. Consultation undertaken with manawhenua for the *Monck's Bay to Scarborough Beach Parks Issues and Opportunities* document did not make specific mention of Peacocks Gallop. Manawhenua did identify the importance of telling of the original histories and occupations of the area, including through interpretation, and the importance of bilingual signage with both Maori and European place names together on signage. The correct use of Te Reo was encouraged, for example, "Rapanui" is not a literal translation of "Shag Rock" but rather is named in memory of their original homeland "Rapanui" or Easter Island.
21. The Clifton Neighbourhood Committee have been asked for their views on the naming of the park, and the Board will be advised of any feedback received prior to considering this report at the meeting of 15 September 2010.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board:

- (a) Recommend to the Council that the name of Peacocks Gallop is formally adopted.
- (b) Confirm support in principle for the installation of an interpretive panel at Peacocks Gallop, and see a future report to the Board on design and funding.

CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

For discussion.

BACKGROUND (THE ISSUES)

22. Issues raised about the name

On several occasions since 2003, correspondence has been received by the Council, and deputations made to the Hagley Ferrymead Community Board, from the Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society on the park currently known as Peacocks Gallop. The Society have expressed their concern about the continued use of the name "Peacocks Gallop" which they believe has no factual historical basis and no relationship to this area. The Society has noted that this matter was first raised with local government in the 1980s. Research by members of the Society indicates that the only known historical names for the area have been Clifton Heights, Harrow Swimming Pool or Shag Rock Reserve. The Society also stated that they had previously requested that the park be named after the McCoomb family but were advised that a McCoomb Memorial Garden already existed within Woolston Park. The use of a new name associated with the unemployed men who had worked in the area in the 1930s was also suggested by the Society.

23. A letter from Council staff to the Society in October 2003 states that according to records, the park was previously known as Shag Rock Reserve, but that name is not appropriate as this refers to the area on which Shag Rock sits, and which is covered by water at high tide. The letter notes that the name Peacocks Gallop is widely used and accepted within the Council and community.
24. Information on Peacocks Gallop was provided to Board members in a memorandum dated 22 November 2006 following a further deputation to the Board meeting of 24 May that year by the Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society. The Society requested that the signage at the reserve be changed to remove the reference to Peacocks Gallop based on the assumption that it was to the Hon. John Thomas Peacock (1827-1905) who had no direct association with the reserve area. The Board were advised that Peacocks Gallop referred to the portion of stopped road situated between Reserve 4252 and the cliffs (refer **Attachment 1**). The reserve was vested in the Sumner Borough Council under the Sumner Borough Land Vesting Act 1929, although it did not appear that it was filled in and useable until after 1938. Staff supported the Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society's view that the Hon. JT Peacock could not have galloped on the reserve as it was not in existence during his lifetime, and therefore it should not be named after him. Consideration of signs or plaques to advise of the historical alignment of the old Sumner Road along the base of the cliffs was suggested.
25. On 24 February 2007, the Board considered a report advising on the issue previously raised by the Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society about the naming of the Peacocks Gallop Reserve and to seek approval for funding from the Board's discretionary funds for two commemorative plaques. The report stated that subsequent research by staff, along with information provided by a descendant of the late John Jenkins Peacock (1798-1868), identified that the name Peacocks Gallop refers to John Jenkins Peacock, not John Thomas Peacock. The Board resolved to note that a previous historical association exists with respect to part of the old Sumner Main Road also known as Peacocks Gallop, and that funding be allocated to meet the costs of two memorial plaques acknowledging "Peacocks Gallop". The Board also resolved that consideration be given to removing the name "Peacocks Gallop" in respect of the reserve area and substituting same with an historical or local interpreted Maori name and discussion on the wording of a suitable plaque, in consultation with the Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society and other interested organisations.

Suggested new name for the park

26. In March 2007, the Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society proposed that the park be named in remembrance of those who built it, rather than after any one individual. The present road and the area that is now the park were filled in with sand carted manually from the adjoining beach. The men, who were World War I returned soldiers, were working on Unemployment Scheme "U5" during the Depression of the 1930s. The Society proposed the name "Soldiers Memorial Reserve" in conjunction with a Maori interpretation of "Te Tohu O Nga Toa".

Further recommendations by staff

27. In February 2008, the Board were provided with an update on the matter following a deputation by the Sumner Redcliffs Historical Society on 7 February 2008. Staff had undertaken preliminary research on Peacocks Gallop but now recommended that the installation of plaques, or alternatively interpretive panels, be held over until the matter of changing the name of this park was addressed within the wider context of the proposed Master Plan for the Moncks Bay to Scarborough Beach Parks. Plan. The report also identified that the \$2,500 allocated from the Board's Discretionary Fund for the installation of two memorial plaques in the park had not been transferred to the Transport and Greenspace Unit budget due to an administrative error.

28. In addition, further on-site investigations by staff indicated that the proposed locations for the placement of the plaques were in close proximity to the cliff-faces. Staff were concerned that this may be encouraging passing members of the public to linger in locations where they may be at risk from falling rocks. Staff had searched for an alternative safe location along the road frontage of the park and away from the cliff-faces. As the park drops away from the footpath boundary, the possibility of attaching the plaques to the existing stone-pillar lamp standards (restored earlier by the Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society) was considered. It was identified that this would require careful consideration of the effects on the heritage values of both the lamps and the existing memorial plaques on the stone bases. In addition, the Transport and Greenspace Unit was at that time in the process of developing guidelines and standards for memorial plaques and staff wished to ensure that the installations are consistent with these.

Consultation under the proposed Master Plan

29. The naming of the park was then addressed within the context of Council's proposed Master Plan for the Monck's Bay to Scarborough Beach Parks, a much wider management and development planning programme for the overall area. Public consultation on the *Monck's Bay to Scarborough Beach Parks Issues and Opportunities* document was undertaken over August/September 2008. The document provided information about the reserve land including the likely origin of the name, and asked the following questions:

"Should the name be used only for the old roadway, or should it be used for the parkland between the road and the cliffs? Should a new name be chosen for the parkland?"

A total of 150 submissions were received from the community, 25 of which included comments about the naming of Peacocks Gallop. Of these, a majority of 19 submitters wished to retain the name Peacocks Gallop, with 6 suggesting the name be changed. Four alternative names were suggested; Clifton, Clifton Cliffs, Clifton Park and Soldiers Memorial Reserve. On this basis, it was the view of staff that the matter of changing the name not be pursued further.

30. Staff subsequently identified that installation of two further commemorative plaques in Peacock's Gallop would not be consistent with Council's *Draft guidelines on the commissioning, design, installation, maintenance and decommissioning of plaques* which require that the number of existing plaques, memorials, artworks and other objects in the vicinity is taken into account, and that plaques not be attached or engraved into natural features.
31. Staff suggested to the Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society in November 2008 and June 2009 that a new historical interpretation panel be installed as an alternative. This was considered by staff to enable the provision of more comprehensive and up to date information, including illustrations, on the many interesting facets of the history of the park. The Society were also advised in June 2009 and November 2009 that the majority of people who responded to the issue of the naming of Peacocks Gallop during consultation on the *Monck's Bay to Scarborough Beach Parks Issues and Opportunities* document identified that they wished this name to remain. The Society did not identify any concerns about this outcome at this time.

Funding for a proposed interpretation panel

32. A report seeking funding from the 2009/10 Hagley Ferrymead Community Board Discretionary Fund to complete the installation of an interpretation panel at Peacock's Gallop was considered by the Board on 16 December 2009. It was the belief of staff at that time that the Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society understood that the name Peacocks Gallop would be retained. However a deputation was made to this meeting by the Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society outlining their concern about the matter and their understanding that the name "Peacocks Gallop" would be removed. They also considered that as the name Shag Rock Reserve had been given by the Council and had never been removed, the easiest solution would be to keep this name. The Board declined the funding request but resolved to approve the installation of an information panel at locations identified in principle, with the final design to be presented to the Board for approval after consultation with the Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society.

33. On 16 April 2010, a staff memorandum updated the Board on this issue, advising that given the issues raised in the earlier deputation, staff were of the opinion that it was necessary to formally adopt a name for the park before proceeding any further with an interpretation panel or other any signage in the park. Staff indicated their intention to work with the Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society on a design for the panel, and seek funding again for its installation, once a name for the park had been formally adopted.
34. Subsequently, at its meeting of 22 April 2010, the Council resolved to make changes to the criteria of the Local Discretionary Response Fund. Under these changes, the Fund does not cover projects or initiatives that will lead to ongoing operational costs to the Council, however Community Boards can recommend to Council for consideration of grants under these circumstances. Transport and Greenspace Unit staff have confirmed that the installation of a panel is likely to lead to ongoing operational costs over time for maintenance, repair and replacement.
35. Therefore, in conjunction with the formal adoption of a name for the park, staff are now seeking confirmation from the Board that the installation of the interpretation panel is still supported in principle. If so, and when the name of the park is formally resolved, staff will work with the Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society on the content and design of the panel. A further report presenting a proposed draft design and seeking funding will be presented to the Board for their recommendation to Council that the project be funded from the Board's Local Discretionary Response Fund.

THE OBJECTIVES

36. The objective is to formally adopt a name for the park currently known as Peacocks Gallop to resolve local concerns about this matter and provide interpretation for the information of the wider community.

THE OPTIONS

Option 1

37. Formally adopt the name Peacocks Gallop for this park.

This will allow for the formal recognition and continued use of a name that has through common informal usage been accepted by the community, and has been found to have a historical basis. The risk of confusion amongst the community from a change of name is avoided. This is also consistent with the results of community consultation on the *Monck's Bay to Scarborough Beach Parks Issues and Opportunities* document, where 19 out of the 25 submissions on this issue were in support of retaining the name Peacocks Gallop. However the Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society do not support this name.

Option 2

38. Formally adopt the name Shag Rock Reserve for this park.

This will allow for the use of a name that has been referred to in earlier historical records and addresses the concerns of the Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society on this matter. This name may not be widely known amongst the community and may result in confusion. A change of name is not consistent with feedback received during consultation on the *Monck's Bay to Scarborough Beach Parks Issues and Opportunities* document.

Option 3

39. Maintain the status quo.

Continuing with the informal use of the name Peacocks Gallop is not considered a viable option as concerns about this informal use have been an ongoing issue for some members of the community for many years. This would be consistent with the results of community consultation on the *Monck's Bay to Scarborough Beach Parks Issues and Opportunities* document, where 19 out of the 25 submissions on this issue were in support of retaining the name Peacocks Gallop. However the name would not be formally adopted or recognised, and similar issues may continue to arise in the future.

THE PREFERRED OPTION

40. The preferred option is **Option 1** – To formally adopt the name Peacocks Gallop for this park.