



## **Tongariro/Taupo Conservation Board Te Poari Papa Atawhai o Tongariro Taupo**

23 August 2023

Anselm Haanen  
Chairperson  
New Zealand Geographic Board

Tēnā koe Mr Haanen

### **National Park Township/Waimarino**

I am writing to you on behalf of the board to petition changing the name of National Park Township to Waimarino. This is following a presentation to the Board from the Iwi of Uenuku/Te Korowai o Wainuiārua requesting the Board's support for a name change for the township. I note that our predecessor board, the Tongaririo National Park Board made a similar submission as far back as 1967.

The history is an interesting one where the community that grew up around the National Park Station on the Main Trunk Line came to be identified with the name of the station. Even though the name of the station was changed in 1926, the name of the kāinga was not. And whereas identifying a station with New Zealand's first national park was appropriate when the rail link was made, this is no longer the case.

The board understands that there is significant support for the long overdue name change within local government and the wider community, supporting the views of Te Korowai o Wainuiārua.

Nāku iti noa, nā

Mike Britton  
Co-chair  
Tongariro Taupō Conservation Board

s.9(2)(a)

Attn: Wendy Shaw  
Secretary  
NZ Geographic Board  
[nzgbenquiries@linz.govt.nz](mailto:nzgbenquiries@linz.govt.nz)



CC: Kura Te Wanikau-Tūroa  
Ngāti Uenuku

To whom it may concern

**RE: Letter of support for place name change from “National Park” to “Waimarino”**

Federated Mountain Clubs (FMC) was founded in 1931, and advocates for New Zealand’s backcountry and outdoor recreation on behalf of over 22,000 members in 100 clubs nationwide. The Society’s objectives are to promote non-commercial outdoor recreation, the conservation and wise management of, and public access to, New Zealand’s natural areas, mountains, lakes, rivers and coast.

I am writing to register FMC’s strong support for the town of National Park to have its traditional name, Waimarino, restored and formally gazetted. Reinstating the traditional Ingoa Waimarino would be a long overdue step towards recognising the local Iwi’s ancestral connections to the place, and with the recent ratification of Ngāti Uenuku’s Treaty Settlement, Te Tihi o te Rae, it is clearly an appropriate time to do so.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Ngā mihi nui

Megan Dimozantos  
**President, Federated Mountain Clubs**



# RUAPEHU

OUR GREATER OUTDOORS

07 August 2023

19a Goldfinch Street,  
Ohakune

I am writing to express my endorsement and support for the application from Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua, seeking to restore the name of National Park Village to its original name of Waimarino.

Having attended the Ōwhango-National Park Community Board meeting on 01 August, I had the opportunity to listen to the sentiments of the community regarding this request. It was evident that this matter carries deep significance for our people, evoking a sense of passion, and a hope of healing, with the restoration of Waimarino's name, which was replaced by 'National Park' back in 1926 by the Minister of Railways.

I am confident that such a change will not lead to confusion among visitors. The process of introducing the new name can be carefully managed, involving efforts to educate national tourism bodies, media outlets, and visitors. There will be time for the adjustment to take place, and updates to maps and other relevant materials can be undertaken gradually to avoid any disruption.

I urge the NZ Geographic Board to recognise the cultural significance of this change and to support the Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua application for the restoration of Waimarino Village's name as a meaningful step towards acknowledging our shared history, and to foster unity and understanding among all New Zealanders.

Sincerely,

Jo Kennedy  
General Manager Visit Ruapehu

cc Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua

# ŌWHANGO-NATIONAL PARK COMMUNITY BOARD

## Te Poari-ā-Hapori o Ōwhango-National Park

### MINUTES

THE MEETING OF ŌWHANGO-NATIONAL PARK COMMUNITY BOARD  
HELD AT THE PARK HOTEL, MILLAR STREET, NATIONAL PARK  
ON TUESDAY 1 AUGUST 2023, AT 6:37PM

### PUBLIC BUSINESS | KAUPAPA O WAHO

#### Present | Tuhinga

Chairperson	Anthony Gurr	
Deputy Chairperson	Simon O'Neill	
Board Members	Eddie Marsters	
	Murray Wilson	
	Peter Zimmer	
Councillor	Janelle Hinch	
Mayor	Weston Kirton	6:45PM Item 6

#### In Attendance | I Tae Mai

Clive Manley	Chief Executive
Vini Dutra	Executive Manager Infrastructure
Rina Hepi	Manager Community & Recreational Facilities
Stuart Watson	Manager Three Waters
Dick Scheyvens	Manager Land Transport
Tasha Paladin	Governance Manager
Adrian Leineweber	AV and IT Technician

Members of the community

**By Zoom** Pauline Welch Executive Manager Community & Economic Development

#### External Speakers

Te Kurataiaha Tūroa Wanikau  
Liz Brooker

**Item**  
**8**  
**8**

**6 Public Forum: Temporary Suspension and Reinstatement of Standing Orders**

*Note: Mayor Kirton joined the meeting at 6:45PM*

The Community Board temporarily suspended Standing Orders to allow Members and the public to address the Board.

**RESOLVED**

Moved: Member O'Neill

Seconded: Cr Hinch

*That the Ōwhango-National Park Community Board:*

- 1 *Receives the Report **Public Forum: Temporary Suspension and Reinstatement of Standing Orders**; and*
- 2 *Pursuant to Section 27(4) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, temporarily suspends the following Standing Orders to enable members of the Public to address Council, and members to engage in discussion in a free and frank manner:*
  - (a) *21.2 Time limits on speakers | Te tepenga wā mā ngā kaikōrero*
  - (b) *21.5 Members may speak only once | Kotahi noa iho te wā e āhei ai te mema ki te korero; and*
  - (c) *21.6 Limits on number of speakers | Ngā tepenga mō te maha o ngā kaikōrero.*

The Ōwhango-National Park Community Board received addresses as follows:

**6.1 Jill Tutemahurangi**

Jill Tutemahurangi addressed the Community Board regarding Item 8 Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board. Ms. Tutemahurangi tautoko Ngāti Uenuku's submission to revert the name of National Park to Waimarino. She researched the topic prior to this evening's meeting and found multiple historic references dating back to the 1920s of the area being known as Waimarino, meaning calm waters,. She urged the Community Board to support the proposal being presented in the Agenda.

**6.2 Pita Pehi**

Pita Pehi addressed the Community Board regarding Item 8 Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board. Mr. Pehi tautoko Uenuku's proposal and wanted to pass on his mother's recommendation that the name be reverted to Waimarino. Throughout the tradition of oral history, the place has been referred to as Waimarino and not National Park. He asked the Community Board to support the proposal.

**6.3 Shane Isherwood**

Shane Isherwood addressed the Community Board regarding Item 8 Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board. Mr. Isherwood is 21<sup>st</sup> generation of the land and grew up as child knowing the name Waimarino. It was only in the early 1920s the name was changed to National Park. It was a railway town until it became popular with the ski area. He asked the Community Board to support the proposal.

**6.4 Tracey Kereopa**

Tracey Kereopa addressed the Community Board regarding Item 8 Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board. Ms. Kereopa grew up calling the place Waimarino until she went to school and found out it was called National Park. As a business owner and working alongside the National Park Business Association, Ms. Kereopa recognises there will be some impact and disadvantages of a name change for some

businesses. She supported the previous speakers recommendations to revert the name to Waimarino and felt the name change would not divide the community.

#### 6.5 Jim Pottinger

Jim Pottinger addressed the Community Board regarding Item 8 Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board. Mr. Pottinger, of National Park Hotel (NPH), has been a resident of National Park since 1992. He considers it a waste of time to try to change the name that the country already knows and feels it would be erasing the community as a collective of Māori and Pākehā that have made the village. The name National Park has been built upon significant history. He feels there are better things for the community to be debating.

#### 6.6 Eva Tutemahurangi

Eva Tutemahurangi addressed the Community Board regarding Item 8 Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board. Ms. Tutemahurangi tautoko the previous speakers; she considers Waimarino a lovely name and feels we should stick to our names. The land will remain, men will go.

#### 6.7 Toia Lucas-Walden

Toia Lucas-Walden addressed the Community Board regarding Item 8 Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board. Ms. Lucas-Walden does not want to see a doubling of the names such as Waimarino (National Park); it should either be Waimarino or National Park.

#### 6.8 Sam Clarkson

Sam Clarkson sought clarification of the area of land known as Waimarino in regard to Item 8 Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board. He was advised the block of land comprised 450,000 acres starting from Manunui, running down to Waiouru.

#### 6.9 Richard Chapman

Richard Chapman addressed the Community Board regarding Item 8 Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board. Mr. Chapman said that whilst he would be sad to see the name of National Park disappear, he does not have a problem with the name change. His biggest concern is about education of correct pronunciation and feels that education has to come with the name change.

#### 6.10 Christie

Christie addressed the Community Board regarding Item 8 Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board. She has lived in National Park for 13 years and has only known the area as National Park, however she is all for change and supports the proposal to change the name to Waimarino.

#### 6.11 Councillor Fiona Kahukura Hadley-Chase

Fiona Kahukura-Chase addressed the Community Board regarding Item 8 Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board. Councillor Kahukura Hadley-Chase had just returned from Ōtautahi, Christchurch from the Local Government New Zealand conference where a key theme was relationships with the people, mana whenua and Māori. She felt the proposal provided the Community Board with the opportunity to listen to the community, to take the community forward, and build better relationships with mana whenua.

**6.12 Rob Forbes**

Rob Forbes addressed the Community Board regarding Item 8 Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board. He understood the views presented in the public forum and felt it was important that whichever way the decision falls, it should not divide the community.

**6.13 Shona Forbes**

Shona Forbes addressed the Community Board regarding Item 8 Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board. Ms. Forbes attended the meeting to listen and understand why the name needs to change. She feels as though Waimarino is a beautiful name, it does not reflect the height, altitude, rainfall or the village as it is, though she accepts, neither does National Park Village. The village looks at all the mountains and feels the name needs to embrace the landscape.

**6.14 Shaun**

Shaun addressed the Community Board regarding Item 8 Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board. He believes the place is rightfully the Waimarino area but expressed his views that National Park Village will always be known as National Park Village.

**6.15 Anthony Gurr**

The Chairperson shared letters of support and concern that had been emailed earlier in relation to Item 8 Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board. See Minute Attachment.

**6.16 Peter Zimmer**

Member Zimmer expressed his opinion that it was important the decision does not divide the community.

**Minute Attachment(s)**

- 1 Correspondence received by the Community Board Chair in relation to Item 8 Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board.

**RESOLVED**

Moved: Member Zimmer

Seconded: Member O'Neill

*That the Ōwhango-National Park Community Board:*

- 1 Pursuant to Section 27(4) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, reinstates Standing Orders in their entirety for consideration of the Agenda.

*Note the meeting moved to Item 8 Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board.*

**8 Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board**

Members received a deputation from Te Kurataiaha Tūroa Wanikau and Liz Brooker seeking the Community Board's support ahead of Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust making an application to the NZ Geographic Board for its consideration to revert the name of "National Park" Village and "National Park" Station to the original ingoa of "Waimarino" Village and "Waimarino" Railway Station.

It was noted that the process going forward was owned by the NZ Geographic Board, which has to support the merits of the application before any consultation commences. The timeframe lay in the hands of the Crown, however the application from Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust needs to be before the NZ Geographic Board before 8 August 2023, otherwise the application will not be heard until 2024. It was noted that the NZ Geographic Board is due to meet in October, and it will not be a short, swift process.

Members decided to support the recommendations as it marked the start of the process of returning the name to the land, and the beginning of good journey for the entire community.

**RESOLVED**

Moved: Cr Hinch

Seconded: Member Zimmer

*That the Ōwhango-National Park Community Board:*

- 1 *Receives the Report **Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Application to the NZ Geographic Board**; and.*
- 2 *Recommends to Council that it recommends the NZ Geographic Board approves in principle to revert the name of "National Park" Village and "National Park" Station to the original ingoa of "Waimarino" Village and "Waimarino" Railway Station and commences consultation.*

*Note: the meeting adjourned from 8:15PM to 8:20PM before moving to Item 7: Confirmation of Minutes of Community Board Meeting.*

**7 Confirmation of Minutes of Community Board Meeting****RESOLVED**

Moved: Member O'Neill

Seconded: Member Zimmer

*That the Ōwhango-National Park Community Board:*

- 1 *Confirms the Public Business Minutes of the Ōwhango-National Park Community Board meeting held Tuesday, 30 May 2023 as attached, a true and correct record.*

*Note the meeting moved to Item 9 Long Term Plan 2024-2034 Process and Engagement.*



**ŌWHANGO-NATIONAL PARK COMMUNITY BOARD**  
**Te Poari-ā-Hapori o Ōwhango-National Park**

**MINUTE ATTACHMENT(S)**

THE MEETING OF ŌWHANGO-NATIONAL PARK COMMUNITY BOARD  
HELD AT THE PARK HOTEL, MILLAR STREET, NATIONAL PARK  
ON TUESDAY 1 AUGUST 2023, AT 6:37PM

<b>Item</b>		<b>Page</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Public Forum</b>	<b>2</b>
1	Correspondence received by the Community Board Chair in relation to Item 8 Deputation: Uenuku   Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board.	
<b>12</b>	<b>Chair, Deputy Chair, Chief Executive and Elected Members' Reports (Verbal)</b>	<b>11</b>
1	Member Zimmer Liaison Report	

31/7/2023

To whom it may concern,

I support the reinstating of Waimarino as the name for the area now known as National Park. I not only disagree with the original reason for the renaming but also the bastardisation of people and place names across Aotearoa New Zealand. This is not unique to this land but is endemic of colonisers across the globe. Supporting the restoration of the Waimarino name is a small step towards restoring Indigenous rights across the world.

I stand with Uenuku,

s.9(2)(a)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

31st July 2023

Tēnā koutou katoa,

Ko Ruapehu te maunga e ru nei taku ngakau.

Ko Whakapapa te awa e mahea nei aku maharahara.

No Airangi ahau.

Kei Waimario toku kāinga inaianei.

E mihi ana ki nga tohu o nehe, o Waimarino e noho nei au.

Ko s.9(2)(a) toku whānau.

Ko s.9(2)(a) toku ingoa.

I write to you this evening to express my support for Uenuku/Te Korowai o Wainuiārua application to the NZ Geographic Board in favour of restoring the original names of both the National Park village and train station to 'Waimarino'. I am a long term resident of National Park, and have always been perplexed by the agreement to allow the Minister of Railways/train station name to dictate the original name change from Waimarino. On a practical note, the name National Park often causes confusion with mail/courier deliveries, and address searches. However, this issue should not be about minor inconveniences to myself or others.

On a deeper level, just this week, at Te Tihi o Te Rae Signing at Raetihi Marae, the current government (Minister Andrew Little) acknowledged "Over the years, the Crown also acquired land for public works including defence, electricity generation and railways, leaving Te Korowai o Wainuiārua virtually landless. It is your tūpuna who paid the price for our nation's development." The pillaging of the Waimarino name began with one of these public works. As a result I do not believe it is morally prudent to continue to deny tangata whenua rights to their land, and the restoration of it, including its ingoa.

I acknowledge that some locals and businesses have, in recent years, attempted to brand the area 'National Park Village' and have invested time and money in this investment. However, I cannot agree that business, branding and money of a few should supersede the intergenerational trauma

that would be perpetuated for future generations by denying tangata whenua the opportunity to reinstate the name of their kainga.

As someone who originally hails from a country that has endured almost a millennia of colonisation, which has included many successful attempts to oppress and destroy our language and culture, I have seen first hand the devastation continual denial of history and heritage can have on an entire nation. As a fluent Gaelic speaker, educated from 4 years of age through full immersion schooling, I have long since witnessed and been involved in the fight to save indigenous language. It pains me to see the ongoing opposition to The Irish Language Act in Ireland, including the denial of meaningful and original Gaelic place names. I do not wish for Māori to endure their oppression for future centuries, because acknowledging their rights, language and culture is uncomfortable and inconvenient to a few.

Furthermore, Māori place names are given in order to ground the people of that place in their whenua and whakapapa, strengthening identity and sense of belonging. National Park is a name given by the railway, supported by the government of the time, it was named for convenience. The place, the people hold deep meaning for all connected to it, the name however holds other implications. Denying Uenuku/Te Korowai o Wainuiārua, the opportunity to reinstate the name of their whenua is not only to work against the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, but also the people of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Ngā mihi maioha,

s.9(2)(a)

I am six. I have lived  
in National Park my whole  
life.

Māori chose a beautiful  
name for our village.

I hope it is Waimarino  
again.

Ka kite

s.9(2)(a)

13/July 2023

**From:** Andrea Messenger

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 1, 2023 8:30 AM

**To:** s.9(2)(a)

**Subject:** NPVBA letter of concern

Hello s.9(2)(a),

Unfortunately I will not be available tonight here is my letter of concern representing the Business sector of NPVBA

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To whango-National Park Community Board,

Subject:

Deputation: Uenuku | Te Korowai o Wainui rua Trust Application to the NZ Geographic Board

As we all know there is a general shift in New Zealand legislation to better honour the partnership principles between the Crown and Iwi.

NPVBA are keen to weave our conversations our trust towards a partnership with Te Korowai and locals that live and breathe our space.

National Park Village Business owners are concerned about this proposal and the implications & costs to our village and the overall business sector.

It is worth noting that the NPVBA adopted National Park Village name to avoid confusion and as a standalone identity. A strong international brand with its association with the Dual heritage Tongariro National Park has earned it reputation on being successful tag name.

I would like to point out that the steering group discussions are open now, a Name change has not been submitted or presented to the National Park Village Steering Committee. The Steering Group survey for the future development and revitalization of our township is open for suggestions and ideas, this consultation is still open and closes on the 13 August 2023.

NPVBA door is always open and we support the diversity and the wellbeing of our people, consultation is considered best practice and we all need to pause, think what is best for all aspects of our community.

It important to get this right and we all need to look towards the future and align ourselves to the greater journey. We need to listen to the people as this is what the future holds.

Regards,

**Andrea Messenger**  
**Chairman of the**  
**National Park Village Business Association**

From: s.9(2)(a)

Sent: Monday, July 31, 2023 5:25 PM

To: s.9(2)(a) Subject: Waimarino

Hi s.9(2)(a)

My wife s.9(2)(a) and I are residents in National Park Village. We are unable to make the forthcoming Community Board meeting and wanted to record that **we are in favour of “Waimarino”** being formally restored to replace the name of National Park Village and National Park Station. Whatever the rationale and process originally followed to adopt “National Park” as the place name, time has moved on. The term National Park is generic, and in our experience, few people from outside the area know that “National Park” is a place name.

Restoring Waimarino as the name recognises the significant history of this place to its people.

Regards

s.9(2)(a)

**From:** s.9(2)(a)

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 1, 2023 2:49 PM

**To:** s.9(2)(a)

**Subject:** Please leave the name as National Park Village

Ahiahī mārie s.9(2)(a)

Please leave the well-known name as National Park Village rather than change it to Waimarino. This proposed name change would be confusing as Waimarino is used in the Ruapehu District. This is near a completely different mountain to Tongariro. Mt Ruapehu is in another location elsewhere and not in The Central Plateau like National Park Village is.

National Park Village is associated with Tongariro National Park. The 2 places are in close proximity, so that's a logical association of names.

Why change this name that works to something completely in location? It'll Really confuse Kiwis also both national and international tourists!

For many years, it has cost National Park Village Business Association Inc. a lot of time, effort and money to get National Park Village established as a name.

Why waste all that for the sake of a change to a confusing name?

For the sake of Goodwill to Kiwis, tourists and the National Park Village Business Association Inc. , please leave the name as National Park Village.

Kia ora,

s.9(2)(a)



THE CHAIRMAN  
OWHANGO-NATIONAL PARK  
COMMUNITY BOARD.

ITEM

s.9(2)(a)

1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2023

DEAR SIR,

WITH REFERENCE TO ITEM 8  
UNDER REPORTS (DEPUTATION VENUKU,

I WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE  
THAT YOUR COMMUNITY BOARD  
CONDUCT A PUBLIC CONSULTATION  
PROCESS PRIOR TO ANY  
SUPPORT FOR <sup>OR</sup> AGAINST THE  
DECISION ON THE PROPOSAL  
TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE  
VILLAGE OF NATIONAL PARK  
TO WAIMARINO OR ANY OTHER  
NAME.

s.9(2)(a)

s.9(2)(a) 31 July 2023

**Subject:** Re: Proposed Name Change for National Park Village

s.9(2)(a) certainly speaks for me, as I'm opposed to the proposed name change.

The National Park Village name is unique, and captures that Tongariro National Park was New Zealand's first, and the second such park in the world.

Any other name fails to represent that incredibly special fact, and would in my view be ignoring the importance of our Tongariro National Park.

I ask why is a renaming of National Park Village even being considered?

If ever any valid renaming would be floated, wouldn't it be 'Tongariro National Park Village'?

s.9(2)(a)

s.9(2)(a) 31 July 2023

Kia ora everyone,

I am another part-timer at National Park Village.

My husband and I have been property owners and holidayed here for 20 years.

Our kids attended National Park School during winter seasons so they could attend ski programmes.

I support the consultation and discussion around a name change.

I look forward to hearing both sides of the story but personally prefer the name Waimarino over National Park Village.

I accept the cost of a name change for businesses and rate payers is a hurdle and a frustration but one that is worth pursuing.

I will never forget when my 7 year old son came home from his school in Auckland saying his teacher didn't believe that there was a place called 'National Park'. She had asked what he had done in the weekend and he said he had been to 'National Park' – she replied 'which one?'. This was 15 years ago – she had no idea there was a town called 'national park' and kept asking him which national park he had been to ( Tongariro, Whanganui, Egmont, Abel Tasman, Kahurangi, Nelson Lakes, Paparoa, Arthur's Pass, Westland Tai Poutini, Aoraki/Mt Cook, Mt Aspiring, Fordland, Rakiura).

I believe Waimarino is a beautiful sounding name, describes the location well and would be less confusing for New Zealanders and overseas tourists. There are 'national parks' all over the world- Waimarino is unique to Aotearoa and is easy to pronounce and spell.

Kind Regards,

s.9(2)(a)