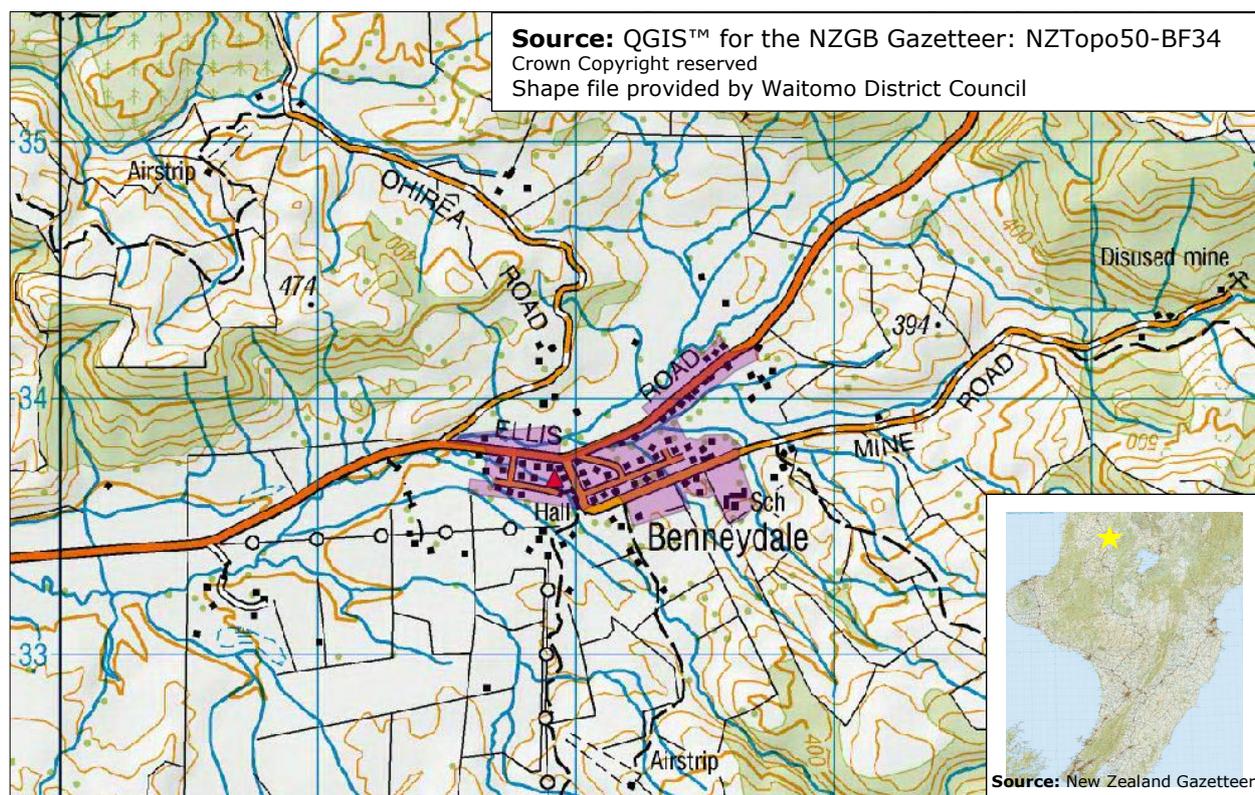


Deferred proposal for Te Māniaiti [altered from Benneydale]



Summary

At its meeting on 28 June 2018 the NZGB deferred its decision on a proposal from the Office of Treaty Settlements (OTS), on behalf of Maniapoto iwi, to alter the unofficial recorded name of the small rural township, Benneydale, to an official name, Te Māniaiti.

The NZGB requested that OTS clarify Waitomo District Council's (WDC) views on the proposal. OTS had written to WDC about the proposal on 24 January 2018. At a meeting on 20 March 2018 WDC had verbally advised OTS that it supported the proposal going to public consultation and would form a view once the views of the community were known.

WDC has now advised the NZGB that in response to OTS's letter of 24 January 2018 it unanimously declined to offer support for the OTS proposal.

OTS has provided written confirmation from WDC dated 15 August 2018 that it does not support the proposal. WDC has not provided reasons.

If the NZGB accepts the proposal, WDC will have an opportunity to make a submission during the notification period.

Secretariat recommendations

Recommendation 1

Accept the proposal to ~~alter~~ Benneydale to **Te Māniaiti** based on:

- ~~the significance of the name to Maniapoto iwi,~~
- ~~evidence on early plans and maps of features in the area named 'Maniaiti',~~
- ~~the NZGB's function to collect and encourage the use of original Māori names on official charts and maps,~~
- ~~a Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori licenced translator having confirmed the orthography of Te Māniaiti, and~~
- ~~the name meeting the Australia/New Zealand Standard™ for rural and urban addressing.~~

Noting that:

- ~~the boundaries of the town are likely to extend beyond the WDC's shapefile, so the NZ Gazette notice will have only a central coordinate,~~
- ~~Benneydale (township) is currently in the Localities dataset so can still be used by emergency services to identify the area,~~
- ~~the proposer has provided evidence of consultation with the local councils and iwi, and~~
- ~~Waitomo District Council does not support the proposal, but can make a submission during the notification period.~~

and

Notify as a proposal to ~~alter~~ for three months.

Options

Option 2

Accept a different proposal to **alter** Benneydale to a dual name **Te Māniaiti / Benneydale** based on:

- a dual name overcoming some of the problems that total replacement can cause such as loss of identity and confusion, and may make it easier to identify the township in an emergency,
- the significance of Te Māniaiti to Maniapoto iwi,
- evidence on early plans and maps of features in the area named 'Maniaiti',
- the NZGB's function to collect and encourage the use of original Māori names on official charts and maps,
- a Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori licenced translator having confirmed the orthography of Te Māniaiti, and
- long term use of Benneydale, which reflects the coal mining heritage of the town, and
- recognising the interests of Rereahu.

Noting that:

- a dual name would not meet the Australia/New Zealand Standard™ for rural and urban addressing; however, there are examples of dual names for towns and these do not have appeared to have caused any issues,
- the proposer has provided evidence of consultation with the local councils and iwi,
- Waitomo District Council does not support the proposal, but can make a submission during the notification period, and
- the boundaries of the town are likely to extend beyond the WDC's shapefile, so the NZ Gazette notice will have only a central coordinate.

and

Notify as a proposal to **alter** for three months.

Option 3

Decline the proposal to ~~alter~~ Benneydale to **Te Māniaiti** based on lack of

Background

**Draft minutes of
28 June 2018
NZGB hui**

NZGB discussion

The NZGB noted that the proposer has undertaken consultation with local councils and iwi. The NZGB noted that Waitomo District Council had advised OTS when they met on 20 March 2018 that they support in principle the name change process subject to public consultation, and Waikato Regional Council had advised that it does not have a view. The NZGB noted that these are the only two councils affected by the proposal. OTS confirmed that it would request written confirmation of support from Waitomo District Council.

The NZGB requested clarification whether Waitomo District Council's support was for Te Māniaiti or the dual name Te Māniaiti / Benneydale. OTS advised that Waitomo District Council is reluctant to give a firm view prior to public consultation, that the Council supports the proposal going through public consultation and will form a view once the views of the community are known. The Chairperson advised that for any proposal affecting the community, elected representatives are asked to provide a clear view of their support or otherwise. The NZGB noted that Maniapoto are proposing a single Māori name and that the NZGB rarely supports dual names for populated places.

OTS confirmed that they will re-engage with Waitomo District Council and report back to the NZGB's September 2018 meeting.

The NZGB agreed to defer the proposal to its September 2018 meeting.

Supporting information

1. Proposal report – 2018-06-28
2. Letter from Waitomo District Council to OTS – 2018-08-15
3. Email correspondence with Waitomo District Council – 2018-08-22