

Response from Middle Run Farm to the Grow Paekakariki Report V16.

Firstly the Perkins Family would like to stay locally and farm in the area that they have been part of for 160+ years. This is a forced sale and although we accept we have to move we are one of the largest private landowners in the Kapiti District. Leasing in the area is an option at places like QE Park and Whareroa Farm, both of which are coming up for tender soon and whilst some could see it that the community is feeding on the farm like vultures we are accepting in principle of the report and the overall idea of such an idea however we would appreciate all support, actual and real support, that is possible from the community in our bid to lease the local land coming up for these tenders so that we may continue the connection between the Smith/Perkins family and the community.

We are so accepting of the idea of this report that we tried unsuccessfully as part of the sale and purchase agreement to enforce NZTA to vesting some of Middle Run Farm into community land.

SUMMARY

History of the Land – Page 4

End of Paragraph need to add "... WWII, and then vested in crown land and never returned or offered back to the family".

We feel that this report may be kept and used in the future as a historic document so it is vitally important to the family that this historic summary is correct.

Contributors – Page 4

In terms of naming areas of this land the family would like to be consulted before any action is carried out in regards to this.

TILLEY ROAD - COMMUNITY VALUES

Flood Work Access – Page 8

Although we agree entirely with the fact floodwork access is required for gravel build ups we also want it known that these works need to take place in conjunction with works upstream at the "back cottage" on Middle Run Farm". This is a fact that is known to the Kapiti Coast District Council.

Community Gardens/Mara Kai – Page 8

We are fully in favour of community gardens but feel that the area mentioned in the report would be better used for sports fields currently being considered by Kapiti Coast District Council and the community gardens would be better placed in the area currently vested in Kapiti Coast District Council land earmarked for sports fields (ex-dog show area).

TILLEY ROAD - LIMITATIONS ON DEVELOPMENT

Other Considerations – Page 12/13

It is factually incorrect to say that there have been past attempts by residents to acquire land off Middle Run Farm. To our knowledge there has never been

such a request by residents. We have no objection to this occupations being legalised but suggest the money for purchase by residents being vested in The Paekakariki Community Trust for the purchase of the land for St Peters Village Hall.

This hall is in the community today due in part to money loaned to the community by the Smith family and continues to be supported by the Perkins with one family member on that Trust today to continue to restore it.

This is an on going community project that is going to struggle in the short term with funds as all the new projects suggested in this report are undertaken and needing the same community dollars.

Additional note

The railway crossing that is used by Middle Run Farm is done so only on the basis that an annual fee be paid for the use of this crossing to the railway authority.

SH1 FLAT LAND – COMMUNITY VALUES

Heritage Farm Buildings – Page 15

Woolshed/shearing shed. This is an issue that is vitally important to the family that this building not be levelled. Although we are fully in support of the “historic precinct” idea if it doesn’t work out, another suggestion would be to relocate it to Whareroa Farm as that woolshed was levelled for no reason and could be utilised at this site for the purpose it is intended – as a woolshed.

One concern we have is that if this has historic building status or something similar this gives us no confidence of protection. It is our understanding that NZTA are planning to level the “brick fuel tank” which currently has this status.

Without prejudice to our agreement with NZTA... It must be noted that due to the sale and purchase agreement some of the fixtures and fitting in the shed currently are not staying so the woolshed therefore it will not be left as a working shed per say.

SCARP – COMMUNITY VALUES

Native Forest Restoration – Page 19

We are fully in support of this. We have for the past few years not stocked the railway escarpment and retired a section of land up the Paekakariki Hill Road for Nga Ururoa to restore. Due to this family commitment, The Perkins Family would like to be included in the naming of this forest. For example Perkins Family Reserve, etc.

SOIL CONSERVATION AND PAUATAHANUI

Other Considerations – Pages 24 and 26

There is another Community Group not considered currently being supported by the current owners of Middle Run Farm which is the Ixion Motorcycle Club (trial bike riding).

This group has been supported by Middle Run Farm for 35+ years. This is a recreational activity enjoyed by school aged children through to, and including retired people. Motor sports are not welcome at QE Park and can no longer utilise Whareroa Farm since being vested with DOC.

The fact that they have not been consulted shows that their presence in Paekakariki may have been overlooked due to the fact they do not cause disruption, noise or otherwise to the community but the positive impact they have on their members is great.

The skills taught by this style of riding, which is very much about short course, bike balancing, not endurance flat tack type riding, is very in keeping with farm bike skills which should be maintained for the continuation of the farming industry present in this community for 160+ years.

This group has also been involved with Search and Rescue in the Mungakotukutuku ranges due to their knowledge of the area and skills they possess with positive outcomes.

Further contacts for consultations in regards to this group is: Kevin Tither (a Paekakariki Railway Family) 904 1760 and John Thompson 04 478 7587.

Further Other Considerations – Pages 24 and 26

No consideration has been given to the Paekakariki investigation of low emission and self-sufficiency regarding windmills that is currently being conducted on the land at present.

Further Other Considerations – Pages 24 and 26

Although recreational shooters may not be able to be accommodated in the current capacity a Rifle Range may be a way to mitigate the loss of such a recreational activity of which a large contingency of locals utilise Middle Run Farm.

There is currently no Rifle Range in Kapiti. The nearest facilities of this nature are in the Hutt Valley and Levin.

Further Other Considerations – Pages 24 and 26

No consideration has been given to the rural fire aspect of retiring large quantities of land.

MOTORWAY – LIMITATIONS ON DEVELOPMENT

Fuel storage Tank – Page 27

It should be noted by the report that it is our understanding that the Fuel Storage tank is being demolished by NZTA even though it has historic building status.