

<p style="text-align:center">MINUTES OF AWAROA/GODLEY HEAD COASTAL PARK HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS</p>

Thursday 19 August 2004

Present: Carole Evans (chair), Carole Anderton, Diane Fitzharding-Jones, Ken Kimmins, Derek Roozen and Julia Bloy (Minutes)

Apologies: J L Robb, Max Robertson, Terry and Lorraine Hill, John and Jenny Mote and Justine Ottey

Do Not Wish To Be Heard: Otto Snoep, Murray Jamieson and Tony Hallams

PETER HILL
(Bach 44 Taylors Mistake)

Concerned that mountain bikers were finding it difficult to get out onto the road and suggested another cycle track be created from Harris Bay along the hillside behind the baches, across the north side of the valley across Scarborough to exit on Heberden Avenue.

C Anderton *How many bikers use the road?*

His observation was that there were frequently bikers attempting to exit from the Bay. He had not held discussion with any bikers or cycle groups.

P Hill suggested an alternative coastal track be created east of the baches up the hillside above the Tank Trap (currently entry to the coastal walk is from the car park which makes entry difficult for the disabled or pushchairs as there are steps). It would also provide better vistas and give a better appreciation of the Bay.

Currently bach-holders are awaiting the decision as to ownership of the land – once it is confirmed they will spend money on a sewage system.

Toilets at Boulder Bay are very much needed.

ALISON ROSS
(Secretary of the Otamahua Quail Island Trust and spokesperson for the Lyttelton Environment Group)

Expressed discomfort at any extension of the upper area for vehicles – people may leave their cars at the Evans Pass car park and then be encouraged to walk.

Totally opposed to commercial facilities being developed at the end of the road but would support facilities being used for educational purposes. Permission to have an educational

lodge on Quail Island for staying overnight has been granted. She would strongly oppose a coffee shop on the upper plateau but it could possibly be on the lower area. Experience overseas has found that roads and parks are not compatible; however, Alison is a strong advocate for disabled access and feels that currently the access is dangerous. She felt that a DOC information centre that sold drinks/etc may be appropriate. She is a strong supporter of financial sustainability of concepts.

In 2001, she presented a paper to DOC which was tabled. At the time there were a number of groups who wanted to keep the structures of the park for their own interests. She felt that there must be broad ownership for all – this can often be a long process but it is necessary for all to participate and have their say.

She would defer to DOC as to signage but felt that it was an excellent opportunity to provide information.

C Anderton

What is your priority for the Godley Head area?

It is an area for foot traffic to enjoy and to protect the penguins.

With car park management, could it be used by many?

Yes but keep the cars off. It is an important area and the values should be promoted and protected.

D Fitzharding-Jones

If the carpark is at Evans Pass how do you facilitate access to historic features for the disabled, elderly and young families?

Ancillary car parks could be provided for those people and signage erected informing this. Traffic build-up can detract from the enjoyment of an area. Parking/walking needs to be encouraged. Signage could also advise the time and distance of the walk.

JOY BURT

Suggested that integrated management would achieve the best outcome for the area.

Supported the predator proof fence to protect native flora and fauna and for protection of ground dwelling birds, especially the white-flipped penguin. The increase of white-flipped penguin numbers on Otamahua/Quail Island is largely due to active predator control.

Requested that dogs be prohibited inside the predator proof fence rather than managed in a limited and controlled manner as proposed.

Objected to the existing baches at Boulder Bay on public land and suggested a “grandfather clause” arrangement be made with existing owners so that over time the existing baches are removed after the demise of the oldest member of the current family owning the bach. Would like to see a bond required equivalent to the removal expense of the bach (\$15,000 – 20,000) to avoid the situation which exists at Harris Bay. The

suggestion was made that adequate annual rentals could be charged, as coastal properties are highly sought after, and the money added to funds to develop the coastal park.

C Anderton

Have you had any experience with predator-proof fencing?

No, Karore Park has a problem with mice, however it is successful and excluding larger animals is very positive as our flora and fauna develop without introduced predators.

K Kimmins

What about more localized fencing around the colonies eg around Boulder Bay?

If you wish to establish an eco-system back to its original state, then you need diversity and the larger the habitat, the more effective and sustainable is the system. The fence needs to be erected at one time. National Geographic Society has funding for Trusts and as there are many aspects involved in this project, the size would be more attractive for funding. Allowing people and vehicles through the park poses technical problems. People would need to be educated and maybe pamphlets could be issued at Evans Pass.

BRIAN SWALE

Sumner Residents' Association

Suggested an emergency access from Godley Drive be taken into account when looking at Resource Consent. Scarborough Road is the only vehicle access road and in case of an emergency this could pose problems.

The restoration of the Heritage/Te Onepoto Trail should be given top priority as it is in a coastal urban environment and therefore has high potential for tourists. The trail provided foot access for the school as there is no footpath. D Roozen advised that the Trail has not been identified on the conceptual plan as it would be over private land currently the subject of an Application for development. B Swale advised that letters from the Council had been submitted in which the Council stated that the Trail would be taken into account when looking at the Plan, therefore, he felt it fitting that it be flagged and actively processed. D Roozen advised that the whole concept of walking and heritage was supported and would not be overlooked.

Opposed barracks being used as a restaurant or café as this would not be in accordance to the stated objectives, however, supported accommodation for schools or similar groups for educational purposes.

Concerned that cessation of grazing would produce tall grasses which would pose a fire danger. Good management and good grazing could mitigate this.

C Anderton

Is it possible to restore the lighthouse?

D Fitzharding-Jones

Plans have been proposed by the Port Company for this.

K Kimmins

Were there any specifics in mind for Maori aspects to be better recognized?

Harry Evison has a record of documentation and could be contacted.

JOHN FREEMAN

Advised that in 1992 he had been involved with Harry Evison in setting up the Heritage Trail as a local endeavour.

He purchased a bach above Hobson's Bay, thirty years ago. Advised that the Council had an undertaking from the 50 bach owners to leave by 1/3/86 and baches without power were removed. Felt that the land was public land and the baches should be moved to their own land – many of the baches had fences and gardens which prevented access by the public.

Supported the work of Dr Chris Challies and would like to see the baches removed at Boulder Bay. Most concerned at the pollution aspect from these baches and advised that this view was supported by the Environment Court last year. There are no sanitary arrangements for Hobson's Bay and only some in Taylors Mistake. Electric toilets were to have been provided in 1986, however, it is doubtful if this occurred – some of the baches are occupied full-time.

The walkway from the top of the hill above Taylors Mistake, along the cliff top and down to Taylors Mistake is in a deplorable state (around Moki Point) – this is used by many walking groups and is dangerous for the elderly with a barbed wire strand fence which needs removing. ***D Roozen to make enquiries about the track condition.***

Friday 20 August 2004

PETER WILKINS

Historian representing Godley Head Historic Trust – referred to its written submission

Advised they have copies of a letter from Ngai Tahu which states that the earlier name for Awaroa/Godley Head was Kotokitoki (sometimes spelt Otokitoki). Submitted that the common name of Godley Head be used in the interim pending the results of an appropriate investigation, the results of which would be submitted to the Geographic Board for consideration.

Suggested that the area was never covered by more than tussock and wish the pine trees to be left as part of the heritage.

Supports the White Flipped Penguin Trust but felt that the rights of the Boulder Bay bach owners be respected as being symbiotic. Would like to see that what is proposed for the Penguin Parade is a reality and humane. There may be 1,000's of people who would have to be excluded from the area, therefore, it would be necessary to ensure that the fence is cost-effective conservation.

Would like to see the Visitor's Centre in one of the historic buildings of the old military complex – would be a fraction of the cost. The suggested roadhouse name of 'Sign of the Parekareka' is culturally inappropriate and does not conform to the chain of Harry Ell's roadhouses.

Currently, DOC estimates 100,000 visit the area – if the area is to be promoted then infrastructure investment would need to be made – the Class 3 road precludes tour buses.

In terms of management, it would need to be decided who, how much and where will funding come from. Inclusive management would be endorsed and not just “consult and then do what was originally planned”. The Administration body would need to include those actively involved with Godley Head which would bring knowledge as well as willing hands.

The Godley Head Heritage Trust will be making an application for a concession over the Headquarters and Quartermaster’s Store building to establish a museum, service area and visitor centre within the building. It is proposed to recreate what the building looked like and alongside, establish an Education Centre (museum).

C Anderton

Would the Trust approve of overnight stays for educational purposes?

It would be excellent – the Officers’ Mess would be the obvious place (there are still the original bunks), ablutions but no sewer and no cooking facilities but a place for them.

C Anderton

Original vegetation?

The NZ Geographic History Book shows prime forestation was burnt by moa hunters, however, there has not been any evidence on Godley Head but over in Akaroa and in valley areas.

D Roozen

Would the Trust support improved road access?

Yes as long as considerable planning was done and continued careful management.

D Roozen

View on predator proof fence?

Godley Head is not the ideal place – Quail Island would be more suited. The cost is extremely high to erect the fence and the maintenance would involve ongoing costs. Doubt whether the proposal is practical.

D Roozen

What is the Trust’s emphasis?

Restoration – there are unique historic buildings which represent a very important part of our history and these significant buildings need to be returned to their original order.

C Anderton

Naming of the Visitor’s Centre?

Stick with Harry Ell’s vision – ‘Sign of the Parekareka’ is suitable for a café.

BRENT GILPIN

Secretary, Taylors Mistake Association

Very supportive of the development plan. People have been baching in the area since the 1890’s and have historic knowledge of the baches. Requested that any steps taken be consistent with the Environment Court decisions. A lot of effort and money has been squandered on litigation.

Toilets at Boulder Bay would be beneficial – funds have been set aside in the past but deferred pending the future of the baches.

Support the development of walking and mountain bike tracks but suggested that mountain bike track avoid the road to Taylors Mistake.

D Fitzharding-Jones

What would be the preferred roading access to Boulder Bay?

Defer to the chairman re access to Boulder Bay baches.

K Kimmins

Suggested alternative mountain bike route?

No simple solution as the road gets very busy and is narrow and difficult. Possibly the back of Sumner and down into the Bay.

C Evans

Do you support the predator proof fence?

Very costly and high maintenance. Suggested certain areas be fenced off to achieve the outcome.

M RULE

Secretary, Sumner- Redcliffs Historical Society

Golans Bay spelling should be amended to Gollans Bay.

The wording of Godley Head Road towards the city should be Summit Road.

Has a copy of a letter sent 31 October 1980 from Ngai Tahu advising that the correct Maori name for the area is Kotokitoki or Otokitoki – would like to have the original name used.

Would like the road shown going up Clifton Hill off Nayland St west after Richmond Hill Road altered as it is only a track. Nayland St/Marriner St requires amendment.

Concerned that these errors were not picked up by proof-readers. D Roozen advised that the document is a draft and a conceptual and promotional document and that input to correct errors is appreciated. The Ngai Tahu Trust Board will be consulted before the plan is finalised. Awaroa refers to the fluted nature of the topography. The formal document must reflect what is appropriate after consultation with the Sumner-Redcliffs Historical Society, Ngai Tahu and other interested parties.

HARRY EVISON

(Knowledge and experience of the area goes back eighty years)

Supported and pleased with the proposal. Suggested that Rik Tau of Ngai Tuahuriri would be able to assist with Maori history.

The spotted shag population has seriously declined to a third of what it was – suggested it could be restored if there was a plan for the natural vegetation to be re-introduced using plants from the Motukarara Nursery. The area could be a showcase and an asset for Christchurch by keeping out predators with the predator proof fence. The area is very accessible from the city in all weathers unlike Quail Island.

Requested that the 1990 Sumner Heritage Trail be restored – the proposed tracks shown on the plan would be more difficult and more arduous than the tracks on the Trail.

K Kimmins

How would you feel about more people visiting the area?

It would be excellent for people to enjoy, sense and appreciate the environment.

J TURPIN

(Bach holder at Taylors Mistake and Treasurer of Taylors Mistake Lifesaving Club)

Affirmed the concept.

Concerned that parts of the concept could be interpreted as leaving the way open to overturn portions of the Environment Court's decision re the baches at Taylors Mistake and Boulder Bay. The intent is that all the bach holders retain the rights to the baches.

Concerned that if the penguin parade at Boulder Bay were to proceed, it would require the establishment of substantial infrastructure and lighting which would permanently alter the remote experience of the area eg, with roads, bus accommodation and parking, entry kiosks, staff amenities, additional public amenities, safety lighting, perimeter fencing, restricted access area etc. Remoteness is the appeal and beauty of the place and the existing baches enhance the natural beauty of the area.

Boulder Bay is at the end of a narrow dead end road at the bottom of some steep, dangerous hills and therefore, is not comparable to penguin parades at Phillips Island and Oamaru.

There is a strong need for public toilet facilities at Boulder Bay.

D Fitz-Harding Jones

Would the Club be opposed to vehicle access being formalized to Boulder Bay?

The Club prefers the area Spartan and barren – walking access to the baches is fine.

LAURENCE MOTE

(Ground Effect)

Advised that his company manufacture and sell cycle clothing to 10,000 customers in Christchurch and overseas. Eight staff members use the Godley Head recreation area. They support the concept of the Coastal Park and Management Plan but see the area as a recreation area with the focus for access for walking and biking. They would be opposed

to commercial activity which would destroy the wilderness experience. More vehicular traffic would make it an 'ice-cream destination'. The rights of interested users should be considered with a 30K speed limit and control measures implemented. Access for bikers could be difficult and to historical points of interests (as they do not carry cycle locks). The upgrade of the Taylors Mistake road has made it more difficult for both walkers and cyclists as the speed has increased making it more dangerous. A cycle track out of Taylors Mistake would be appreciated.

C Anderton

Had they thought that older people's lifestyles includes meeting with friends and then walking which makes a meeting place important. Would they be adverse to an information centre/café?

Yes – there are ample such places at Sumner and Lyttelton. People could take a thermos and sit at picnic tables.

C Anderton

Access to the area is difficult for older people who cannot cycle there.

The emphasis should be on recreation and on existing values.

D Fitzharding-Jones

Access for young mountain bikers would be difficult as they would not be able to cycle that far – do they support a joint walking/mountain bike tracks proposal?

Many people park their vehicles at Evans Pass. There are no mountain bike tracks which are only designated for mountain bikes. Currently walkers and runners use mountain bike tracks and this works well where the mountain bikes are respected. Taylors Mistake has been closed to mountain bikes.

BARBARA GRAY

(Save The Bay Ltd)

Read from Submission.

In general, they support the plan. With regard to Land Tenure – they do not want to be put aside in the new process. Advised that use of the land has been provided for by previous legislation and the Council already has been guaranteed the use of the land. Advised that the issue of back tenure has as yet to be decided by the Council and 2002 was an enabling matter dealt with by the Courts. It is now up to the Council to decide. Would like to see all baches removed except for numbers 1, 2, and 34.

Suggested that history shows that licenses cannot be enforced and that local authorities often do not have the will or resources to enforce them which can result in sub-letting, selling-on, changing, or upgrading. The issues of over-sewage are also detrimental to the public.

Raised the issue of privatization of public spaces and suggested that the Court had made a strong statement on this issue. Concerned that any baches which would remain in the Park area would become a private place in what should be a public space.

C Evans

Have the fences been removed?

This has not yet been implemented.

D Roozen

We cannot revisit what is currently being processed by the Council. The transfer of land to the Council has not been implemented as it is subject to the report from the Council response to the Environment Court decision.

The land has twice been used to gain benefit and is now fully available for the Council to use. Resolution of 2002 issues could not be put aside and do not have to wait for the Godley Head Coastal Park outcome.

Graham Baldwin

(White Flipped Penguin Trust)

Advised he had been involved with the Trust since its beginnings and in 1998 was involved with Godley Head whilst completing a degree at Lincoln College – this progressed to Turning Point 2000 involvement which resulted in the Trust being registered under the Christchurch Trusts Act.

They support the predator-proof fence as without the Harris Bay fence the population would not survive. It is dangerous to have a concentration for the species in one site. Harris Bay is limited geographically; therefore, they wish to establish a colony at Boulder Bay. Humans and penguins have difficulty in living together and occupiers on private land to the exclusion of others, is a difficulty. Viewing of the birds is seasonal and only occurs at dusk; therefore the area would not be over-run. They would be happy to work with the Godley Head Heritage Trust to share facilities.

They have attracted fundings from overseas and other local sources. Currently, they are preparing a CD Rom for school education purposes.

He urged that there be a total ban on dogs in the park.

K Kimmins

Who do you envisage running the Penguin Parade and what about the practicality of it?

The Trust as a non-profit organization, would run the viewing and any profit would go back to the educational side and to the running. From a practical point of view, there would need to be a build up of numbers at Harris Bay which could then spill over into Boulder Bay – possibly ten years to get sufficient numbers. There is a formed road immediately above the Taylors Mistake baches which may be a future access point.

JOHN GOODRICH

(Summit Road Society)

The Society has been around for over fifty years and has a membership of 250 and a pool of over 70 volunteers.

They recognize the area has potential and support the need for a Management Plan, however, feel it is important that the ecological and recreation values be both recognized. They would welcome ongoing involvement in proposals for the Management Plan.

Their main concern would be how much of the area could be revegetated – feel the predominant vegetation should remain tussock grassland, however, there would be potential on the harbourside and in sheltered gullies for revegetation. They feel that sheep grazing is a most important management tool and that grazing of cattle is at odds with the stated aims of the recreational and ecological values.

They support the proposed visitor centre and would be open-minded to either a new building or use of existing buildings. They would not oppose any commercial use within the visitor centre (ie café) if it was run complimentary to the visitor centre (eg Farewell Spit).

They would oppose commercial accommodation but would support school groups overnight for educational purposes.

Opposed to any additional public access from Scarborough which would exacerbate unsocial use and driving on the roads, but would support an emergency access and walkers and mountain bikers.

Agreed that the top of Evans Pass would be the appropriate place for the park entrance, however, felt that the question of the suitability for increased traffic of the road from Evans Pass to Godley Head, would need to be addressed.

Opposed to the predator-proof fence as they felt that the outcomes would not justify the cost. They feel that outcomes would be better achieved by smaller fences in isolated areas or specific areas or pro-active pest management in these areas.

C Evans

Dogs?

There would be justification for exclusion of dogs, particularly if sheep-grazing management.

C Anderton

Does the Society have a preference when it comes to dogs/birds?

The Society does not have a strong view on this as there were more important aspects but felt that a compromise could be reached in certain areas.

SIMON ADAMS

(Canterbury Mountain Bike Club)

Felt that Godley Head could be in danger of becoming all things to all people which would destroy the ‘wilderness’ experience – the current values should be retained.

Advised that there are cafes in thirteen venues in Sumner – is it necessary to have one at Godley Head? The café would draw many new motorized users which seems ironic for a park to increase vehicle use which would detract from walking, running and cycling.

Hoped that before the predator-proof fence was approved, there would be full consideration given to where it would be sited and suggested it may be appropriate to look at other means of control. The proposed predator-proof fence could reduce the feeling of open space and raised the issue of access in that runners, bikers and vehicles would be herded to one point. The gates would need to be closed at night which would prevent access to what is a popular night-riding spot. Most mountain bikers access Godley Head without using the road.

K Kimmins

Would they support over-night accommodation for educational purposes?

Non-commercial use would be OK and would not detract from the area, however, there would still be the concern that the area might be made all things to all people.

K Kimmins

What about multiple access points to the predator-proof fence?

These might overcome some problems, however, may not be practical to achieve.

MALCOLM McCLURG

(Registered Architect with Opus, resident/holidaying in Taylors Mistake for 49 years)

Attracting vehicles at Godley Head does not seem practical, therefore the food outlet should be located in the concrete Art Deco style bach (No. 30) at the south end of the Bay. Taylors Mistake has lacked a shop since the 1970's. With the removal of baches 29,31 and 32 a large sheltered environment would be created with excellent views of the Bay. This is at the beginning of the track and is sunny and sheltered. The Information Centre at Godley Head would service the history for that area, however, the history of the Taylors Mistake baches seems to have been overlooked.

Mr McClurg has been recording the history of Taylors Mistake and would like to see this incorporated into the plan. He has a large collection of photographs taken over the years and feels that there is a story which needs to be told. He offered to assist and support in providing information for the Park. It could be seen as an opportunity for the oral and pictorial history of the area to be preserved and spread.

Supported the proposed predator-proof fence but recognized issues of access and maintenance and suggested that the route over Livingstone Bay would be an ugly intrusion. The fence would take time to weather and remain shiny and reflection for many years. Suggested that the fence start from Breeze Bay over the saddle – this would diminish the size of the predator-free zone but would reach a compromise in that it would be easier access for mountain bikers and would be least disruptive and visually noticeable.

Felt that grasslands would be the most appropriate vegetation for above the Taylors Mistake road, particularly in winter, as the proposed forestation would result in reduced heat and solar benefit. The valley would be suitable for encouraging coastal forest.

PROFESSOR DAVID SIMMONS

(Professor of Tourism at Lincoln University)

Advised that he supported the proposed predator-proof fence, the Penguin Parade in Boulder Bay and the general concept of the Park. He felt that the challenge was to think of access to the area. The Penguin Parade would occur at dusk and people could be encouraged to walk and fish in the area before that time. People are often put-off by Ad hoc fencing which is currently at Boulder Bay.

From a tourism angle – destinations grow because of things for people to do and see especially if there is a strong degree of conservation with the things to do and see. He felt that there are links to our past with the Port Hills and there were many opportunities with the huts at Godley Head and working in with the Godley Head Heritage Trust.

C Anderton

Already 80,000 – 100,000 people go to Godley Head – do you feel increased numbers would effect the ‘wilderness’ feel?

The definition of wilderness is subjective, but in terms of open space, the key element, is design. There would need to be the minimum number of buildings in Boulder Bay with the right design for parking at the top. The Penguin Parade would need to be managed between 7 -9.30pm, however, during the rest of the day the site would be basically, empty.

C Anderton

What about helicopters in the area?

It is not envisaged that these would be in the area as this would be intrusive on all values and would require resource consent.

D Fitzharding-Jones

Do you see the predator-proof fence as essential for the protection of the penguins?

The enclosure is most important to ensure that whatever penguins are transferred from a nature reserve, will be at least as safe.

CHRIS CHALLIES

Advised he was involved as a volunteer in the original proposal put forward in 1995 for a predator-proof fence. He supports the concept of the Park and felt that what was shown on the map would be appropriate for the fencing. The public would have free access to the open sanctuary - the best examples for comparison would be Tiritiri Matangi Island, north of Auckland and Karore Reserve in Wellington. The main objectives of the penguin proposal are to make a major contribution to the penguin’s conservation, for the public to be able to view and for it to be self funding. The concept fits in with the draft Christchurch Bio-diversity Strategy and would have multiple public benefits.

The process has been delayed by bach issues. Only three baches need to be removed, ie Nos 6 & 7 which are on the Queen’s Chain (Council owned) and 10a (on DOC land).

The Trust has dedicated a position for the City Council and despite having written to the mayor they have received no response. It would be helpful to have a line of

communication to assist with liaison. Robin Smith from DOC acts as liaison person. C Anderton suggested that the Trust address future correspondence to:

C Anderton

Chairman of Parks, Gardens & Waterways

C Anderton

Why Boulder Bay?

Harris Bay would be dangerous for public viewing and is limited to ten people at a time. It could not be a parade as the penguins would be scattered in a line. Boulder Bay is the only site on Godley Head which is available for a large colony and where a penguin parade could be established. If the predator problem and dogs were removed from the area, then the penguins would spread along the coast and eventually establish in Boulder Bay.

K Kimmins

Why a predator-proof fence of this construction – at Pohatu the penguins are managed with other predator controls?

Pohatu is an unusual situation in that the penguins survived before the predator control. Trapping is a continuous process as ferrets are surplus killers. To date, control at Godley Head has been by trapping. The buffer zone outside the fence line would be trapped and the inside also trapped for monitoring purposes.

D Roozen

What is to keep the penguins at Boulder Bay?

Banding of the penguins has indicated that they do not go 65kms back to Motonau Island and the chicks return when they have been to sea. 40% nest closely to the site where they went to sea, 40% nest in adjacent bays and 20% (usually females) breed elsewhere following males from other colonies.

HELEN McMAHON & BERNARD WICHT

(Residents at 29 Godley Drive)

Three main points:

1. Opposition to proposed commercial development at Godley Head
 2. Acquisition by the council of the farm track between the end of Godley Drive and the reserve
 3. Re-establishment of the Heritage Trail.
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1. Opposition to proposed commercial development at Godley Head
 - The area is unique and isolated and should be left in as near to its natural state as possible
 - There are already cafes in Sumner and Lyttelton
 - There would be problems of waste, pollution and traffic
 - Agree with proposed upgrading of carpark and toilets and that the picnic area should be kept informal.
 2. Acquisition of Farm Track

- Residents of subdivision on lower Scarborough spur have no direct access to the reserve – it is 7.4km by road to the cattle grid at the top of the farm track – there is no playground area or walking access from Sumner
- Farm track would also provide emergency access
- Traffic on Scarborough Rd is of concern – road is narrow, steep and winding and has been closed by rock falls, however, it is the only access to Taylors Mistake Beach.
- Vital that visitors to the coastal park be encouraged through signage to access the park through Evans Pass and not use Taylors Mistake beach or the end of Godley Drive as a starting point or for walking and biking trips.
- Agree with proposed car parks at Evans Pass
- Would like to see a track from Taylors Mistake beach so that bikers and walkers don't need to use the Taylors Mistake Rd.
- A carpark at the top of the farm track would encourage visitors to arrive at the park via Evans Pass Road.
- There could be a gate at the entrance to the park at either Evans Pass or near the paragliding take-off site which could be locked at night. This would discourage fires being lit, cars being dumped etc

3. Re-establishment of the Heritage Trail

- The track gave residents direct access to Sumner and public transport
- Originally the Council committed itself to secure the land for the Trail, however, it was closed to the public in 1999 after being established for nine years.

C Evans

Predator-proof fence? Dogs?

The fence could have problems with the extreme windy conditions and would need air gaps. If it was done in conjunction with plantings then this would mitigate eye pollution. Many people walk their dogs unleashed which pose problems.

D Fitzharding-Jones

Educational groups for overnight stays?

If not commercially driven and low key, then would be supportive.

K Kimmins

Penguin Parade?

Opposed to any commercial building with vehicular access to Boulder Bay. Felt that somehow the baches enhance the area and the bach-owners are very welcoming. There needs to be a balance to preserve the birds. Lighting and tracks would detract from the environment.

CLAIRE FINDLAY

Landscape Planning, Environmental Management and Design

To integrate the diverse values provides a challenge.

Objectives

Concern was expressed that there was no illustration of vision and that it was not explicit in plan. In managed terms, it would have been helpful to have had imagery. The objectives were not explicit about recreational tourism nor was marine diversity addressed. The Coastal Park should not stop at the land edge and exploitive take was not addressed. It would be helpful to monitor indigenous and exotic species and effects on marine and inshore life.

Ecology

Concern was also expressed that the breeding of white-flipped penguin was in the Ecology Section of the proposal and that it should be under the Tourism Section as well which would portray it more clearly. The suggestion was made that guided walks could be conducted with the reintroduction of Sooty shearwaters and other species (eg lizards) so that the whole eco-system could be valued. This would give a much more diverse system to be enjoyed and would complete the ecological crescent. This could be serviced from Taylors Mistake rather than Boulder Bay.

History

With reference to the History section, it was felt that it was confusing to promote ecological values in this section. There are also opportunities for interpreting our social history.

Recreation

Considered that the Scarborough Park end of the park would cater for a slightly higher level of use (ie more facility related) and that the eastern end of the park should relate more to the remote areas. Two entry points are needed – Summit Rd and Evans Pass.

Tourism

Concerned at a major tourist venture at Godley Head – it needs to be managed for historic and bio-diversity values. There needs to be a careful balancing and viability of servicing a remote tourist facility (eg Port Hills Gondola Venture). Big bus park facilities and lighting issues would need to be considered. The Coastal Park could be part of a circuit.

Education, training and research

There is a great opportunity for educational training and associated accommodation use of the Godley Head facilities. There is also team-building restoration project opportunities.

Management

An opportunity to get bio-diversity and historic values clearly defined (particularly for the eastern end of the Park). Suggested that a key committee be formed to implement management of the area.

C Anderton

Penguin Parade? People often go for the experience and come to appreciate the environment.

Opposed to a single purpose Penguin Parade viewing point. If there was a generalized Information Centre with interactive good audio visuals as a first introduction, a low-key facility which permits unguided access at Taylors Mistake would provide an opportunity for the general public. The next level would be guided. It needs to be weighed up whether the Boulder Bay parade and associated infrastructure weighs with other values.

C Anderton

What views do you have on restoring the indigenous bio-diversity as opposed to leaving the pine-trees?

Plant no new pine trees, however, there are other species which will grow. Currently, there are macrocarpa growing in Boulder Bay which could be classified as historic. To re-introduce some species, it would require habitat as support.

C Evans

Views on Information Centre/Educational Centre?

There needs to be several tiers for interpretation and information. Key information is required at Taylors Mistake and Evans Pass about what the Park is about. The parapenting take-off point would be an ideal place for interpretation as it has amazing coastal views. A deluge of too much initial information can be off-putting. Would support an educational facility for school at Godley Head.

PROCESS:

The next meeting of Parks, Gardens & Walkways Committee is in early February.

The Panel Members will reconvene after October. Minutes of verbal submissions to be added to written submissions report and will be available after October.

C Anderton

Why is it referred to as Scarborough Park and Godley Head Reserve?

D Roozen

Godley Head is gazetted as a reserve.

C Anderton

Action Points:

Look at changing the status from a Park to a Reserve.

Agreed that Taylors Mistake land ownership required clarification.

The Meeting closed at 2.45pm.

