

# KOITIATA RESIDENTS' COMMITTEE

## (TURAKINA BEACH)

To  
The Community Services Manager,  
Pamela Taylor,  
Rangitikei District Council,  
Marton.

From  
Koitiata Residents cte.  
c/- 50 Wainui St,  
Koitiata,  
R.D. 11,  
Wanganui.  
Secretary Mrs J. Nation.  
9-9-98.

Dear Pamela,

In May, we wrote to council re the Koitiata Domain being preserved as a green area for the area, which was in response to a discussion at one of our meetings attended by Barry Mortimer and also Councillor Strugnell. The reply we received ( of which I enclose a copy) does'nt really tell us that legally this land will be for all time, held as a green space for the citizens of Koitiata.

We are concerned that council policies can change and wonder if perhaps we require a deed of some kind, showing that the area will never be sold. Would it be a cost against us to ask that there be a legal document of "how and why" ? Boundaries would need to be shown as well, as we are talking about a rather large area, and in fact we did ask for an area big enough for a rugby feild, or at least goalposts for the youth of our area to exert their energy, maybe even a cricket pitch, but it would not have to be the whole area of the domain.

We appreciate the reply from Barry, but it does'nt really "pin it down enough" for us, and Councillor Strugnell suggested we write to you, for further information.

This is another subject, the lawn mowing of the areas of R.D.C. controlled land. Because we were concerned that the grassed areas out here were not being mowed very often, we asked if it was possible to have the playground areas mowed prior holiday times, and especially Christmas, and the reply we received from Mr Frank Heath was detailed as to the contract for grass mowing, but he suggested that a resident mowed the playground area,(he says that he was advised by those who have been around for a while)but that is about five years out of date, as R.D.C. have been seeing to it for at least all that time.(Their contractors) We have such a lovely area at the playground now, and volunteers ensure it is kept in a tidy condition as far as planting trees, and weeding goes, but not the grass mowing. Works Civil did it last about two months ago, and did an

excellent job, and I feel Mr Heath misunderstood my letter to him. We are not really asking the contract finer details, rather the number of times allowed per annum, for each mow. We are not asking for more expenses to be allocated, but that instead of the cutting being left for sometime in the past, six months, that it be seen to on a more regular basis, and as suggested, prior holiday times. The hall and fire station he quotes in his reply, are not done by the contractors at all, but by the resident who lives behind the hall, and have been for several years. The three adjoining sections ( which in fact do not adjoin) have always been mown by the farmer over the fence, but since the farm changed hands, R.D.C. contractors have mown them once, to our knowledge, and they don't need mowing very often, except when it's really dry weather, as a fire hazard deterrent. Mr Heath in his reply to our letter states that " the domain to be mown on request to 50mm twice a year on request, the hall and fire station and three adjoining sections to be mown 12 times a year to a grade 4 height, and mowing of scheduled roadside verges to grade 4 on a monthly basis." This is not how the mowings have been done at all, and his suggestions in his reply are that we require something that is going to cost much more money for the residents to find, when in fact, if the mowings were to be carried out as his letter suggests the contract is, then there would be no complaints, but of course it would need to include the playground, and certainly once a month is not necessary, but a more regular than now , system, is all we require. I hope you can understand our concerns, we are not wanting any more than we are allocated just that it be done prior holiday times, when our little village grows greatly, and that our lovely assets look tidy and mown, at all times. Thankyou for reading this long letter, we are really grateful for the few things we have out here, but it would be nice if they could be more regularly kept.

Yours faithfully,

  
secretary.

( Mrs J. Nation. )