

3. DISPERSEMENTS OF FUNDS

A meeting with Tom Dixon of Pepper Dixon Architects was held. Tom Dixon was the project manager with the responsibility of managing the funds and developing the plans. Plans and financial records have been retained by Dixon Architects.

The bulk of the funding went towards developing the land which was originally a swamp. The site had to be drained and filled in and stabilised, and gas pipes rerouted to enable building the site. Building of the Administration and Whare hui was completed. However, there was a lack of funds for the ablution block, whare kai and kokiri centre (training).

The committee deviated from the original plan which increased costs. Second hand buildings (Kura kaupapa and Kohanga Reo) were placed on the site and where parking was planned, the Hou Ora buildings are sited. This contravened the decision to leave this area free of buildings because of the instability of the land in this area and the ability to form a buffer between the residential homes bordering the site and the marae facility.

5. AWATAHA MARAE TODAY

There has been no increase of buildings since the whare Hui was completed. The Kurakaupapa has moved from the marae site however these buildings are being used for training modules.

The marae users are mainly schools, technical institute and programmes. On the occasions when the marae was visited there were very few Maori using the facility.

There are signs of land movement. In the front of the property nearest the motorway the building there has signs of cracks. The lower carpark which was originally planned as a buffer zone was developed into the carpark. There are now issues with the sewer pipes from the marae. Parks department have inspected the site and identified major works is required to rectify the problem.

Hou Ora building is being well used by the community and in the past year has added a dispensary to their services.

The governing board have major plans for Step 2 development. Many of the community who have attended the presentation of the plan are concerned that the marae facility will become more a commercial facility than a community marae. The governing board see this plan as providing funds to maintain the marae upkeep.

The balance pages in the report are out of scope of the request

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