

Address: Mr Mayor and Councillors

I am Louise O'Donnell and I represent the Hope Residents Action Group. Today we present a petition of ~~2386~~ signatures, requesting that the Tasman District Council reconsider the location of the historic building known as the "Maitai Lodge" after due and proper consultation with members of the Hope community, including immediately affected residents. Mr Mayor I would like you to undertake that all councillors receive this full petition of signatures and any absentee Councillors be given a copy of this submission. The petition should be carefully scrutinised by councillors as many of these signatures are your constituents. They have signed this petition specifically because of their concern of Councils steamrolling type approach to this matter, and a large proportion have verbally conveyed to us their dissatisfaction in the lack of support on this issue from **any** councillors voted to serve in the last election.

Further to the submission our contention is that had proper consultation taken place as specified in the Reserve Management Plan 6.24.5 then the troubles we all now face and the outcome could have been very different. The benefit of this would have been to obtain the highest level of agreement possible prior to the commencement of any works thereby avoiding the despair which we all now find ourselves. Whilst it has been acknowledged by the Mayor that consultation should have taken place and as a good neighbour council should have informed those of adjoining properties what was happening, we believe the Hope Recreation Reserve Management Committee have also failed in their duties. Through the consultation process with council 9.3.12 on any major redevelopment of the reserve they failed to consider the real implications for adjoining landowners, prior to making their final recommendation to council concerning the new site for the Maitai Lodge.

Accordingly, from information disclosed to us there were only ever two options considered for the Maitai Lodges new location. The first choice was rejected by Mr Lloyd Kennedy, Community Services Manager of TDC, on the basis that the proximity was too close to the sewer installation. In private discussions he had with the Hope Recreation Reserve Management Committee their second choice and present location was deemed to be the only alternative option, with regrettably no other considerations given. Least of all any concerns the neighbours may have had, particularly as there is no question that immediately adjoining neighbouring properties have been adversely affected and devalued because of the present location and bulk of the Maitai Lodge. This point is supported by documentation from registered property valuers.

In summary this could so simply have been avoided had proper consultation taken place. We therefore submit that your process was grossly inadequate, with the present location of the Maitai Lodge as unacceptable because it seriously impacts on immediately adjoining neighbours devaluing their properties: Our petition today seeks for the council to **remedy** this matter in a timely manner.

Mr Mayor and councillors that concludes my submission, and I am aware that there are members of our group who will now address you with their concerns.