

Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board

7 September 2023

Report for Agenda Item | Rīpoata moto e Rāraki take [1]

Department: Community Services

Title | Taitara: Seat Restoration and Memorial Plaque Request for Samuel Robert John Dickson in the Eely Point Recreation Reserve

Purpose of the Report | Te Take mō te Pūroko

The purpose of this report is to consider approving restoration of a seat within the Eely Point Recreation Reserve followed by placement of a memorial plaque on the restored seat for Samuel Robert John Dickson (1999 – 2023).

Recommendation | Kā Tūtohuka

That Wānaka

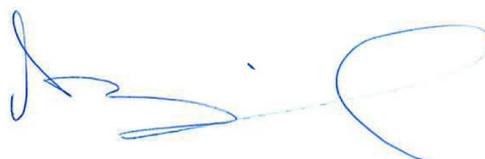
1. **Note** the contents of this report and;
2. **Approve** the seat restoration and installation of a memorial plaque for Samuel Dickson. The seat is located at the northern end of the Eely Point Recreation Reserve along the Outlet Track.

Prepared by:



Name: Tarsy L. Koentges
Title: Parks Officer – Cemeteries & Heritage
10 August 2023

Reviewed and Authorised by:



Name: Kenneth Bailey
Title: General Manager, Community Services
18 August 2023

Context | Horopaki

1. Council received an application for a memorial seat and plaque on 7 June 2023 from Shania Dickson, sister of the deceased, for Samuel Robert John Dickson. Samuel (b. 1999) was a Wānaka local, raised in the area who attended Wānaka Primary School and Mount Aspiring College, but who was diagnosed with cancer at the age of 17 and, following a period of remission, received a second cancer diagnosis in 2022. Samuel passed away on 25 May 2023 at the age of 24. Samuel's family shared, "The majority of Sammy's life was based in Wānaka and we would love to honour his life where his happiest memories are."
2. The Dickson family identified a seat (asset ID: FRN-172) along the Outlet Track within the Eely Point Recreation Reserve that does not yet have a memorial plaque in place, and which is in need of some moderate improvements (e.g., cleaning, sanding, re-staining, and metal arms painted and sealed), and proposed to cover the cost of having the seat restored and a memorial plaque placed on the seat for Samuel (ATTACHMENT A & B). The existing seat is the same model as those that are currently installed new, so the seat style is aligned with our current Open Spaces reserves furniture.
3. Both the Parks and Open Spaces Planning Manager Briana Pringle and the Parks Contracts Manager Adrian Hoddinott support this approach, which allows for the cost-effective and environmentally friendly retention of an existing parks asset that is in need of minor improvements. This also provides the option for the Dickson family to contribute to community asset improvement while memorialising their family member.
4. In consideration of the Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) Plaques, Memorials and Monuments Policy assessment guidelines, the Parks management team supports this request based on the following criteria: "2.5 – Subjects for Category 4, personalised memorial plaques on a seat, bench or picnic table will be considered by the Council on a case by case basis... Subjects will be limited to: Individuals who have lived in or have a special association with the District." The young age of Samuel Dickson at the time of his death, as well as the prior interest expressed by the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board to consider more memorial requests in the future, were both taken into consideration.
5. The plaque will read:

In Loving Memory of

Samuel Robert John Dickson

1999 – 2023

"Family Forever"

Analysis and Advice | Tatāritaka me kā Tohutohu

6. This report identifies and assesses the following reasonably practicable options for assessing the matter as required by section 77 of the Local Government Act 2002.
7. The Eely Point Recreation Reserve has been considered and the proposed restoration of the seat in this location, which is situated near the lake front, trails, and the children's bike park, will enhance the reserve and improve this asset for the community to enjoy.
8. Option 1 Approve the new memorial plaque and seat restoration in the Eely Point Recreation Reserve for Samuel Dickson.

Advantages:

- Provides economical and efficient continued use, but also improvement to furniture in the reserve, which can be enjoyed by all.
- Commemorates an individual that is closely connected to Wānaka.

Disadvantages:

- None, as the structure is already in place upon the reserve.

9. Option 2 Decline the request.

Advantages:

- None, as there is already a structure in place upon the reserve.

Disadvantages:

- Asset restoration costs would be at the expense of Council, and the memorial requestor would not be afforded the opportunity to positively contribute to the improvement of their own community.

10. This report recommends **Option 1** for addressing the matter because this will provide improvements to an existing seat asset, and which will also celebrate Samuel Dickson's life while increasing the use and enjoyment of the reserve by the community.

Consultation Process | Hātepe Matapaki

Significance and Engagement | Te Whakamahi I kā Whakaaro Hiraka

11. This matter is of low significance, as determined by reference to the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy because the land it relates to is not identified as a significant asset, and the proposal of a new seat will support community wellbeing.

12. The persons who are affected by or interested in this matter are the residents/ratepayers of the Queenstown Lakes District Community and the Upper Clutha Community.
13. The Council has noted that both the Parks Planning Manager and Parks Contracts Manager are in support of this proposed approach (i.e. seat restoration followed by plaque installation).

Risk and Mitigations | Kā Raru Tūpono me kā Whakamaurutaka

14. This matter relates to the Community & Wellbeing risk category. It is associated with RISK00009 within the QLDC Risk Register. This risk has been assessed as having a high inherent risk rating.
15. The approval of the recommended option will support the Council by allowing the risk to remain at its current level. This shall be achieved by improving assets for community wellbeing within the reserve.

Financial Implications | Kā Riteka ā-Pūtea

16. There are no financial implications, all costs will be met by the applicant.

Council Effects and Views | Kā Whakaaweawe me kā Tirohaka a te Kaunihera

17. The following Council policies, strategies and bylaws were considered:
 - Plaques, Memorials and Monuments Policy 2010;
 - Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2021; and
 - Proposal is in alignment with the principles of the Vision Beyond 2050.
18. The recommended option is consistent with the principles set out in the named policies.
19. This matter is not included in the Long Term Plan/Annual Plan and will not have any impact on it.

Local Government Act 2002 Purpose Provisions | Te Whakatureture 2002 o te Kāwanataka ā-Kiaka

20. Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 states the purpose of local government is (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and (b) to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future. As such, the recommendation in this report is appropriate and within the ambit of Section 10 of the Act as it will help meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses by providing support for a community activity.
21. The recommended option:
 - Is consistent with the Council's plans and policies; and

- Would not significantly alter the intended level of service provision for any significant activity undertaken by or on behalf of the Council or transfer the ownership or control of a strategic asset to or from the Council.

Attachments | Kā Tāpirihaka

A	Map of Eely Point Recreation Reserve Seat Location
B	Pictures of seat to be restored