

2. PROPOSED NAME CHANGE

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Corporate Plan Output: Subdivisions	

The purpose of this report is to refer back to the Environment Committee the proposed change of name of part Major Hornbrook Road, previously recommended by the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board on 17 January 2001.

Fer/2000/2542 Chrystall Holdings Limited Mt Pleasant Road Ferrymead Ward (attached)

At the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board Meeting held on 17 January 2001, a name change was proposed for a small part of Major Hornbrook Road to Signal Hill Road, as a new subdivision included forming approximately 250 metres of the unformed part of Major Hornbrook Road. This will result in two parts of Major Hornbrook Road being separated by approximately 750 metres of unformed Road. The developer's consultant suggested that this might create confusion in locating properties by the emergency services. The Fire Service advised that changing the name to Signal Hill Road would create less confusion for operational staff than having two sections of Major Hornbrook Road.

The Board recommended that a proposed change of name of part Major Hornbrook Road to Signal Hill Road be referred to the Council for the initiating of Special Order Procedures pursuant to S 716B of the Local Government Act 1974. The proposal was approved for notification at the Council meeting held on 22 February 2001. However a letter objecting to the proposal from a Mt Pleasant resident was received, and at the subsequent Council meeting held on 22 March 2001, the proposal was referred back to the Board (and the Environment Committee) for further deliberation.

The total length of Major Hornbrook Road, from Marama Crescent to Mt Pleasant Road, including the unformed portion is 3.15 kilometres. The portion proposed to be changed in name to Signal Hill Road is 0.25 kilometres or approximately 7% of the total road.

Major Alfred Hornbrook arrived in Lyttelton in 1849, established the Mitre Hotel, and made enough money providing accommodation, food and refreshments to the early settlers, to sell the hotel in 1851 and purchase several pastoral runs from St Martins to Godley Head, which he named the Mt Pleasant Station. He built his house above the Summit Road, near Mt Pleasant Road where a tea rooms was later built. From his house he could see ships arriving offshore, and would walk up to the harbour rim, and using flags denoting the different types of vessel, would signal the harbour authorities in Lyttelton of the imminent arrival of the ships in the harbour. It is because of this voluntary task of Major Hornbrook's that the name **Signal Hill Road** was arrived at. Despite owning nearly 47,000 sheep, Major Hornbrook went bankrupt in 1871. Among the many enterprises the Hornbrooks commenced to recoup their losses was a school opened by Mrs Hornbrook in Opawa. The present Hornbrook Street in Opawa recognises Mrs Hornbrook's efforts.

The reason for the objection was the loss of the historic name Major Hornbrook Road from a part of the road. The objector states that the unformed part of Major Hornbrook Road is a historic track. However, while there is a track that generally follows (in places, the track is on private land) the legal alignment of the unformed part of Major Hornbrook Road, the track referred to as Major Hornbrook Track is that by which Major Hornbrook carried his supplies from Lyttelton up to the Mt Pleasant bluffs and down to his house (near today's junction of Mt Pleasant Road and the Summit Road).

There are two matters that should be taken into account by the Committee while deliberating this proposal; the first is the loss of the historic name for 250 metres of what was previously unformed road. The second is the safety aspect of having two Major Hornbrook Roads. In respect to the first matter, the name is being replaced with a name that further recognises Major Hornbrook and the voluntary task he performed that enhanced his reputation in Canterbury. It is possible that this change if it proceeds, may be of a temporary nature, until the two parts are linked. (Subdivision of the intervening land has been investigated on several occasions over the years, but possible difficulties in the provision of some services has apparently placed a hold on the matter. There are no current proposals to subdivide the land between.) In respect to the matter of locating properties in an emergency, the Council can mitigate possible confusion by having new directional signs manufactured and placed on Mt Pleasant Road, Major Hornbrook Road and Madeley Road.

A similar report was discussed by the Hagley Ferrymead Community Board on 2 May, which makes the following recommendation to the Committee:

That the name of that portion of Major Hornbrook Road of approximately 250 metres in length running off Mt Pleasant Road be named **Major Hornbrook Road (Upper)**.

Recommendation: That the Committee decide on either **Upper Major Hornbrook Road** or **Major Hornbrook Road (Upper)** for that part of Major Hornbrook Road under discussion.

Chairman's Recommendation: That the above described part of Major Hornbrook Road be changed to **Upper Major Hornbrook Road**.