



Submissions to the draft Community Groups Use of and Access to Council Parks and Reserves Policy

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**SUBMISSION TO THE SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMUNITY GROUPS USE OF AND
ACCESS TO COUNCIL PARKS AND RESERVES POLICY**

Parks and Reserves Policy Consultation
South Wairarapa District Council
PO Box 6, Martinborough 5741
enquiries@swdc.govt.nz (NB: deadline for submissions is 4:30pm 20 October)

Name of Submitter: Emily Greenberg

I **do wish to speak** to my submission

I **do not support** the Community Groups Use of and Access to Council Parks and Reserve Policy, including the newly drafted Terms and Conditions for Events.

My reasons for not supporting this policy and terms and conditions are set out below:

One of the reasons I moved to the South Wairarapa over 12 years ago was because I came to an event in Martinborough (Round the Vines). I saw what a lovely place it was and I said, I want to live here. As some of you know, I then started working for the SWDC as a planner (2005-2007) and I bought a house in Featherston that year.

Events and festivals are a great way to enhance community well-being and to bring money into the area from outside. Most, if not all, of the events and festivals in the South Wairarapa are organised by volunteers rather than Council employees. This means that event organisers help contribute and are therefore partners to Council's goals in the Long Term Plan for "Economic, Cultural and Community Development". Indeed, if the region relied only on the events envisioned in the LTP it would be a pretty boring place to live or visit (see page 27 of the 2015/25 LTP or page 26 in SWDC's most recent Annual Plan 2017/18).

I support the need for a policy that facilitates the use of parks and reserves.

However, the proposed policy and the new terms and conditions was notified for submission without being developed in consultation with key stakeholders – the groups and individuals who organise events. As a result the existing Policy (adopted in 2006) and the new Terms and Conditions specific to events is unclear and inconsistent. This lack of clarity does not provide certainty to applicants or Council officers and is therefore not fit for purpose.

I request that the Hearing Panel **reject** the new proposed Terms and Conditions for Events and that Council develop a workable policy in consultation with key stakeholders and the community.

Below I list some of the reasons that the Policy and new proposed Terms and Conditions should be rejected:

1. The 'purpose' of the Policy (Section 2) is unclear (*To establish a policy....*). I note that better wording of the purpose is found at Section 1.3 of the new terms and conditions

(...encourages the use of parks and reserves for events, but does have a responsibility...for future generations).

2. The 'requirements' of the Policy (Section 3) have separate subsections for 'on-going use', 'event use', 'licence to occupy' and 'disputes'.
 - a) On-going use:
 - i. On-going use refers only to 'sports clubs and community groups' and only to 'recreational purposes.' What about on-going use by a commercial entity for non-recreational purposes? How would this policy provide guidance to a commercial applicant and how could Council use the policy to assess an application for this type of use?
 - ii. Section 3.1.2 refers to Appendix 1 but this appendix does not exist.
 - iii. Section 3.1.3 refers to verbal approval. When is it prudent for Council give verbal approval and how would that give certainty to the applicant?
 - iv. Section 3.1.4 refers to fees. Where is the fee schedule for 'on-going use'? Page 87 of the Annual Plan (2017/18 Schedule of Fees and Charges) does not contain any schedule of fees for use of parks and reserves for on-going or any for any type of use. It is my understanding that fees of this type must be set following consultation and in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 (sections 82 and 150).
 - b) Event use:
 - i. Event use refers only to an 'organisation or individual'. This is inconsistent with the section above on on-going use which refers only to "sports clubs and community groups".
 - ii. Section 3.2.1 refers to an 'Event Application Form' which similar to the Appendix referred to in 3.1.2 is which is similarly not attached to this policy.
 - iii. Section 3.2.[2] refers to written conditions. In my experience, Council does not provide an "Event Permit" although depending on the event there may be permits provided for selling, food, building, traffic or resource consent conditions beyond what is permitted in the District Plan. What permit does Section 3.2.[2] refer to that these written conditions would be attached to?
 - iv. Section 3.2.[2] and 3.2.3 refer to fees. As above, where is the fee schedule for 'events'? Page 87 of the Annual Plan (2017/18 Schedule of Fees and Charges) does not contain any schedule of fees for 'events' in parks and reserves. It is my understanding that fees of this type must be set following consultation and in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 (sections 82 and 150).
 - c) Licence to occupy:
 - i. Licence to occupy refers only to 'community groups and societies'. This is again inconsistent with the other sections. What if an individual or a commercial interest wanted a licence to occupy? The policy is unclear and does not provide guidance for these cases.
 - ii. Section 3.3.3 refers to 'certain minimum requirements that are not negotiable'. If these minimum requirements truly are certain, they should be stated within the Policy to provide guidance to the community, the applicant and Council officers.
 - d) Disputes:
 - i. Section 3.4.1 states 'the decision of Council shall be final with no recourse to appeal'. I consider this to be unreasonable, especially given the lack of clarity in the policy to guide a good applications and good decisions.

- ii. Section 3.4.2. I don't understand what this statement has to do with disputes. This statement may be more relevant to the purpose of the policy, if the purpose were to be stated up front.
3. Most other Council documents provide definitions. However this Policy does not define important words used in the policy for decision making. For example:
 - a) "event" - How does the applicant and Council officer know the difference between an "event" that occurs more than once and is subject to the new terms and conditions for events, and an "on-going" or "recreational" event under section 3.1 which is not subject to the new terms and conditions.
 - b) "vehicles" – (table in Terms and Conditions). Is a mobility scooter a vehicle?
 - c) "fires/fireworks" – are birthday candles "fire"? Are "sparklers" fireworks?
 - d) "tents/marquees" – is a sun-shade a tent?
 - e) "amusement devices" – the footnote refers to a definition in the Machinery Act 1950. Why not provide this one line definition within this policy for ease of use?
4. Inconsistent numbering – Terms and Conditions starts at "1" again. It should be "4".
5. It is unclear to me if there is even a need for new proposed Terms and Conditions specific for Events.
 - a) Many of the items included in this new section are redundant with other sections in the policy.
 - b) It seems that some of the items should also be relevant to "On-going Use". It is unclear from the policy if an event occurs more than once if it is an "event" or an "on-going use".
 - c) Why is there a separate terms and conditions for events, but not for on-going use or licence to occupy?
 - d) The Table (Section 6) is higgly piggly.
 - i. Why are some parks and reserves listed and not others?
 - ii. Why are the key words not defined?
 - iii. Why are conditions that are subject of their own bylaws/policies and which anticipate exceptions repeated in the table but without exception (eg, Featherston liquor control bylaw section 3 and dog control bylaw section 9.4(iii))?
6. Section 1.3 (of terms and conditions) – This section seems to state the purpose of the entire policy and I therefore suggest similar wording should be used in the front of the policy at section 2.1.
 - a) However, the purpose should be for SWDC to "facilitate" and the entire policy should be rejected and then rewritten to reflect this facilitation and the outcomes it seeks to achieve based on the results of consultation with stakeholders.
7. Section 2.1 (of terms and conditions) – What does "publicised" mean? Without a definition it is subject to misinterpretation.
 - a) I request that if the policy is not rejected entirely that the following be changed: "Publicised gatherings of private or organised 50 20 or more people...." Again without a definition it is unclear what qualifies as an "event", a rugby game, a political demonstration, a birthday party, a picnic?
8. Section 2.4 (terms and conditions) – this section refers to 'event approval'. Is there an event approval permit or does Council only issue Trading in Public Spaces permit, etc? As mentioned previously, Section 3.2.3 of the main policy implies there is a specific 'event permit' and refers to written conditions. How do these conditions (if such a permit exists) relate to 2.4 and why is this information in two separate places? This is unclear and confusing.
9. Section 4.2 (of terms and conditions) – This information on bonds is redundant with Section 3.2.4 (of main policy).

10. Section 5.4 (of terms and conditions) – Should this section refer to “artificial” turf? Most events will alter ‘turf’, including any rugby event. This should this be changed to “permanently” altered in any way, or “returned to original condition” which is mentioned already in Section 4.2.
11. Section 5.8 (of terms and conditions) – This section states that all Council parks and reserves are smoke free. This is inconsistent with Council’s Smoke Free Policy.
12. Section 6 (table of terms and conditions) – as mentioned previously definitions are needed for “vehicles”, “fires/fireworks” etc.
13. Section 6 (table of terms and conditions) – As mentioned at my 5(d)(iii) above, several of the conditions are prohibitive, predictive and inconsistent with other bylaws and regulations.
 - a) For example, if someone wants a wedding within the liquor control area (such as in Clifford Square), the publically consulted on liquor control bylaw anticipates this and allows for permission to be sought. However Table 6 states it is not permitted at any time.
 - b) In another example, what if someone wants an event of dog agility at a venue where Table 6 prohibits dogs off leash (which as I mentioned is more restrictive than the publically consulted on Dog Control Policy – section 9.4(iii))?
14. Why is Lake Domain the only rural reserve included in this table?
15. Why is Featherston Town Square included in this table, given that Council has not gazetted this land as a park or reserve?
16. The condition for vehicles for the Featherston Town Square refers to a layout plan. This plan must be attached to the policy to be useful. Indeed I challenge the Hearing Panel to find a publicly available copy of the layout plan referred to in this table.

As notified the policy is unclear, inconsistent with other policies and bylaws and not fit for purpose. I do not consider that simple edits can put this right.

In specific regard to ‘Event Use’ of parks and reserves, I consider that the notified policy and new terms and conditions is unhelpful to both applicant and Council officers. It should be rejected in favour of developing a policy in consultation with event organisers and the community. This would result in a policy that gives clear guidance on how to make and application and what outcomes a decision will be based on.

To accept this policy as notified or with minor edits is not good enough. It must be rejected. Let’s work together to develop a policy that recognises and facilitates the economic, cultural and community development that events and festivals bring to our region.

**SUBMISSION TO THE SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMUNITY
GROUPS USE OF AND ACCESS TO COUNCIL PARKS AND RESERVES POLICY**

Parks and Reserves Policy Consultation
South Wairarapa District Council
PO Box 6, Martinborough 5741
enquiries@swdc.govt.nz

Name of Submitter: Martine Bijker
Organisation (if on behalf): Featherston First Fridays

I **do wish to speak** to my submission

I **do not support** the Community Groups Use of and Access to Council Parks and Reserve Policy, including the newly drafted Terms and Conditions for Events.

My reasons for not supporting this policy and terms and conditions are:

My recent experience with events in the Wairarapa is as co-founder of Featherston First Fridays, holding 4 community arts focussed events in Featherston, plus promoting 2 concerts under the FFF umbrella.

In the past, I co-ordinated a gallery in Martinborough which held 2 concerts as well as workshops and exhibitions. Nationally, I was on the crew for five Kaikoura Roots Festivals, and have participated as a helper in many events throughout NZ including Toast, Kokomai, markets, concerts, festivals, exhibitions.

Events throughout the region knit our communities together, enrich our collective lives, encourage new residents, and bring in huge economic benefits via tourism and it's flow on effects.

First Fridays, like so many other Wairarapa events, is purely volunteer run and operates within all the constraints of time and funds that result. The proposed policy does nothing to clarify or streamline the process of gaining permission to hold an event in a council park or reserve, an already confusing and time consuming process if you are any way outside the perceived norm.

SWDC recognises their own constrained resources in the Annual Plan section devoted to "ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT", recognising the need to "work collaboratively with organisations and community groups " and states as principal objectives

"a) To create a climate for and give encouragement to organisations and individuals to take initiatives in the stimulation of economic growth, tourism and employment opportunities in the district.

b) To encourage interest in the social development of the district with the aim of assisting individuals and community groups to help themselves. "

FFF's vision is "strengthening community through shared creativity" The events provide a way for new and longterm residents to meet and mingle, and the different generations and

sectors to work together. They also give a platform to the vibrant, positive side of Featherston, in a very public way. The format builds on an existing way for Featherston to market itself for tourism and economic growth (on a weekend away, stop in *Featherston first*).

I support developing a policy that facilitates the use of parks and reserves, provides clear parameters for their use, and is in line with the objectives in the Annual Plan.

This proposed policy and the new terms and conditions was notified for submission without being developed in consultation with key stakeholders – groups and individuals who organise events.

As a result the policy and new terms and conditions as notified is unclear, inconsistent, and not fit for purpose. It would not make anything easier or clearer to an event organiser and it is punitive rather than positive.

I have personally struggled with the event approval process, despite the many privileges I have in having research skills, being able to read and write efficiently, and having the confidence to ask questions. I do not want to see more barriers being placed in front of others who don't have the same.

I ask for this proposed policy to be rejected.

Some specific points below:

- A key issue is lack of definitions for words used in the policy. For example, there is no definition of the word "event". How does the applicant and Council officer know the difference between an "event" subject to the new terms and conditions, and an "on-going" or "recreational" event under section 3.1 which is not subject to the new terms and conditions.
- 1.3 All activities carry risks. All activity will cause wear and tear. What constitutes an acceptable risk of acceptable damage? There's no provision for 'fair and reasonable' in this policy
Perhaps eg *The Council reserves the right to deny approval, or require a bond, for activities which give reasonable cause to believe they may put facilities and structures at risk of damage or destruction, beyond normal wear and tear.*
- Section 2.1 (of terms and conditions) – What does "publicised" mean? Change to "Publicised gatherings of private or organised 50 20 or more people..." What qualifies as an "event"- a rugby game, a political demonstration, a birthday party, a picnic?
- Section 2.4 (terms and conditions) – is there an event approval permit or does council only issue Trading in Public Spaces permit, etc? Section 3.2.3 implies there is a specific event permit and refers to conditions. How do these conditions (if such a permit exists) relate to 2.4 and why is this information in two separate places?
- Under what circumstances will a bond be required, should the schedule of fees be published info along with other council fees?
- 3.2 cancellation of event by Council- Should the Council be obliged to give warning or notice? How? How much notice?

- Section 5.4 (of terms and conditions) – 5.4 All resources in the park/reserve, including fences, structures, vegetation, rocks and turf are protected and must not be damaged or altered in any way. What about temporary decorations or art installations? Or future provision for murals or other public art projects? To avoid ruling this out, eg '...permanently altered in any way, except as permitted'
- Section 5.8 (of terms and conditions) – All Council parks and reserves are smoke free. While I am happily smokefree and applaud Council having smokefree policies in place, is it appropriate to make promotion of this a requirement for event permission?

- **SECTION 6 TABLE**

- Featherston Town Square is not gazetted as a park or reserve and should not be included
- The places listed that are within the liquor ban as defined by bylaw, the bylaw states that exceptions can be made by permission, so it's incorrect for this table to make it a blanket ban
- we need definitions of a vehicle, and a fire/ firework, and size of a tent/marquee that needs to be permitted.
- Eg re vehicles- Events often include props and elements which are not simply either a car or not a car. First Friday's experience was a DJ 'hut' on a domestic trailer being referred to as a vehicle and not allowed to be wheeled onto the Featherston Town Square. Is a trailer a vehicle?

Eg re fire/fireworks- Featherston First Friday's were advised having 161 birthday candles across X amount of cakes in the urban town square in February, required consulting the rural fire service and requesting a permit. Are candles really fires? We would like to have sparklers for our event in December. Is this a firework? How would we know?

- foot note 1- refers to where to find definition of 'amusement device'. Can the document simply include the definition of an amusement device, (below)

Reprinted as at
4 April 2016

Machinery Act 1950

s 21A

21A Regulation of amusement devices

(1) In this section—

amusement device means an appliance to which the motion of a prime mover is transmitted and which is used, or designed or intended to be used, for the amusement, recreation, or entertainment of persons being carried, raised, lowered, or moved by the appliance or any part thereof while it is in motion; and includes the prime mover, transmission machinery, supporting structure, and any equipment used or intended to be used in connection therewith

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Parks and Reserves Policy Consultation
 South Wairarapa District Council
 PO Box 6, Martinborough 5741
enquiries@swdc.govt.nz (NB: deadline for submissions is 4:30pm 20 October)

Name of Submitter: Heidi Holbrook
 Organisation (if on behalf): Kokomai Creative Festival, Wairarapa
 Postal Address: PO Box 18, Carterton 5743
 Email: heidi@kokomai.co.nz
 Daytime contact no: 021665593

I **do not support** the Community Groups Use of and Access to Council Parks and Reserve Policy, including the newly drafted Terms and Conditions for Events.

My reasons for not supporting this policy and terms and conditions are set out below

My name is Heidi Holbrook and I am the Festival Director of the Kokomai Creative Festival. Our strategic intent is to inspire and entertain residents and visitors in the Wairarapa by delivering world class diverse, accessible, creative events and experiences. The festival belongs to the communities of the Wairarapa and brings our communities together in celebration of our arts and culture. Kokomai engages with everyone in our communities from young to old, with a programme that is financially accessible to all.

Kokomai brings our residents out of their houses and into our venues, streets, shops, parks, hotels, airbnb's and restaurant. It makes a positive and vibrant contribution to our wellbeing and economy. It makes the Wairarapa a better place to live.

I support the need for a policy that facilitates the use of our parks and reserves. However, the proposed policy and the new terms and conditions was notified for submission without being developed in consultation with key stakeholders – the very groups and individuals who organise events.

As a result the policy and new terms and conditions as notified are unclear and inconsistent and will cause frustration and friction between the Council and event organisers into the future, with the possibility of a loss of these events.

My specific reasons why I am opposed to this policy as it stands are:

- Lack of definitions for words used in the policy. For example, there is no definition of the word "event". How does the applicant and Council officer know the difference between an "event" subject to the new terms and conditions, and an "on-going" or "recreational" event under section 3.1 which is not subject to the new terms and conditions.
- Inconsistent numbering – Terms and Conditions starts at "1" again. It should be "4".
- Section 1.3 (of terms and conditions) – This seems to be the purpose of the entire policy and similar wording should be used in the front of the policy at section 2.1. However, the purpose should be for SWDC to "facilitate" and the entire policy should be rewritten to reflect this facilitation and what outcomes it seeks to achieve.

- Section 2.1 (of terms and conditions) – What does “publicised” mean (again without a definition it is subject to misinterpretation)? Change to “Publicised gatherings of private or organised 50 or more people....” Again it is unclear what qualifies as an “event”, a rugby game, a political demonstration, a birthday party, a picnic?
- Section 2.4 (terms and conditions) – is there an event approval permit or does council only issue Trading in Public Spaces permit, etc? Section 3.2.3 implies there is a specific event permit and refers to conditions. How do these conditions (if such a permit exists) relate to 2.4 and why is this information in two separate places?
- Section 4.2 (of terms and conditions) – This information on bonds is redundant with Section 3.2.4 (of main policy).
- Section 5.4 (of terms and conditions) – do you mean “artificial” turf? Most events will “alter” turf including a rugby event. Should this be “permanently” altered in any way, or “returned to original condition” as mentioned already in Section 4.2.
- Section 5.8 (of terms and conditions) – All Council parks and reserves are smoke free. Since when?
- Section 6 (table of terms and conditions) – definitions needed for “vehicles”, “fires/fireworks” etc. Is a mobility scooter a vehicle? Is a sparkler a firework?
- Section 6 (table of terms and conditions) – This is prohibitive, predictive and inconsistent with other bylaws and regulations. For example, if someone wants a wedding within the liquor ban area (such as in Clifford Square), the liquor ban bylaw anticipates this and allows for permission to be sought. What if someone wants an event of dog agility at a venue that prohibits dogs off leash?

In conclusion, the policy as provided for submission is unclear and unhelpful to both applicant and Council officers and should be rejected in favour of developing a clear policy in consultation with event organisers and the community.

Regards

Heidi Holbrook
 Festival Director
 Kokomai Creative Festival

**SUBMISSION TO THE SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMUNITY GROUPS USE OF AND
ACCESS TO COUNCIL PARKS AND RESERVES POLICY**

Parks and Reserves Policy Consultation

South Wairarapa District Council

PO Box 6, Martinborough 5741

enquiries@swdc.govt.nz (NB: deadline for submissions is 4:30pm 20 October)

Name of Submitter: Ross Peter Vickery, Secretary

Organisation: **Featherston Booktown Trust** (FBT)

We do not wish to speak to my submission (*the hearing will be on 8 November*)

We do not completely support the Community Groups Use of and Access to Council Parks and Reserve Policy, including the newly drafted Terms and Conditions for Events.

Our reasons for not supporting this policy and terms and conditions are set out below

The events I am familiar with are those associated with the annual **Featherston Booktown** event which has the goal of promoting reading, literacy and the artefact of the book. In addition this event enhances the well-being and prosperity of the South Wairarapa by bringing into Featherston up to 5,000 (so far) people who attend events in public areas, buildings, business premises and shops. Events and festivals such as these build a sense of community and pride in our region.

The Council has the care and management of a number of wonderful parks and reserves and these are used, both formally and informally, during the event. Such use enhances the Booktown experience and showcases Featherston as an inclusive, creative society. We do not think that the proposed policy together with its terms and conditions furthers either our community or groups such as ours which seek to promote events in town.

We, the trustees, support the need for a policy that facilitates the use of parks and reserves. However, the proposed policy and the new terms and conditions (especially the 20-person criterion) was notified for submission without being developed in consultation with key stakeholders – groups and individuals who organise events.

FBT seeks to work closely with Council to bring creative, cultural and commercially beneficial events to Featherston. However we consider that the draft policy over-regulates short-notice creative activities.

Overall, our submission is that regulation should be no bar to creative initiative.

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PO Box 6, Martinborough 5741

enquiries@swdc.govt.nz (NB: deadline for submissions is 4:30pm 20 October)

Name of Submitter: Amy Sutich

I do not wish to speak to my submission

I do not support the Community Groups Use of and Access to Council Parks and Reserve Policy, including the newly drafted Terms and Conditions for Events.

My reasons for not supporting this policy and terms and conditions are set out below

I support the need for a policy that facilitates the use of parks and reserves. However, the proposed policy and the new terms and conditions was notified for submission without being developed in consultation with key stakeholders – groups and individuals who organise events. As a result the policy and new terms and conditions as notified is unclear, inconsistent and not fit for purpose.

- Lack of definitions for words used in the policy. For example, there is no definition of the word “event”. How does the applicant and Council officer know the difference between an “event” subject to the new terms and conditions, and an “on-going” or “recreational” event under section 3.1 which is not subject to the new terms and conditions.
- Section 1.3 (of terms and conditions) – This seems to be the purpose of the entire policy and similar wording should be used in the front of the policy at section 2.1. However, the purpose should be for SWDC to “facilitate” and the entire policy should be rewritten to reflect this facilitation and what outcomes it seeks to achieve.
- Section 2.1 (of terms and conditions) – What does “publicised” mean (again without a definition it is subject to misinterpretation)? Is a post on a Facebook page suggesting a group meeting up to play petenque in the town square, a play date in the park or an impromptu game of rugby deemed to be publicised?
- Section 2.1 (of terms and conditions) continued – 20 is a rather low number of people - suggest this is changed to “Publicised gatherings of private or organised 50 or more people...” Again it is unclear what qualifies as an “event”, a rugby game, a political demonstration, a birthday party, a picnic?
- Section 2.4 (terms and conditions) – is there an event approval permit or does council only issue Trading in Public Spaces permit, etc? Section 3.2.3 implies there is a specific event permit and refers to conditions. How do these conditions (if such a permit exists) relate to 2.4 and why is this information in two separate places?
- Section 4.2 (of terms and conditions) – This information on bonds is redundant with Section 3.2.4 (of main policy).
- Section 5.4 (of terms and conditions) – do you mean “artificial” turf? Most events will “alter” turf including a rugby event. Should this be “permanently” altered in any way, or “returned to original condition” as mentioned already in Section 4.2.
- Section 6 (table of terms and conditions) – definition needed for “vehicles”. Is a mobility scooter a vehicle?

- Section 6 (table of terms and conditions) – This is prohibitive, predictive and inconsistent with other bylaws and regulations. For example, if someone wants a wedding within the liquor ban area (such as in Clifford Square), the liquor ban bylaw anticipates this and allows for permission to be sought. What if someone wants an event of dog agility at a venue that prohibits dogs off leash?
-

In conclusion, the policy as provided for submission is unclear and unhelpful to both applicant and Council officers and should be rejected in favour of developing a clear policy in consultation with event organisers and the community.

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Parks and Reserves Policy Consultation
South Wairarapa District Council
PO Box 6, Martinborough 5741
enquiries@swdc.govt.nz (NB: deadline for submissions is 4:30pm 20 October)

Name of Submitter: Rebekah Mehrtens
Organisation (if on behalf): Featherston First Fridays

I **do not wish to speak** to my submission.

I **do not support** the Community Groups Use of and Access to Council Parks and Reserve Policy, including the newly drafted Terms and Conditions for Events.

My reasons for not supporting this policy and terms and conditions are set out below:

My name is Rebekah Mehrtens and the event I am familiar with is Featherston First Fridays, which has the goal of bringing together our community to strengthen and build relationships, to promote Featherston as a destination for families and creatives and to create a positive and vibrant summer series of events.

I support the need for a policy that facilitates the use of parks and reserves. However, the proposed policy and the new terms and conditions was notified for submission without being developed in consultation with key stakeholders – groups and individuals who organise events. As a result the policy and new terms and conditions as notified is unclear, inconsistent and not fit for purpose.

These are the clauses that I take issue with:

- Lack of definitions for words used in the policy. For example, there is no definition of the word “event”. How does the applicant and Council officer know the difference between an “event” subject to the new terms and conditions, and an “on-going” or “recreational” event under section 3.1 which is not subject to the new terms and conditions.
- Inconsistent numbering – Terms and Conditions starts at “1” again. It should be “4”.
- Section 1.3 (of terms and conditions) – This seems to be the purpose of the entire policy and similar wording should be used in the front of the policy at section 2.1. However, the purpose should be for SWDC to “facilitate” and the entire policy should be rewritten to reflect this facilitation and what outcomes it seeks to achieve.
- Section 2.1 (of terms and conditions) – What does “publicised” mean (again without a definition it is subject to misinterpretation)? Change to “Publicised gatherings of private or organised 50 ~~20~~ or more people....” Again it is unclear what qualifies as an “event”, a rugby game, a political demonstration, a birthday party, a picnic?
- Section 2.4 (terms and conditions) – is there an event approval permit or does council only issue Trading in Public Spaces permit, etc? Section 3.2.3 implies there is a specific event permit and refers to conditions. How do these conditions (if such a permit exists) relate to 2.4 and why is this information in two separate places?
- Section 4.2 (of terms and conditions) – This information on bonds is redundant with Section 3.2.4 (of main policy).
- Section 5.4 (of terms and conditions) – do you mean “artificial” turf? Most events will “alter” turf including a rugby event. Should this be “permanently” altered in any way, or “returned to original condition” as mentioned already in Section 4.2.

- Section 6 (table of terms and conditions) – definitions needed for “vehicles”, “fires/fireworks” etc. Is a mobility scooter a vehicle? Is a sparkler a firework?
- Section 6 (table of terms and conditions) – This is prohibitive, predictive and inconsistent with other bylaws and regulations. For example, if someone wants a wedding within the liquor ban area (such as in Clifford Square), the liquor ban bylaw anticipates this and allows for permission to be sought. What if someone wants an event of dog agility at a venue that prohibits dogs off leash?

In conclusion, the policy as provided for submission is unclear and unhelpful to both applicant and Council officers and should be rejected in favour of developing a clear policy in consultation with event organisers and the community.

Yours sincerely,

Rebekah Mehrtens

Submission to the South Wairarapa District Council

Community Groups use of and access to Council Parks and Reserves policy.

To: Parks and Reserves Policy Consultation

South Wairarapa District Council

PO Box 6

Martinborough 5741

Name of Submitter: Liz Mellish

Organisation: Card Reserve Artificial Surface Trust

I do not wish to speak

We partially support the Community groups Use of and Access to Council Parks and Reserves Policy.

The CRAFT has a Licence to occupy facility being the Turf and its environs being a wire fence encircling the turf and the lighting. We have been users for possibly as many years as the reserve has been in operation because the site is the site of the original tennis courts.

That Council is reviewing and adding to their policy in relation to parks and Reserves is accepted and supported by CRAFT however our concern is the language and the tenor of the policy that is concerning.

The Policy is written in such a way that for users it seems to be couched to stop activities rather than to encourage public, private and communities to use and hold events on Council land. The policy is design to punish rather than encourage stronger use.

We are concerned that under Event use under 3.2.3. could be worded to say that Fees will apply in exceptional cases with the approval of the CEO or Acting senior official so that applicants have time to seek and gain approvals. Leaving the decision to one person imposes many difficulties. Rather than suggesting one day events may not incur a fee stating that fees will be charged in exceptional cases gives much better opportunity for community groups to use the facilities.

Further the role of the Community Boards in this policy are not stated does this only become an operational decision. Clarity on their role would be useful.

We also seek clarity around other language such as the vehicle restrictions. Does this include all motorised vehicles such as mobility scooters and electric bicycles.

CRAFT also seeks clarity under the Terms and Conditions relating to 3.3.8 about rental as opposed to Licence to Occupy. Cost associated with these two forms of charges could vary and make this a revenue seeking policy instead of assistance for activities to occur at the Parks and Reserves. Under

General Conditions 5.3 The words “written”, directions rather than verbal directions from Council Officers gives the Community Group much more certainty this makes it confusing for users.

In conclusion the changes we seek are technical in nature and I am sure the Hearings Committee appreciate that we would wish this policy to be User friendly whilst maintaining good guidelines for Users to use and appreciate the places noted as Parks and Reserves.

Nga Mihi

Liz Mellish

Chairman

Card Reserve Artificial Surface Trust.

SUBMISSION TO THE SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMUNITY GROUPS USE OF AND ACCESS TO COUNCIL PARKS AND RESERVES POLICY



To: Parks and Reserves Policy Consultation
South Wairarapa District Council
PO Box 6
Martinborough 5741

Name of Submitter:	Peter Jackson
Organisation (if on behalf)	N/A
Postal Address:	17 71
Email:	
Daytime contact no:	

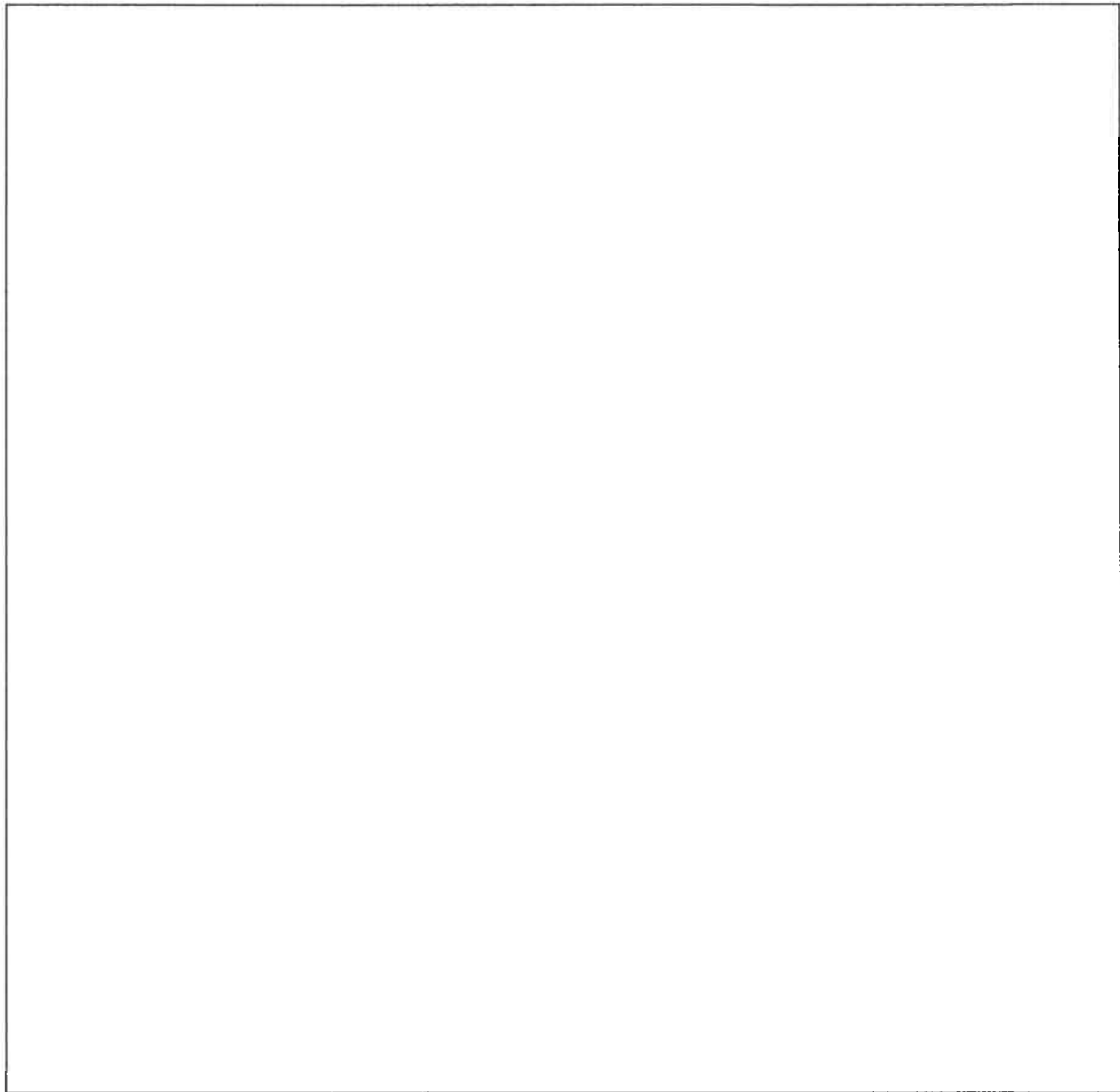
I wish to speak to my submission: **Yes** **No**

The hearing will be held on the 8 November 2017; we will contact you to arrange a time to speak.

Do you support the Community Groups Use of and Access to Council Parks and Reserves Policy? **Yes** **No** **Partially**

Attach your submission or provide comment below (refer to clauses)

The intent of making all Council Parks and Reserves areas where dogs must be on leash is a very blunt instrument for addressing the issue of poorly controlled dogs. Most dog owners are responsible and take care of their dogs. Part of this is exercising them in areas that enable them to run freely. While the dog park is one such area, Lake Domain is another area which should be viewed the same. If anything there should be greater policing and enforcement of unruly dogs, both on and off leash, rather than using the "blanket ban" or "one rule fits all" approach. By all means have dogs on leash during ^{ground} nesting of birds, but at least try to be a little flexible and understanding at other times. All dog owners will appreciate this.



Please note submissions must be received by 4.30pm, 20 October 2017

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Please note:

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- Submissions will not be returned, so please keep a copy.
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SUBMISSION TO THE SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMUNITY GROUPS USE OF AND ACCESS TO COUNCIL PARKS AND RESERVES POLICY



To: Parks and Reserves Policy Consultation
South Wairarapa District Council
PO Box 6
Martinborough 5741

Name of Submitter:	BARBARA JACKSON
Organisation (if on behalf)	—
Postal Address:	100 ... 71
Email:	—
Daytime contact no:	—

I wish to speak to my submission: Yes No

The hearing will be held on the 8 November 2017; we will contact you to arrange a time to speak.

Do you support the Community Groups Use of and Access to Council Parks and Reserves Policy? Yes No Partially

Attach your submission or provide comment below (refer to clauses)

With regards to the Lake Domain Reserve Featherston, I object to the proposed policy of dogs being "on Leash Only"! As there are few areas for responsible dog owners to run their dogs freely (a natural behaviour/need for dogs) this would limit, if not remove altogether, any places for local dog owners, such as myself, to run their well behaved dogs. I understand that there is wildlife in the

P.T.O.

area that could possibly be disturbed during nesting season, but this could be a time of year where off leash is restricted...as is demonstrated at Henley Lake in Masterton.

Thank you for your time in reading my submission + taking my thoughts into account. I would have liked to be at the meeting on the 8th Nov. but am unable to get the time off work.

Regards.



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To: Parks and Reserves Policy Consultation
South Wairarapa District Council
PO Box 6
Martinborough 5741

Name of Submitter:	Annemarie Thompson
Organisation (if on behalf)	
Postal Address:	
Email:	
Daytime contact no:	021 111 0

I wish to speak to my submission: The hearing will be held on the 8 November 2017; we will contact you to arrange a time to speak.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Do you support the Community Groups Use of and Access to Council Parks and Reserves Policy?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Partially <input type="checkbox"/>
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**Attach your submission or provide
comment below (refer to clauses)**

Lake Domain Reserve Featherston
 Otauira Reserve Featherston
 Barr-Brown Reserve Featherston

I object to on leash in the three above
 Parks available to dogs!

I have 3 Dogs who are well behaved,
 come on recall and understand that these
 are areas for them to run and be a dog!

You take these parks away from us, you
 take away yet another persons / animals
 freedom to enjoy p21 of N2 & Wairapa's

beauty!

Taking these away is just stupid
and BS!



Please note submissions must be received by 4.30pm, 20 October 2017

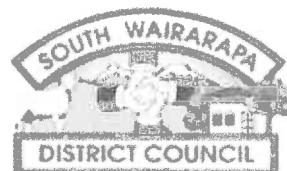
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SUBMISSION TO THE SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMUNITY GROUPS USE OF AND ACCESS TO COUNCIL PARKS AND RESERVES POLICY



To: Parks and Reserves Policy Consultation
South Wairarapa District Council
PO Box 6
Martinborough 5741

Name of Submitter:	Jan Duckett
Organisation (if on behalf)	
Postal Address:	
Email:	
Daytime contact no:	

I wish to speak to my submission: The hearing will be held on the 8 November 2017; we will contact you to arrange a time to speak.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Do you support the Community Groups Use of and Access to Council Parks and Reserves Policy?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Partially <input type="checkbox"/>
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Attach your submission or provide comment below (refer to clauses)

I object to the plan to make Lake Domain Reserver^{Featherston} accessible to dogs only on leash! I can understand that dogs could be a disturbance to nesting birds during nesting season but at other times of the year do not see why responsible dog owners with well trained animals cannot have their dogs off leash.
It is important for dogs to

have areas where they can exercise freely and having larger areas (not just dog parks) for them to do this. Having the Lake Domain Reserve Featherston is a great resource for groups of dog owners to mix, meet and socialise their animals off leash, which makes for happier well socialised dogs & better recognition and understanding of their behaviours.

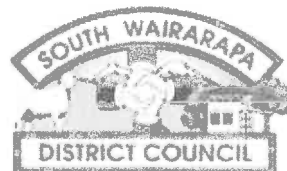
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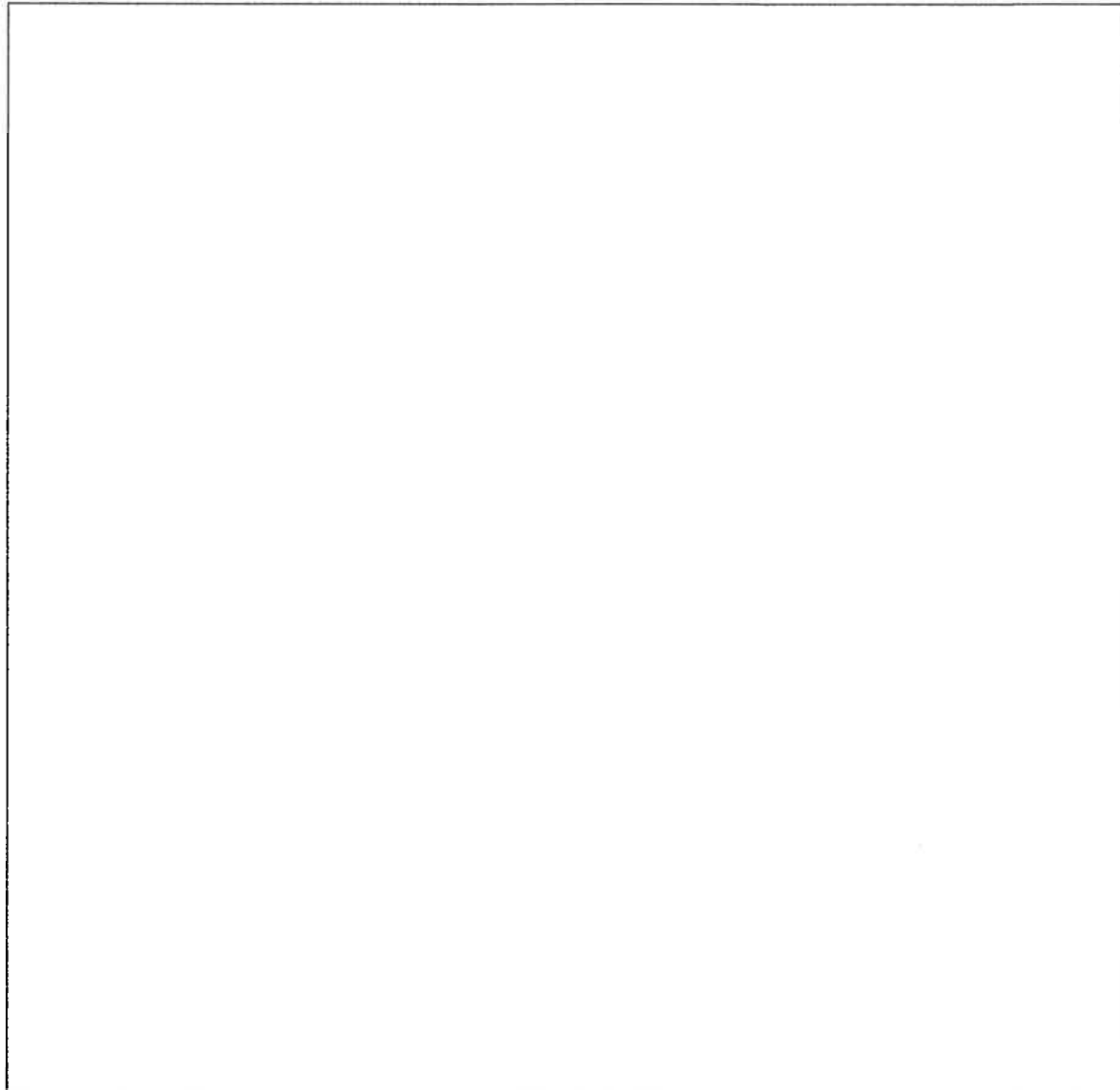
Name of Submitter:	Richard Burgess
Organisation (if on behalf)	
Postal Address:	
Email:	
Daytime contact no:	

I wish to speak to my submission: The hearing will be held on the 8 November 2017; we will contact you to arrange a time to speak.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Do you support the Community Groups Use of and Access to Council Parks and Reserves Policy?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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**Attach your submission or provide
comment below (refer to clauses)**

Lake Reserve is one of the very few areas where a dog can be exercised and used for duck hunting. I do not support the "on leash only" policy for this area.



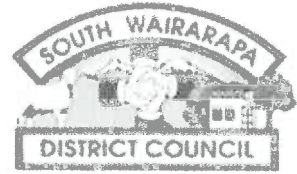
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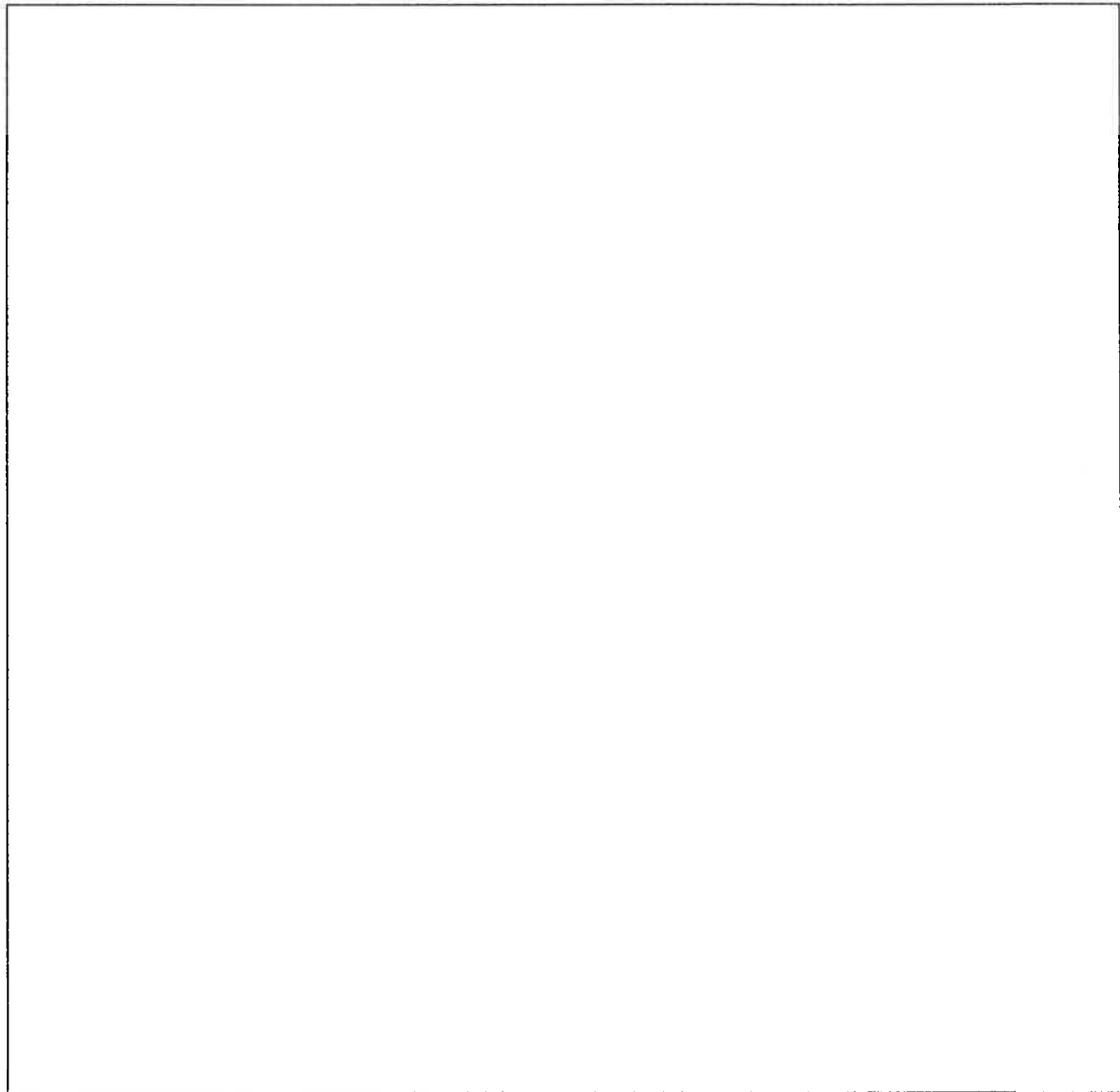
Name of Submitter:	Heather Martin
Organisation (if on behalf)	
Postal Address:	
Email:	
Daytime contact no:	

I wish to speak to my submission: The hearing will be held on the 8 November 2017; we will contact you to arrange a time to speak.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Do you support the Community Groups Use of and Access to Council Parks and Reserves Policy?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Partially <input type="checkbox"/>
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**Attach your submission or provide
comment below (refer to clauses)**

I am concerned that owners of well trained dogs ^{will be} ~~are~~ prohibited from using areas where they can run free; Living in town this is not possible. By visiting these areas when the peak times for the general public are minimal, I feel strongly that this freedom of choice is protected. My main area of interest is Lake Domain Reserve Featherston



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