

21. *Pukekohe Domain*

Description

Location:	Browne Street, Waitara
Legal description:	Block CXV WAITARA TN
Size:	6.08 hectares
Reserve Status:	Subject to the Reserves Act 1977
Reserve Classification	Recreation Reserve



Physical description

Pukekohe Domain is a sports park located in Waitara with one field available which is currently used for athletics. It is bordered by Cracroft Street to the west, Cameron Street to the north, Browne Street to the east and Memorial Place to the south. Vehicle access is via Cameron Street and Browne Street. To the south of the field are four lawn tennis/squash courts and three bowling greens.

The majority of the park is Open Space A Environment Area in the District Plan. These areas are used primarily for organised sports and recreation. Such areas will normally have associated buildings such as clubrooms, changing sheds or toilet facilities. The southern end of the Domain, including the rose garden and some of the bush is subject to flooding.

To the south of the park the area is Open Space B Environment Area which is characterised by those areas that are predominantly focused towards informal recreational pursuits, usually of a more passive nature, such as walking, playing or fishing. They are more open, with less built features than the Open Space A Environment Area.

The area is surrounded by Residential A Environment Area on all boundaries.

Tangata whenua interests

This reserve is within the tribal rohe of Te Atiawa iwi. It is of historic and cultural significance to Manukorihi hapū and Otaraua hapu.

The Pukekohe pa is located near the centre of the domain.

Land status and acquisition history

Pursuant to The Public Reserves Act 1881, in 1884 Block 115 was changed from a reserve for the 'site for buildings or other purposes of the General Government' to a 'recreation ground'. It was classified as Waitara Domain in 1906 and then reclassified in 1981 as a ground for recreation purposes and subject to the Reserves Act 1977. It was classified once again and named Pukekohe Park in 1982.

History and cultural values

A Sports Zone Reserves Management Plan which included Pukekohe Domain was prepared pursuant to Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 and was approved in 1980.

In the past the field at Pukekohe Domain has been used for a variety of sports including rugby and athletics. Rugby relocated to Tikorangi and athletics to Clifton Park.

Pukekohe is well known for its historical aspect as well as being a Sportsground. In 1860 the British Military camp was established on what is now known as Pukekohe Domain and became the centre of operations in the Waitara area during the war. To many locals the domain is still known as Camp Reserve.

The Pukekohe pa is located near the centre of the domain and is related to the Otaraua Iwi.

Existing improvements

Existing improvements include:

Rubbish bin, five seats, barriers, fences, step, two gates, wall, three monuments, path, two signs, seven floodlights, two street lights, walking tracks, carpark and road.

The monuments are located at the entrance to the Park. A marble plaque is located on the gates noting the history of the site. The other monuments are both war memorials; one in white concrete and the other green steel. The memorials are commemorating the Clifton Football Club Members who fought in World War One.

There is a waste water pipe running horizontally from the northern border to the centre of the park.

Uses and activities

Pukekohe Domain has one field available which is no longer used for organised recreation but is suitable for organised and casual recreation. The Council owned facilities (changing rooms/toilets) are currently not available for hire.

The following clubs own buildings and hold land only leases at Pukekohe Domain:

- Waitara Bowling Club - club building and greens (lease expires 2017 with further 21 year right of renewal)
- Waitara Squash Club - club building (lease expired 2010 with a further 21 year right of renewal)
- Waitara Gym Club - part of the former rugby building (lease expires 2016 with further 21 year right of renewal)
- Waitara Lawn Tennis - club building and courts (lease expired 2010 with a further 21 year right of renewal)

Management objectives and specific policies

1. This reserve will be managed as a sports park suitable for formal and informal sport and recreation, with walking tracks through the vegetated hillside and rose garden.
2. Options for the future of the northern half of the park will be investigated including the option of disposal. Any disposal/sale of Council land will be carried out in accordance with the Approval of Properties for Sale and Method of Sale Policy (P05-019). Leases will be maintained with all resident sport clubs who own facilities at the reserve. Any extensions to the footprint of the existing facilities will be considered on a case by case basis in accordance with General Policies for Council administered reserves.
3. Waitara Gymsports Club plan to relocate to Clifton Park in the near future. Should no alternative use be found for their building that is compatible with the recreation classification of Pukekohe Domain, the Waitara Gymsports Club must remove the building and reinstate the site as part of their re-development project.
4. Consultation will be undertaken with Manukorihi and Otaraua hapū when any change in management of the park or a new development is proposed that is not contemplated in this plan, particularly in regards to Pukekohe Pa.
5. The Council will work with Manukorihi and Otaraua hapū iwi to develop a protocol regarding the management of vegetation on Pukekohe pa.
6. The third (western) bowling green is no longer required by the bowling club. Re-vegetation to bush or establishment of a community garden may be suitable options when considering the future use of this area.