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**MINUTES**  
of the  
**SUBMISSIONS HEARING MEETING**  
held  
**9.30 am, Wednesday, 10 February 2021**  
at  
**Saxton Netball Pavilion, Stoke, Nelson**

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**Present:** Derek Shaw, Independent Chair  
Tasman District Council: Councillors K Maling, T Tuffnell  
Nelson City Council: Councillors J Edgar, T Skinner  
Mātauranga Māori expert: Aroha Gilling

**In Attendance:** Tasman District Council: Community Development Manager (S Edwards),  
Reserves & Facilities Manager (R Hollier), Executive Assistant (T Fifield)  
Nelson City Council: Community Services Manager (A White), Manager  
Communications (K Grade), Manager Parks and Facilities (R Bartlett), Team  
Leader Parks and Facilities Activity Management (P Harrington)

**1 OPENING, WELCOME**

The Chair introduced the panel and the staff and invited Ms Gilling to give a karakia.

**2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

There were no apologies.

**3 REPORTS**

**3.1 Submissions and Deliberations on the Saxton Field Reserve Management Plan**

The report provided the Hearing Panel with a summary of the submissions received and discussed a range of matters raised in the submissions on the Draft Saxton Field Reserve Management Plan (Draft SFRMP). The Chair noted that the report would be discussed during the deliberations part of the meeting.

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#### **4 HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS ON THE SAXTON FIELD RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

##### **Jane Murray and Carol McIntosh – Nelson Marlborough District Health Board (NMDHB)**

Ms Murray and Ms McIntosh spoke to their submission. They endorsed the plan as Saxton Field is an important community asset and is important to the health and well-being of Nelson and Tasman residents.

Key matters they covered in the presentation of their submission on the Draft SFRMP included:

- Accessibility – the NMDHB would like to see an audit done of the pathways across Saxton so people of all ages can access and use them.
- Sun protection and water – they encouraged the councils to use consistent signage and to provide more drinking fountains and shading at Saxton Field.
- Cycle facilities – they supported the provision of cycleways and suggested that increasing cycle paths would be useful.
- Toilets – they suggested that additional wayfinding maps would be useful.
- Smoking – they encouraged the councils to have a smoke free and vape free policy across the site and not to permit smoking or vaping at events.
- The alcohol section in the Draft SFRMP mirrors the Tasman General Reserves Policy 2015. They noted that the NMDHB was pleased to see that the consumption of alcohol will not be permitted near playgrounds and other play and activity areas. Ms McIntosh tabled a document and noted clauses of the Draft SFRMP 4.8.2.3 and 4.8.2.4 and 4.8.2.5 are useful.

There was a discussion on dedicated smoking areas at events.

Ms Murray suggested having buses come into the site or having a bus pull up close to the venue rather than having children wandering around Saxton Field. Cr Edgar noted that the combined Draft Regional Public Transport Plan submission period is opening soon.

In response to a question, there will be an option to have bilingual “no smoking” signage from the Health Promotion Agency.

##### **Tony Thomas and Steven MacDonald – Sport Tasman**

Mr Thomas and Mr MacDonald spoke to Sport Tasman’s submission, highlighting the following matters:

- they agreed and supported the proposal to develop a single booking portal for Saxton Field;
- code collaboration – they noted the opportunity for codes to collaborate a lot more within the reserve in the use of facilities;
- event promotion – Saxton Field has some of the best facilities in New Zealand – they said that the opportunity to promote those more widely would be helpful to bringing a lot more tournaments here;
- new builds and developments – Sport Tasman would like to see reference to the Regional Sport and Active Recreation Spaces and Places Strategy in the SFRMP. It’s a significant document with regard to facility strategy going forward;

- it was noted that Nigel Muir, CEO of Sport Tasman, gave a plea to encourage codes to be utilising Sports House more;
- signage – they supported a revamp of the signage/wayfinding around the grounds, as well as cultural interpretation signage;
- participation opportunities – they said that the Saxton Field complex is brilliant for sport and recreation participation for all ages. Sport Tasman are doing a lot of work gathering insights into what teenagers need and how they can get involved in sport and recreation. They would like basketball hoops set up outside so that teenagers can come down at their own time, or allow scooters/skateboards on the netball courts at certain times.

In response to a question, Sport Tasman would be happy to collaborate with sports codes with any issues as they see it as part of their role.

## **5 DELIBERATIONS**

Rob Greenaway outlined his report on the submissions to assist the Hearing Panel with its deliberations.

The Hearing Panel discussed the submissions that had been received and the staff comments to assist the Panel's deliberations contained in Attachment 2 to the report.

The Panel initially discussed the comments in the submissions relating to the questions asked in the submission form.

Question 1: The Panel discussed the matter of the Draft SFRMP proposing that local and regional sport, recreation and cultural events will generally have priority over national and international sports fixtures. The Panel agreed with the staff recommendation that section 4.1 of the Draft SFRMP provided adequate provision to assess field provision priorities and that no change to the Draft SFRMP is required.

Question 2: The Panel discussed the matter of more focus being given to the provision of facilities and services for casual recreation, such as walking and cycling and improving wayfinding and accessibility for all users. The Panel supported the staff recommendation of no changes being made to the Draft SFRMP, while noting that casual recreation opportunities will be defined more clearly in the revised development plan (section 3.1). The Panel supported the request for an audit of wayfinding and pathways as part of the revised development plan.

Question 3: The Panel discussed the matter of the Draft SFRMP putting more focus on enhancing Saxton Field's landscape, natural and cultural values. The Panel agreed that no changes needed to be made to the Draft Plan.

Question 4: The Panel discussed the matter of developing a more centralised single booking portal for all fields and facilities. The Panel agreed that no changes were required to the Draft SFRMP. The Panel noted that Table Tennis wanted confirmation that their bookings and regular use of the Table Tennis facility would take priority. The Panel noted that the development of a single booking portal could reference to individual code's systems and regular use times.

Question 5: In relation to whether there should be more focus on interpreting local and regional stories and cultural values at Saxton Field, the Panel agreed that no changes were required to the Draft SFRMP. They noted the comment in the recommendation contained in the report that the revised development plan process will lead this work area and that the Saxton Field Committee will be responsible for ensuring any works are affordable and match other development priorities. The Panel supported giving consideration to how the Councils can weave the area's cultural history into the wayfinding signage and branding for Saxton Field.

Question 6: The Panel considered the comments in the submissions relating to limiting commercial and sponsorship signs to maintain landscape and visual values at Saxton Field and to minimise a commercial atmosphere. The Panel agreed that no changes were required to the Draft SFRMP. The Panel discussed the Major Events Act 2007 requirements in relation to signage for declared major events. The Panel noted that the Councils need to establish a policy and guidelines for signage at Saxton Field, particularly for internal facing signage. This work would need to be added into the work programme.

Questions 7 and 8: The Panel discussed the proposal in the Draft SFRMP to implement sustainability principles at Saxton Field and the issue of whether temporary camping should be allowed in association with major regional and national sport and cultural events. The Panel noted that there was a very good plan put in place for the Bay Dreams event to cover sustainability principles. If there are any more events that take place, the Councils need to make sure that the same sort of procedures are followed and similar conditions are imposed. Staff were asked to work with Mr Greenaway to provide wording to incorporate into the final SFRMP camping policy - Policy 4.3.2.1 to reflect the Bay Dreams agreement. Staff were also asked to incorporate something around sustainability requirements and a sentence about supporting behaviours to acknowledge the mana of the whenua and wai into the wording of the introduction to section 4.2 or some other appropriate location in the final SFRMP.

Question 9: The Panel discussed the policies about smoking and vaping at Saxton Field, particularly in relation to the District Health Board submission. The Panel requested that Policy 4.9.2.2 be amended to change Health Promotion Agency to Nelson Marlborough Health.

The Panel also noted the need to have commentary around the designated smoking areas for events. In clause 4.9.2.3 add in brackets "(by agreement with Council staff)".

The Hearing Panel discussed the range of other matters raised in submissions, which were not covered in the questions above.

Draft SFRMP Introduction: The Nelson Hockey Association submitted that the words "and two artificial hockey surfaces" be added to paragraph 3 of the Introduction. The Panel agreed to the addition of the words.

Section 3.3 Sustainability and Climate Change: The Nelson Hockey Association submitted that policy 3.3.2.2 be amended to add the words "and where feasible retrofitted into existing facilities". The Panel agreed to the addition.

Section 3.8 Land Acquisition: The Nelson Hockey Association submission queried the lease of the transmitter site from Radio NZ. The Panel agreed that there was no need to change the wording in the Draft SFRMP. The Draft SFRMP should note that the lease has rights of renewal until 2032.

Section 4.8 Alcohol: The NMDHB requested that Policy 4.8.1.1 be amended to add in the wording "delegated alcohol licensing Officer/s". The Hearing Panel agreed to this amendment. The Panel also agreed that Policy 4.8.2.1 be amended to add in the wording "in accordance with an issued alcohol licence", and that Policy 4.8.2.3 be deleted as outlined in their submission. The Panel requested that the deleted policy be replaced with a new Policy 4.8.2.3: "Alcohol licenses (On and Club) for the sale of alcohol on Saxton Field shall be limited to sports clubrooms and multi-purpose community buildings and will generally be defined in use or occupation agreements. These agreements shall confine alcohol consumption to the building and attached verandas". The Panel also requested that policy 4.8.2.4 be amended to enable the sale of alcohol in tents or some form of temporary structure during temporary events.

Section 5.1 Development of New Built Features and Facilities: The Panel discussed the comments in the submissions by the Nelson Rhythmic Gymnastics Club and the Stoke Bowling Club. The

Panel agreed to add the word “approved” into policy 5.1.2.3, as contained in the recommendation in Attachment 2 to the deliberations report. The Panel also requested that a reference be added in section 5 to the process for the Regional Funding Forum to decide if a facility is a regional facility and to add in the reference to the Regional Facilities Strategy requested by Sport Tasman.

Policy 5.1.2.4: The Panel discussed the comments in the submissions by the Nelson Rhythmic Gymnastics Club and the Stoke Bowling Club. The Panel agreed to amend policy 5.1.2.4 to read: “The number of buildings and structures on Saxton Field will be minimised. The duplication of facilities will be avoided by encouraging existing lessees and new users and development proposals to maximise the use of existing club facilities and/or to investigate opportunities to share existing and new facilities with other groups”.

**Moved Cr Maling/Cr Edgar**

**SH21-02-1**

**That the Submissions Hearings on the Saxton Field Reserve Management Plan meeting is adjourned at 11.02 am.**

**CARRIED**

The Deliberations meeting reconvened at 11.04 am.

Policy 5.1.2.5: The Hearing Panel agreed to add additional wording in the preamble to this policy, as outlined in the recommendation in Attachment 2 to the deliberations report, but with replacing the word “club” with “sporting codes” and state that groups will need to fundraise for “at least” 20% of the costs of those facilities and the councils will contribute the “remaining amount”.

The Panel also agreed to relocate Policy 5.1.2.5 as suggested in the Nelson Rhythmic Gymnastics submission.

The Panel agreed to amend Policy 5.1.2.6 by adding the words “environmental” and “and operation”, in response to the Nelson Rhythmic Gymnastics submission.

Shade and Water: The Panel discussed the comments in the submissions by the Nelson Marlborough District Health Board, Kerry Hotham and David Kemp.

The Panel agreed to amend Policy 5.1.2.15 to state “Seating, picnic tables, rubbish bins, play equipment and all other park furniture may be placed with regard to supervision, need, orientation to sun, shelter from wind and sun, views, and proximity to access points and drinking water.”

The Panel also agreed that an additional policy to Section 5.1.2 be added to state “The councils may support existing users where they identify the need to develop amenities which provide shade, water and other community safety and comfort requirements.”

Effects on Neighbours: The Panel discussed the comments in Rob Cant’s submission and agreed that the Draft SFRMP enables the councils and the Committee to consider a wide range of issues when issuing an occupation agreement and that there was no need to change the wording in the Draft SFRMP.

Appendix 6: The Hearing Panel discussed the comments from the Nelson Hockey Association’s submission. The Panel agreed to amend Appendix 6 in the Draft SFRMP to state “For leases and licences that are due to expire before 2030, the proposed new term to be offered to each lessee will generally be five years depending on review of the new application, or a roll-over of the current lease period where a substantial long-term asset is involved.”

The Hearing Panel noted that the Chair’s Foreword and Community Feedback (Appendix 7) will need to be amended to reflect the process and submissions.

**Moved Cr Maling/Cr Skinner  
SH21-02-2**

**That the Saxton Field Reserve Management Plan Hearing Panel:**

- 1. receives the Submissions on the Draft Saxton Field Reserve Management Plan Report RSH20-02-1; and**
- 2. receives the submissions on the Draft Saxton Field Reserve Management Plan; and**
- 3. in response to matters raised in the submissions received on the Draft Plan, requests staff make the following changes and the amendments made during the deliberations to the Draft Plan in order to prepare the proposed final Saxton Field Reserve Management Plan:**
  - a. amend paragraph 3 of the Introduction to state: “Many of our most significant regional sports assets are located on Saxton Field, including the Saxton Cricket Oval, Athletics Oval, Saxton Pavilion (used by cricket, athletics and football), the Nelson Netball Centre, Saxton Stadium, Sports House (Sport Tasman’s regional sports administration hub), the Saxton Velodrome, and the Hockey and Softball Pavilion and two artificial hockey surfaces”;**
  - b. amend Policy 3.3.2.2 to read: “New builds on Saxton Field shall be designed and constructed with sustainability principles at the forefront, considering climate change and energy efficiency, including encouraging efficient water and electricity use and, for example, the use of drought-tolerant plant species, and where feasible retrofitted into existing facilities”;**
  - c. amend Policy 4.8.1.1 to read: “Alcohol may be consumed on Saxton Field where that activity, and adverse effects on reserve values, users and neighbours can be avoided and where relevant statutory and bylaw requirements are met, and with the approval of Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council and regulated by appropriately delegated alcohol licencing officer/s;**
  - d. amend Policy 4.8.2.1 to read: “The sale or supply for consumption within the reserve of liquor shall only be permitted in accordance with an issued alcohol licence where it is associated with a permitted recreation activity or event, and where the consumption of liquor is ancillary to those activities (that is, it is not an activity in itself)”;**
  - e. delete Policy 4.8.2.3 “Agreements to sell or provide alcohol within the reserve shall detail requirements to advise patrons of restrictions over alcohol consumption outside the venue”;**
  - f. amend Policy 4.8.2.4 to read: “Long-term licences for the sale of alcohol on Saxton Field shall be limited to sports clubrooms and multi-purpose community buildings and will generally be defined in use or occupation agreements. Sale of alcohol may be permitted in temporary structures such as tents during temporary events. Special licenses may be granted if the approval of delegated Council officer/s is obtained”;**
  - g. replace the deleted policy with a new Policy 4.8.2.3 as follows: “Alcohol licenses (On and Club) for the sale of alcohol on Saxton Field shall be limited to sports clubrooms and multi-purpose community buildings and will generally be defined**

in use or occupation agreements. These agreements shall confine alcohol consumption to the building and attached verandas”;

- h. amend Policy 4.9.2.3 to read: “All events held at Saxton Field will be directed to be smoke and vape free. The only exception to this directive is for events which require a designated smoking area (by agreement with Council staff) because pass outs for the event are not permitted”;
- i. amend Policy 5.1.2.3 to read, “A revised development plan must be in place for Saxton Field before any additional facility proposals are considered (that is, additional to those facilities identified in the councils’ approved LTP budgets for Saxton Field). The process of formulating the revised development plan, where it considers new facilities, will include analysis according to this policy section”;
- j. policy 5.1.2.4 be amended to read: “The number of buildings and structures on Saxton Field will be minimised. The duplication of facilities will be avoided by encouraging existing lessees and new users and development proposals to maximise the use of existing club facilities and/or to investigate opportunities to share existing and new facilities with other groups”;
- k. add to the introduction of Section 5.1: “The councils wish to retain the maximum flexibility in the future use of built facilities on Saxton Field while enabling security of occupation for users. For this reason, the councils will aim to be the owner of all built sport and recreation facilities on the Reserve, while entering into suitable lease and other occupation agreements with sporting codes and other groups. It is expected that the sporting/recreational codes who wish to construct new facilities will have to fundraise at least 20% of the costs of those facilities and the councils will contribute the remaining amount. This applies also to the renewal and replacement of significant assets associated with a facility (such as the athletics track)”;
- l. amend Policy 5.1.2.6 e) to state:” The environmental sustainability principles applied to the design and operation”; and
- m. amend Policy 5.1.2.15 to state: “Seating, picnic tables, rubbish bins, play equipment and all other park furniture may be placed with regard to supervision, need, orientation to sun, shelter from wind and sun, views, and proximity to access points and drinking water”;
- n. amend Appendix 6 in the Draft Plan to state: “For leases and licences that are due to expire before 2030, the proposed new term to be offered to each lessee will generally be five years depending on review of the new application, or a roll-over of the current lease period where a substantial long-term asset is involved”;
- p. add to Policy 4.3.2.1 a summary of the Bay Dreams conditions in relation to camping, incorporating wording about sustainability requirements;
- q. add a sentence to the introduction of section 4.2, or in an alternative suitable location, about supporting behaviours to acknowledge the mana of whenua and wai;
- r. amend Policy 4.9.2.2 to read “Nelson Marlborough Health” instead of “Health Promotion Agency”;

- s. add a sentence to Section 5 about the process for the Regional Funding Forum to decide if it is a regional facility and add reference to the Regional Facilities Strategy;
  - t. move policy 5.1.2.5 to immediately above policy 5.1.2.9;
  - u. add a new policy to Section 5.1.2 to read “The councils may support existing users where they identify the need to develop amenities which provide shade, water and other community safety and comfort requirements;
  - v. add the following wording into section 2 Vision “An audit of access provisions for those with limited mobility (see Section Error! Reference source not found. Error! Reference source not found.)” and amend policy 5.4.2.2 as follows “When new facilities are proposed, and prior to the completion of the revised development plan, an audit shall be undertaken to identify accessible facility requirements and to prioritise opportunities for improvement”;
  - w. add the following wording to section 3.5 “The Saxton Field Committee will seek the development of guidelines to assist with design and location decisions for commercial signs, particularly for internal facing signage.”;
  - x. amend the first sentence in section 3.8 to read “The acquisition of the 7.14 hectare Radio New Zealand radio transmitter site, currently leased to NCC with rights of renewal until 2032, has been identified as desirable since Saxton Field was first developed.”; and
- 4. agrees that staff give effect to the recommendations and the amendments referred to in Resolution 3 above when preparing the amended Saxton Field Reserve Management Plan; and
  - 5. agrees to the Committee Chair, Cr Edgar and Tasman District Council’s Community Development Manager being delegated the ability to sign off the amendments in resolution 3 above and any further minor editorial amendments to the Saxton Field Reserve Management Plan prior to 6 below; and
  - 6. agrees that the amended Saxton Field Reserve Management Plan be recommended to the Tasman District Council and the Nelson City Council for adoption as the final Plan, along with copies of the hearing panel report and minutes of this meeting as background for the Councils’ to assist their consideration of the amended Plan.

**CARRIED**

The meeting concluded at 11.22 am

Date Confirmed:

Chair: