

**Lawrence-Tuapeka Reserve Management Plan  
2021-31**

**Clutha District Council**

**December 2021**



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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 PURPOSE OF THIS PLAN

The purpose of the Lawrence-Tuapeka Reserves Management Plan is to provide Clutha District Council with a framework to guide day to day management and longer-term decision making for Council-owned reserves in the Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward.

This Reserve Management Plan:

- *Establishes the objectives and policies which give guidance for the development, management, protection, operation, and public use of reserves in the Lawrence–Tuapeka Ward.*
- *Summarises the statutory framework for reserve management under the Reserves Act 1977.*
- *Describes each of the reserves, including the purpose and activities that may be undertaken on that reserve.*

This plan is intended to respond to the needs of the Lawrence–Tuapeka community and provide a framework for on-going community involvement. A key outcome of this plan is that reserves are managed in a consistent and cohesive manner, and that connections between reserves, sites of national significance (such as Gabriels Gully), and townships within the Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward are promoted.

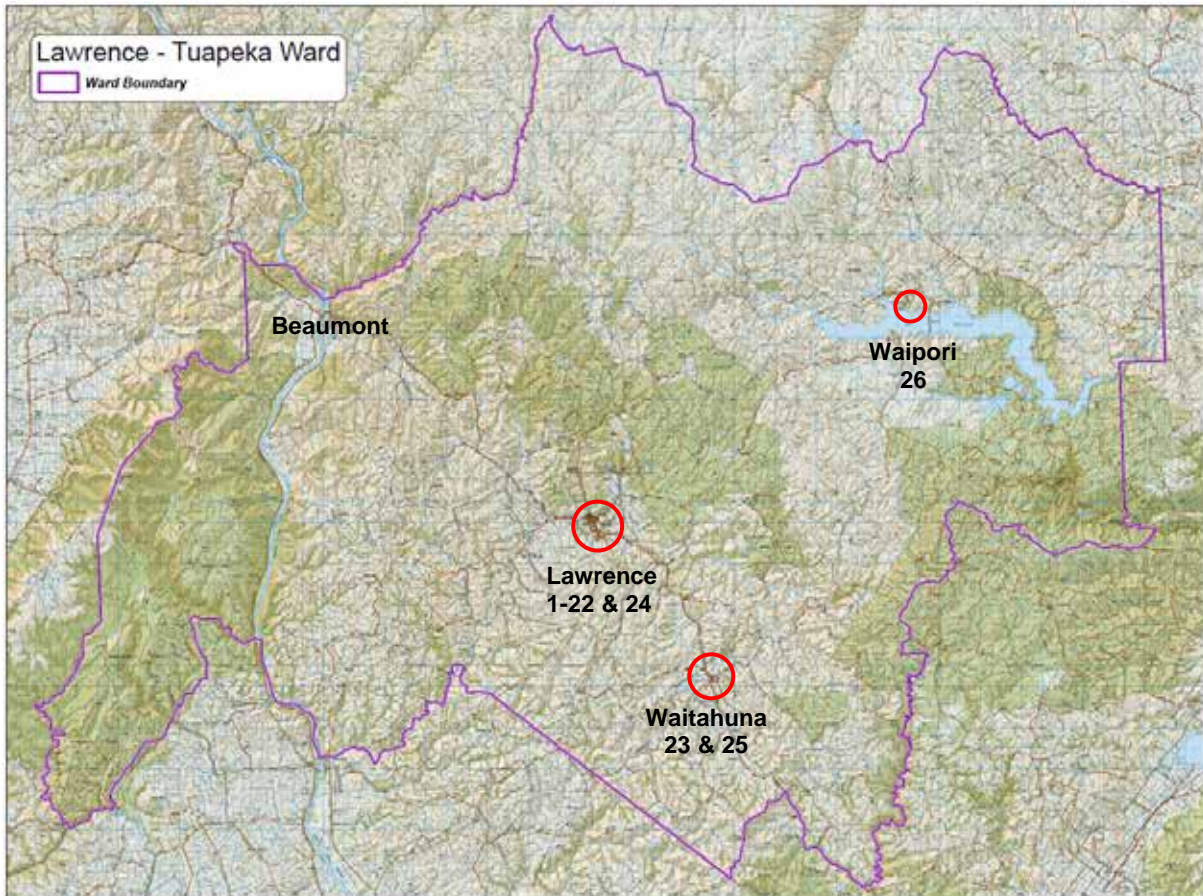
### 1.2 LAWRENCE-TUAPEKA WARD RESERVES

The Clutha District Council (Council) administers 26 reserves in the Lawrence–Tuapeka Ward (Table 1-1, Figure 1-1). This Reserve Management Plan, prepared in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977 (the Act), establishes the framework for the management and development of these reserves.

The current character of these reserves is a result of factors such as their history, size, location, form, connectedness, wider land use and facilities. This character reflects community input and activities over a long period and has informed Council's intentions for the future development and management of these reserves. This Reserve Management Plan also supports Council's wider strategy of promoting the district as an attractive place to work and live.

**Table 1-1** Council-administered reserves in the Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward

No.	Reserve	No.	Reserve
1	Market Reserve	14	Peel Street Reserve
2	Lawrence Peace Garden	15	Canna Street Reserve
3	Whitehaven Street Playground	16	Harrington Street Reserve (R104)
4	Simpson Park	17	Harrington Street Reserve (R109)
5	Lawrence Arches	18	Harrington Street Reserve (R108)
6	Harrington Place Rest Area	19	Thurso Street Reserve
7	Tuapeka Recreation Reserve	20	Greenbank Road Reserve
8	Lawrence Golf Course Reserve	21	Gabriel Street Reserve
9	Wetherstons Creek Plantation Reserve	22	Kilmarnock Street Reserve
10	Lawrence Reservoir Reserve	23	Waitahuna River Reserve Picnic Grounds
11	Mining Terraces Reserve	24	Lawrence Cemetery
12	Pladda Street Reserve	25	Waitahuna Cemetery
13	Solway Street Reserve	26	Waipori Cemetery



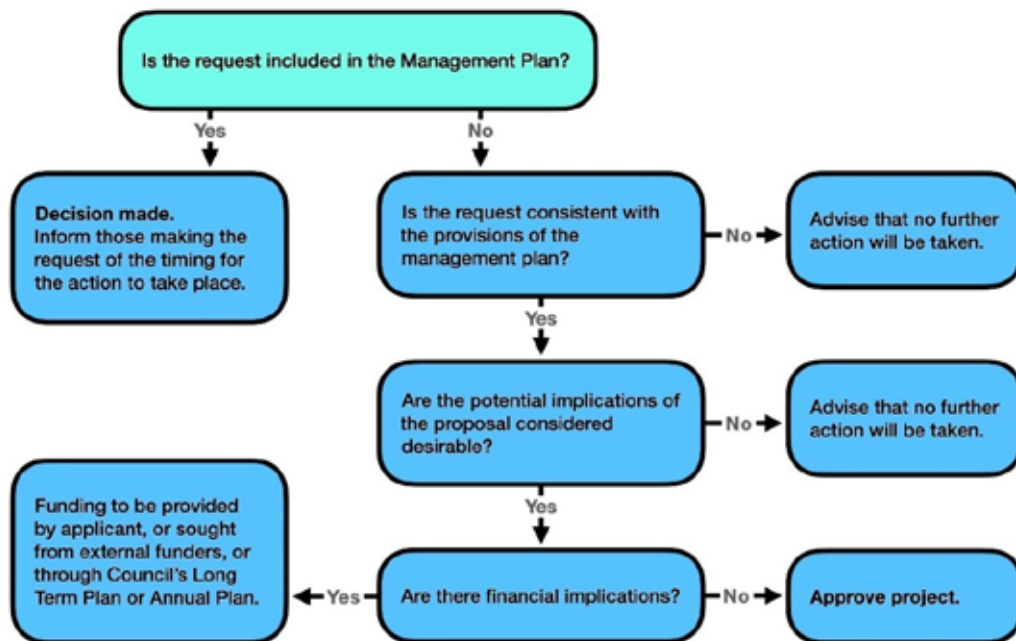
**Figure 1-1** Location of Council-administered reserves in the Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward, as listed in Table 1-1

**1.3 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

Consultation as part of the ‘*Our Place Lawrence–Tuapeka Community Plan*’ process was undertaken by Council from February to October 2020 to better understand the ways in which Council-owned and operated assets and land are used, their value to the community and aspirations for their future use. This Reserve Management Plan provides the framework to support the Community Plan and any reserve-based projects which arise from that work. Relevant Community Plan projects are listed in Appendix A4.0, and a dedicated page is available on Council’s website [\[link\]](#).

As part of the community plan consultation, comments were sought about what improvements or changes should be considered for parks and reserves, to help with the development of the Lawrence–Tuapeka Reserve Management Plan. This plan sets out the proposed framework for managing what activities are permitted or could be developed, as well as any issues or barriers. The decision-making process shown in Figure 1-2 will be used to decide on proposals not specifically provided for in this Reserve Management Plan.





**Figure 1-2** Decision-making process for proposals to develop Council-administered reserves

Approved projects, able to be achieved within existing budgets can generally proceed. Additional Council funding may be available via the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan process. Council will work alongside community groups and other agencies to progress some projects. The intention is that this Reserve Management Plan will enable future developments and projects to be undertaken.

## 1.4 SCOPE

This plan applies to all reserves in the Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward that are administered by Council and that are classified under the Act. These reserves are listed in Appendix A1.0.

Other parties also own and administer lands in the Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward that are registered as reserves, such as the Department of Conservation (DOC). This plan does not apply to those areas. However, it is noted that the goals and outcomes identified in DOC's Heritage and Visitor Strategy [\[link\]](#) generally align with the principles and objectives of this Reserve Management Plan (section 2.0). The goals identified in DOC's strategy are to Protect, Connect and Thrive.

There are other properties that are managed by Council for parks and recreation purposes that are not classified in accordance with Section 16 of the Act. It is Council's intention that the policies and plans in this Reserves Management Plan will also guide the use and development of these areas.

## 1.5 STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS

The Act governs the management and control of reserves in New Zealand. It also defines the purposes for which a reserve may be established and used, and the requirements for a reserve to be gazetted after approval by the Minister of Conservation.

Section 41 of the Act requires the administering body (Council) to prepare reserve management plans for reserves under its control, management, or administration. This Reserve Management Plan outlines Council's general intentions for the balanced use, development, and protection of all reserves in the Lawrence–Tuapeka Ward administered by Council.

The key responsibilities for Council under the Act are to:

- *Classify its reserve land according to its primary purpose.<sup>1</sup> The potential classifications set out in the Act (sections 17-23) are:*
  - *Recreation*
  - *Historic*
  - *Scenic*
  - *Nature*
  - *Scientific*
  - *Government purpose*
  - *Local purpose*
- *Manage the land for its primary purpose*
- *Prepare a management plan and keep it under continuous review; and*
- *Put in place formal agreements for leases and licenses.*

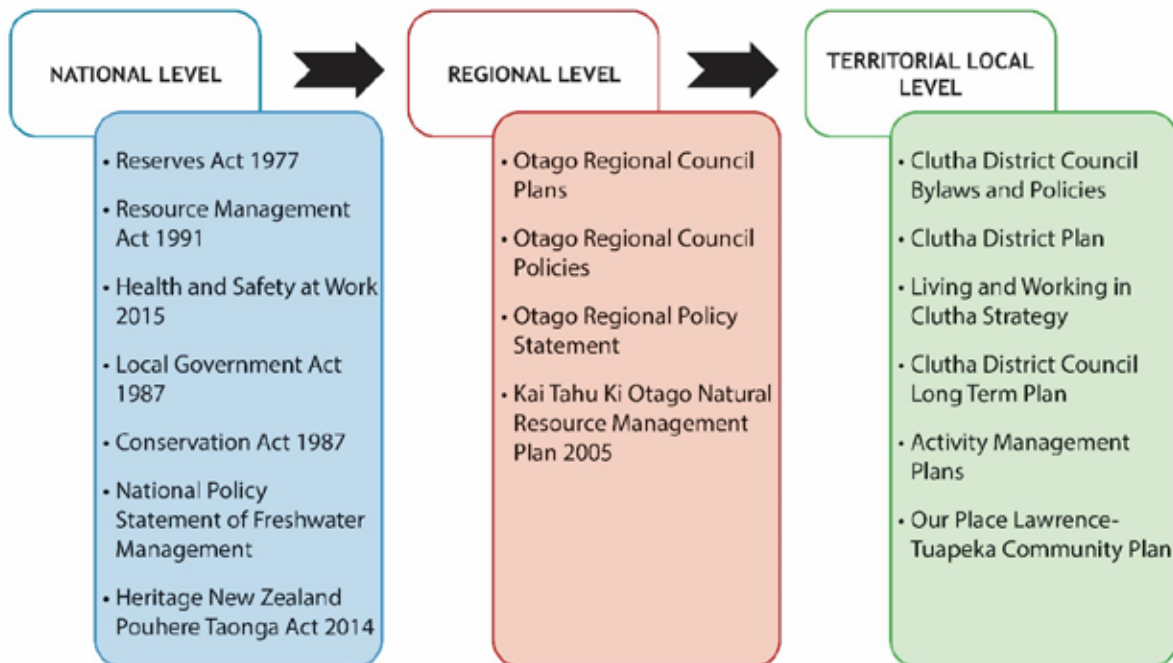
In addition, the Reserve Management Plan provides for and ensures the use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection, and preservation (as the case may require), and the development (as appropriate) of the reserve for the purpose for which it is classified (as required by section 41(3)).

To inform the development of the Reserve Management Plan, Council is required to consult with the community and iwi in order to identify their wishes and aspirations for the reserves. Consultation to inform this plan took place in mid-2021.

## 1.6 OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

Activities and developments undertaken on reserve land remain subject to other legislation. Regional, district and national policy and bylaws may apply depending on the status of the reserve and the nature of the activity being undertaken.

The provisions of the District Plan also apply to reserves and any activity which may be permitted by this Reserve Management Plan may need to be consented by Council or other authorities. The relevant pieces of legislation and policy are shown in Figure 1-3



**Figure 1-3** Relevant legislation and policy

<sup>1</sup> Appendix A6.0 describes these classifications more fully.

## **2.0 GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

### **2.1 BACKGROUND**

Clutha District Council manages and maintains a range of reserves, playgrounds and open spaces in Lawrence, and the Lawrence–Tuapeka Ward. Lawrence is labelled as the gateway to Central Otago and is a popular place for people to stop as they travel to other holiday destinations. Lawrence-Tuapeka is also a popular area for visitors due to its rich gold mining history dating back to the 1860's, and more recently due to cyclists using the Clutha Gold Trail. The area has a growing population, and the primary challenge will be understanding the current and future levels of use of these reserves, to efficiently and effectively provide for their future management.

There are seven principles which govern management and operational decisions relating to Council reserves. These principles recognise the importance of the natural environment to residents and visitors, and the desire to enable improvements that contribute to this environment. They are:

1. To provide for passive and active recreation and enjoyment of the natural environment
2. To encouraging walking and cycling activities
3. To seek to protect and enhance the environment
4. To facilitate nature tourism so residents and visitors can enjoy the environment.
5. To encourage native tree/species planting
6. To enable residents and visitors to be 'Tidy Kiwis'
7. To limit and control any building development.

The main outcome sought from this plan is to enhance the reserve areas in the Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward for the local community and visitors to the area. The objectives and policies in this plan seek to provide a framework to support the future maintenance and development of these reserves.

### **2.2 GOAL**

The vision for Council's reserves, playgrounds and open spaces is:

*"To provide a variety of passive and active recreational spaces that enable the local community and visitors to experience and enjoy the unique natural environment of Lawrence and the Lawrence–Tuapeka Ward."*

### **2.3 OBJECTIVES**

The objectives sought from this plan are as follows:

1. The unique character of the Lawrence–Tuapeka environment is reflected in the development, design, maintenance, and management of reserves.
2. Retain a high level of unrestricted access to reserves and encourage improved cycling and walking opportunities.
3. Provide a selection of reserves to meet a range of visitor and community needs for passive and active recreation.
4. Identify opportunities to enhance the facilities in the reserves for the enjoyment of the wider community and for those who visit Lawrence and Tuapeka.

The objectives and policies set out below apply across all reserves covered under this plan.

## **OBJECTIVE 1**

The unique character of the Lawrence–Tuapeka environment is reflected in the development, design, maintenance, and management of reserves.

### **POLICIES:**

1. *Development at Council reserves, playgrounds and open spaces should be consistent with the natural environment of Lawrence–Tuapeka.*
2. *Vegetation will be maintained in accordance with the standards and techniques of approved arboricultural practice.*
3. *Council will retain the overall responsibility for pest plant and pest animal maintenance of reserves unless otherwise specified.*
4. *Priority should be given to initiatives which prioritise the use of native plant species in any development activities.*
5. *Investigate the use of reserves for planting trees to offset carbon emissions and to qualify for central government grants.*
6. *Provide facilities that enable people to manage their waste effectively and avoid spreading litter and other waste in the environment.*
7. *Ensure that all leases and licenses meet the requirements of the Reserves Act 1977 and are in accordance with the Clutha District Plan and other Council policies and bylaws.*
8. *Council will actively manage leases on reserves and ensure that any negative impacts of new, current, or lapsed leases are mitigated.*
9. *Ensure the safety of reserve users and the protection of the environment by:*
  - a. *limiting the recreational riding of motorcycles and horses to designated areas within reserves, and*
  - b. *requiring active management of motocross activity to ensure the safe operation of potentially conflicting activities.*
10. *Only permit the grazing of horses or stock on reserves through a formal license or agreement.*
11. *Only permit excavation or earthworks on reserves with prior Council consent and ensure that physical works are designed to be compatible with the local environment.*
12. *Require approval from Council staff for the erection of signs on reserves by clubs or lease holders.*
13. *Identify heritage and cultural sites (including mana whenua culture and heritage) within reserves and provide for their protection and restoration as appropriate.*
14. *Ensure compliance with Council's Freedom Camping Bylaw 2021.*
15. *Ensure that playground equipment is maintained in fully operational condition.*

## **OBJECTIVE 2**

Retain a high level of unrestricted access to reserves and encourage improved cycling and walking opportunities.

### **POLICIES:**

1. *To improve walking and cycling opportunities throughout the Lawrence–Tuapeka Ward.*
2. *To increase awareness of reserves by providing signage to identify their location, facilities, and attractions.*
3. *To provide clear, safe links between the Clutha Gold Trail and nearby reserves.*

- 4. To allow for the development of recreational tracks and formal pathways on reserves, where the adverse effects on the environment can be adequately mitigated.*
- 5. To provide effective entry points and pathways into reserves to encourage public access.*
- 6. To consider access to, and linkages between reserves in land transport policy planning.*

### **OBJECTIVE 3**

Provide a selection of reserves to meet a range of community needs for passive and active recreation.

#### **POLICIES:**

- 1. Continue to review and confirm that all reserve classifications and boundaries (including any reclassification) meet this objective as appropriate.*
- 2. To protect and enhance the opportunities for people of all ages and physical abilities to access and enjoy the outdoor environment.*
- 3. To seek input from the disabled community when upgrading access to reserves.*
- 4. To provide areas for quiet reflection, including seating and shade.*
- 5. Provide for imaginative play that integrates playground structures with the surrounding natural environment.*
- 6. Promote and facilitate community use of Council open spaces for temporary events.*
- 7. Commercial recreational activity will be supported where appropriate and where the impact on the environment is controlled and the ability of the public to use and enjoy the reserves is not significantly affected.*

### **OBJECTIVE 4**

Identify opportunities to enhance the facilities in the reserves for the enjoyment of the wider community and for those who visit the Lawrence–Tuapeka Ward.

#### **POLICIES:**

- 1. Appropriate facilities will be identified, installed, and maintained to provide for the enjoyment of the community and visitors to reserves.*
- 2. Council will work with the community and the Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board to identify and implement opportunities to enhance reserves, including projects identified in the Our Place Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Plan.*
- 3. Council will consult with the community prior to any major development on a reserve.*
- 4. The establishment of native planting on reserves to encourage native wildlife will be supported.*
- 5. Opportunities to enhance passive and active surveillance of reserve areas will be identified and promoted.*
- 6. Implement the Clutha District Smokefree Public Places Policy, including maintaining 'smoke-free' signage within playgrounds, parks, sports grounds, and reserves.*

### 3.0 LAWRENCE AND TUAPEKA

Approximately 1,155 people live in the greater Lawrence–Tuapeka area, including Lawrence, Waitahuna, Beaumont, and surrounding rural farms. The Lawrence area is known for having a strong farming-based economy, an artistic and creative community, and rich historic aesthetics due to the town being the focal point of Otago’s 1860’s gold rush after the discovery of gold by Gabriel Read in May 1861.

There are significant resources regarding Lawrence covering many aspects in detail which are freely available, including from the Tuapeka Goldfields Museum and Lawrence Library. This section provides a summary of some key aspects.

#### 3.1 PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

The Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward is characterised by rolling to steep hill country, much of which drains towards the Clutha River/Mata-Au in the south, via the Tuapeka and Waitahuna rivers. The hills rise to almost 700m in the northern part of the ward but are considerably lower at 200-250m in the south. Lawrence is the largest settlement, with Waitahuna, Beaumont and Waipori Falls also located within the ward. State Highway 8 passes through Lawrence-Tuapeka, forming an important transport link between coastal and central Otago.

The climate of this area can reflect either coastal or inland weather systems. At times, weather patterns mimic Central Otago, with warm still days in summer and some snowfall in winter. The area can also experience coastal weather systems and cool southerlies. Annual average rainfall varies from about 750mm on lower-lying areas, to 1,000mm in more elevated areas. Annual average temperatures range between 8°C and 12°C, with occasional very hot days in summer, and regular frosts in winter.



Figure 3-1 View to the northeast over rolling hill country in the Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward (Google Earth)

#### 3.2 VEGETATION AND LAND USE

Prior to European settlement, tangata whenua would have been well aware of the Tuapeka area, passing through it regularly and harvesting resources from the land and rivers. However, there is little evidence of permanent occupation prior to the 1840’s when settlers began arriving



in Otago. Following favourable surveyors reports that the land was suitable for farming, settlers, mainly from Scotland, bought in sheep to be farmed for wool. By 1854, seven large runs were licensed in the Tuapeka area, totalling 150,000 ha. Two of the first permanent shepherds were George Munro and Peter Robertson.

The population remained low during the 1850's, and access would have been challenging, with few roads or settlements. However, following the discovery of gold in 1861, the population increased dramatically, to a point where the population of the Tuapeka area was double that of Dunedin's. This growth accelerated the development of Lawrence's infrastructure and services, and brought considerable wealth to the area.

Of interest is a quote from a correspondent of the Melbourne Argus who passed through the area around the time gold was discovered:

*“the silence that prevailed everywhere has something really awful about it. No birds twittered or screamed nor could one be seen... not an insect hummed, buzzed, or crawled. For wild animal life is hardly known in any part of Otago. In fact, the only wild birds I have seen in the country are one or two quails... In the matter of vegetation, saving the rich grass, the luxuriant flax, the tufts of speargrass, a similar dearth prevailed throughout the prospect.”*

This suggests that there were few areas of thick bush in the Tuapeka area at that time, perhaps as a result of earlier burning of the forest by Maori in their hunt for moa.

After the gold rush ended, Lawrence's surrounding land continued to be used for farming and forestry. In 1877 a branch railway line was completed from the main south line at Milton to Waitahuna and Lawrence, to provide better transport access between townships. The line was eventually extended to Roxburgh in 1928. The railway closed in 1968 due to reduced demand for the service, however, the Clutha Gold Cycle Trail follows the railway line to Roxburgh and will also extend to Milton and Waihola.

Farming and forestry remain the major economic activities in the Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward. Forestry has evolved from clearing land for farming, to managed plantations of mainly radiata pine. The main farming activity is grazing for sheep and for cattle. There have been local initiatives to restore small areas of wetland or native vegetation, and support for a Community Wetlands project is noted in the *Our Place Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Plan*.<sup>2</sup> The privately owned Bellview Wetlands Reserve is also located in Lawrence.

### **3.3 CULTURAL VALUES**

At the time of the 2018 census, Lawrence's population was approximately 450, with 19% of Maori descent. Domestic and some international migration has continued to bring in people from other cultures and backgrounds in recent years. However, there are still many families with a long connection to the Lawrence-Tuapeka area – particularly farming families. The NZ Century Farms and Station Awards programme is based in Lawrence, and a celebration is held in the town in May each year to honour families from across New Zealand, for their significant achievement of 100 or more years in farming.

Cultural values are also enhanced through the Havelock Commonage (authorised by its own 1905 Act of Parliament) which provides grants towards community facilities and amenities “for

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<sup>2</sup> See Appendix A4.0, Project 10.

the benefit of inhabitants of the town<sup>3</sup> generally". The music to God Defend New Zealand was written by John J. Woods, a Lawrence schoolteacher, in 1876.

Lawrence itself has a unique character - many buildings have retained their early style, and it is an artists and photographer's paradise with "many surprises and full of character". As previously noted by a local author<sup>4</sup> "the main street has a mix of buildings, styles and textures, private houses and gardens, miscellaneous shops, public buildings, hotels, ruins and open spaces". Her publication goes on to describe Lawrence as "a tranquil place to live, it is a town where people matter, it has a sense of community spirit". Although her book was published in 1979, it could be said that these descriptions are still valid today.

### **3.3.1 Chinese settlement**

Chinese miners came quite late to the Lawrence goldfields. It was not until 1865 they arrived in any numbers, after they were invited by influential Otago citizens to come from Victoria, and re-work the Otago goldfields. The invitation came about because of a labour shortage – European numbers had peaked in about 1864 but had dramatically dropped again by the end of 1865. Before then, Chinese had been actively discouraged from coming to Otago. However, by 1865, there was a general belief that Otago was languishing for want of population, as miners left to return home, or moved on to other fields.

## **3.4 TOURISM**

The local community has realised the opportunity for tourism, based on Lawrence's previous gold mining history. The historic Lawrence township preserves the past through several original historic buildings such as the courthouse, churches, accommodation stays and the Anthem house, and these serve as a reminder of past lifestyle and provide a reason to explore the streets.

Several property owners have redeveloped and preserved old dwellings for bed and breakfast and lodge accommodation purposes. The free and easy accessibility to various monuments, the Lawrence Heritage Trail, the Chinese Camp, and gold mining equipment spread throughout the township have proven to be a major attraction, encouraging visitors and those passing by to explore Lawrence.

The *Our Place Lawrence Community Plan* includes "Protection and enhancement of historical buildings and other heritage items in Lawrence" as a key outcome, and this was ranked highly by residents during the consultation process.

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<sup>3</sup> The town of Havelock (Waitahuna)

<sup>4</sup> Daphne Lemon, 1979. *The Stars in Orion, Tuapeka then and now*, John McIndoe Printers, Dunedin.



## 4.0 THE RESERVES

Clutha District Council is responsible for several reserves throughout the Lawrence–Tuapeka Ward, mainly in the populated centres. They fulfil a variety of purposes, including children’s playgrounds, recreation areas, and the provision of community amenities. Council also looks after several cemeteries, current and historic, which are listed in section 5. Legal descriptions of reserves and details of existing leases can be found in in this document’s appendices. The location of Council reserves and cemeteries is shown in Figure 1-1.

### 4.1 LAWRENCE RESERVES

The reserves described in this section are located within, or on the margins of Lawrence. Most are used regularly and are well-known within the local community as publicly owned recreational areas.

#### 4.1.1 Market Reserve

**Description:** This gazetted Market Reserve on State Highway 8 consists of two main sections separated by farm fencing (Figure 4-3). The eastern section is a recreation area that links with the Lawrence section of the Clutha Gold Trail Cycleway (Figure 4-1). The reserve is situated on the outer edge of Lawrence and acts as a popular resting area for traffic, as well as a picnic area for families. Other key features of this popular reserve include a motor-home dumping station, heritage billboard display, various seating areas and a gravel vehicle pull-in bay with a substantial amount of parking space. The western section is currently fenced off and used for farming purposes (Figure 4-2).

**Maintenance:** The eastern recreational reserve is maintained under Council’s greenspace contract. Council does not maintain the western section of the reserve.

**Development:** This reserve is located between the Clutha Gold Trail and State Highway 8 and is well-used by cyclists and motorists. However, there is scope for additional community involvement to enhance the area and to increase usage. These and any other proposed options will be considered by Council in the context of the area’s reserve status, and the objectives and policies set out in this Reserves Management Plan.



Figure 4-1 The eastern part of the Market Reserve



**Figure 4-2** The western part of the Market Reserve



**Figure 4-3** Market Reserve. Top: the designated boundary of the reserve; Bottom: the areas utilised for farming (western section) and recreation (eastern section).



**4.1.2 Lawrence Peace Garden**

**Description:** The Peace Garden is a special area within Lawrence. With a memorial at the centre, it serves as a quiet place of rest and contemplation. The reserve is well used in the summer season as it is a well maintained, sunny spot with play equipment for children. It is easily accessible, being located opposite the Lawrence Library and beside State Highway 8. This Council-owned land contains several park benches, gated access points, rubbish bins, a swing set, heritage billboard signage and a war memorial feature.

The central feature, a cupola which houses an obelisk, was unveiled in 1925 and commemorates soldiers from Lawrence and the surrounding area who gave their lives in the two World Wars, as well as the Boer War. A wreath-laying ceremony takes place at the Peace Garden every year, as part of Anzac Day commemorations.

**Maintenance:** This Council-owned land is maintained under Council’s greenspace contract.

**Development:** No developments are planned. Council’s intention is to continue maintaining the area and help with any enhancements the community may at times feel necessary.



**Figure 4-4** Lawrence Peace Garden



**Figure 4-5** Unveiling of the Lawrence Peace Garden in 1925. Source: Tuapeka Goldfields Museum.

### 4.1.3 Whitehaven Street Playground

**Description:** The Whitehaven Street Playground is centrally located in Lawrence on State Highway 8. Children and their families regularly utilise the playground which includes several seating areas, various play equipment and rubbish bins. Shade sails covering the playground are applied in the warmer seasons to protect children from the sun. The playground perimeter is not completely fenced and does not offer onsite parking; however, various parking spaces are available on nearby local streets. The old Lawrence Plunket rooms are also situated on this Council-owned land. This building has previously been leased to a local family and used as a retail shop selling locally made items.

**Management and Maintenance:** Clutha District Council is responsible for the Council property and the playground area is maintained under Council’s greenspace contract. The old Plunket Rooms are located to the south of the playground area, and this building is privately owned. The land beneath the building was let under a five-year formal lease to the Plunket building owners, which finished in June 2021. The building owners are currently seeking a lease renewal for a longer term.

**Development:** Council’s intention is to maintain, develop and upgrade this playground as a children’s play area, in conjunction with the community. The *Our Place Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Plan* includes a project to improve safety and to upgrade playground equipment. Feedback through the consultation process was that a drinking fountain should be added. Any improvements will be considered by Council in the context of its status as Council-owned land, and the objectives and policies set out in this Reserves Management Plan.

Council may continue to consider applications to lease the land beneath the privately-owned building which is located on the reserve. Alternatively, Council could consider the subdivision and sale of the land around the Plunket rooms.



Figure 4-6 Whitehaven Street Playground Reserve



**4.1.4 Simpson Park**

**Description:** Simpson Park is a gazetted Recreation Reserve located next to Lawrence Area School, on Harrington Street with parking and access via Thurso Street. The park is a well-used space within the Lawrence community. Local and visiting groups use the facility for various social, cultural, sporting, and educational purposes. It is easily accessible for local residents and the area is a central meeting point within the community.

The reserve area comprises Council and Department of Conservation (DOC) land, with the adjacent Simpson Park Hall situated on Ministry of Education land (Figure 4-7). The southern portion and a centre strip are owned by Council and are leased to Simpson Park Sporting Complex Inc. (see Appendix A2.0 for lease agreement details). The remaining two portions are administered by DOC.

**Maintenance:** Simpson Park recreational reserve is a privately managed and maintained sports complex, Council does not maintain the reserve.

**Development:** No developments are currently planned by Council. However, Simpson Park is included within the *Our Place Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Plan*, to emphasise support for projects which aim to improve community facilities (Appendix A4.0, Project 10).



**Figure 4-7** Simpson Park Reserve. The portions administered by DOC are marked in brown.

**4.1.5 Lawrence Arches**

**Description:** The Lawrence Arches Reserve is a gazetted Public Utility Reserve on the corner of Rea Street and State Highway 8. The Council owned reserve was the previous site for the old Lawrence Community Pool and is also known as the Pool Reserve. The pool was filled and grassed over in redevelopment and is currently a recreational area with part of the old pool building’s framework forming arches as a visual feature for aesthetic enhancement. The green space development was a Lawrence Heritage & Cultural Charitable Trust project and was given the name ‘The Lawrence Arches’. The reserve features bench seating at the far end from the highway.

**Maintenance:** The reserve is maintained under Council’s greenspace contract.

**Development:** Community Plan consultation in 2020 identified the Lawrence Arches Reserve as ‘less important’ than other reserves, with many residents seeing this site as having potential for further development. Suggestions for the reserve included a barbeque area with additional seating, information panels, toilets, basketball hoop, as well as using it for movie nights or a community vegetable garden.

Feedback through the Reserve Management Plan consultation process in 2021 was that a community group should be formed to promote and manage the use of the Lawrence Arches reserve, and that any proposals for additional facilities should be considered in the context of the adjacent Harrington Place Reserve (section 4.1.6).

Council does not currently have plans to develop this reserve further. Any improvements put forward by the community will be considered by Council in the context of its reserve status, and the objectives and policies set out in this Reserves Management Plan.

Although the reserve’s use has changed, Council does not intend to change the reserve’s status from Public Utility to Recreation reserve.



**Figure 4-8** Lawrence Arches Reserve. Note the old pool building shown in the image has now been demolished.



#### 4.1.6 Harrington Place Rest Area

**Description:** The Harrington Place Rest Area is a designated Road Reserve at the eastern entrance to Lawrence. The site features a covered picnic kiosk, play area and picnic tables.

**Maintenance:** Council maintains the area under its greenspace contract.

**Development:** Suggestions for this reserve put forward through Community Plan consultation in 2020 included improving its appearance and accessibility (as it forms the eastern entrance to the town) and improving the BBQ/picnic facilities. Council does not currently have plans to make significant improvement to this reserve.



Figure 4-9 Harrington Place Rest Area



Figure 4-10 View towards the Lawrence Arches from the Harrington Place Rest Area

**4.1.7 Lawrence Golf Course Reserve**

**Description:** This Local Purpose Reserve is leased to the Lawrence Golf Club (Figure 4-11). Part of the Golf Course also lies on the Tuapeka Recreation Reserve (to the north), and the Wetherstons Creek Plantation Reserve (to the west) (Figure 4-12).

The Lawrence Golf Club provides a significant social element within the Lawrence–Tuapeka community. Situated on Waipori Road, the golf course is close to Lawrence’s main street, allowing easy access for local club members. The Lawrence Golf Club was established in 1894, making it Otago’s second oldest golf club. The club’s facilities continue to be well enjoyed by the local community and club members throughout the district. The clubrooms and car park are situated within the gazetted reserve boundary.

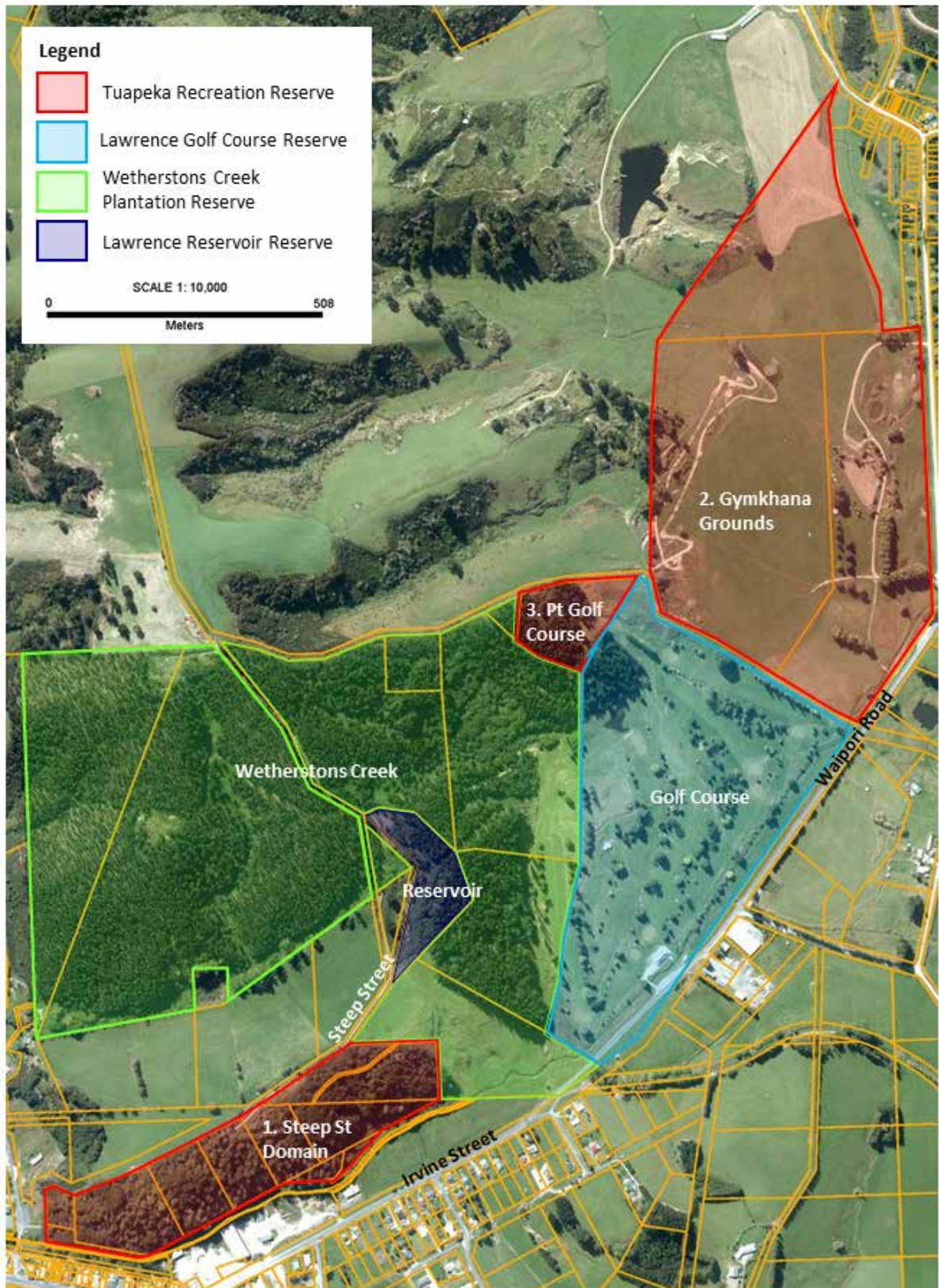
**Management and Maintenance:** The reserve is on a 33-year lease to the Lawrence Golf Club Incorporated, expiring in 2043 (see Appendix A2.0). Lawrence Golf Club Incorporated has the responsibility of privately maintaining the reserve.

**Development:** No developments planned. Council’s intention is to continue to allow for the provision of a Golf Course on this reserve.



**Figure 4-11** Lawrence Golf Club





**Figure 4-12** The Lawrence Golf Course, Tuapeka Recreation, Lawrence Reservoir, and Wetherstons Creek Plantation reserves

#### 4.1.8 Tuapeka Recreation Reserve

**Description:** Tuapeka Recreation Reserve is a large, disjointed, multi-purpose area on the north side of Lawrence (Figure 4-12). The reserve comprises both Clutha District Council and DOC land, and is gazetted by various sections as Recreational Reserve, and as Local Purpose Reserve. The reserve is made up of three separate sections:

##### *Section 1: Steep Street Domain*

This section of the Tuapeka Recreation Reserve includes land administered by both DOC and Council, which is forested and used as a natural space for walking or biking. This section is more commonly referred to as the Steep Street Domain (Figure 4-12). The entrance to this section is from Gabriel's Gully Road, where there are nine car parks with one mobility park, a billboard with local history displayed, and old gold mining equipment (Figure 4-13). The reserve is a well utilised space in the Lawrence community, and the reserve provides a link to the Wetherstons Creek Reserve. A fitness course was constructed on the reserve in 1990 and refurbished in 2012.



**Figure 4-13** Lower part of the Steep Street Domain

##### *Section 2: Gymkhana Grounds*

This north-eastern section of the reserve comprises three large parcels, which are separated from the Lawrence Golf Course Reserve by an unformed legal road (Figure 4-12). This section is known locally as the Gymkhana Grounds, and there is a formal lease to the Lawrence Gymkhana and Tuapeka Harness Racing clubs which expires in 2026 (see Appendix A2.0).

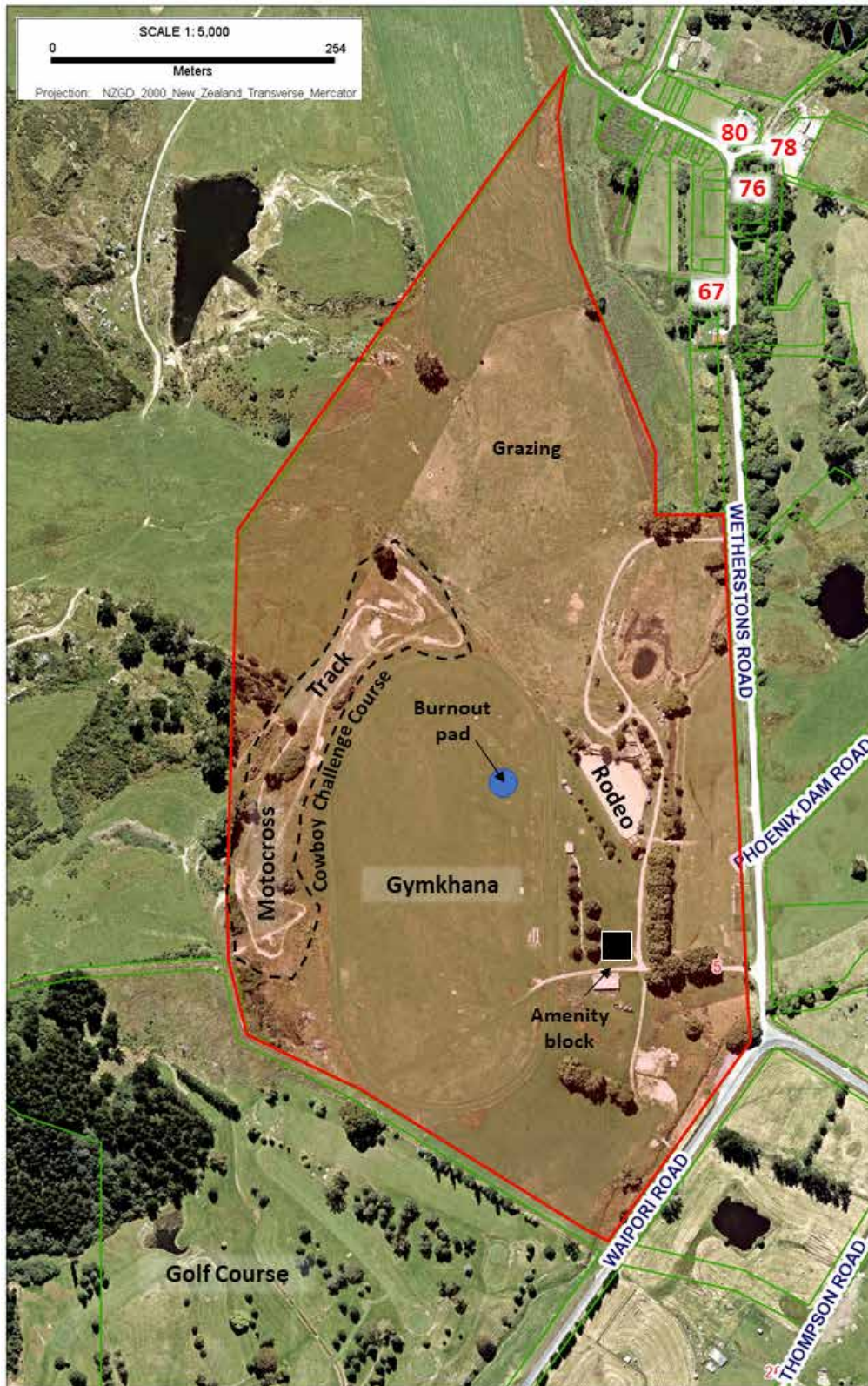
Through this reserve management plan, the following activities are provided for at this reserve:

- *Activities defined in the lease:* The lease provides for gymkhana event and trotting meetings, although trotting meetings have not been held on this reserve for many years.
- *Other organised events:* There are a range of organised events which have historically occurred on an annual basis at, or from the Gymkhana Grounds, by clubs which are affiliated to the lease holder. This includes the Lawrence Rodeo, a dog sale, ¼ mile drags, duathlon, hunting competition, a 'Farmarama' event, and a car show.
- *Other activities:* Other activities provided for on this reserve include 'cowboy challenge' (horse riding) and motocross. Courses which provide for these



activities have been created by the Lawrence Cowboy Challenge Club and Lawrence Bike Club, and these activities include regular training and occasional organised events.

The key facilities and activity areas on this section of the reserve are shown on Figure 4-14. The community has made improvements to the Gymkhana Grounds, including an amenity block (Figure 4-15) and a 'burnout' pad (Figure 4-16).



**Figure 4-14** Gymkhana Grounds, showing the location of key facilities and activities



**Figure 4-15** Amenity block and utility shed on the Gymkhana Grounds section of the Tuapeka Recreation Reserve



**Figure 4-16** Part of the Gymkhana Grounds section of the Tuapeka Recreation Reserve.

*Section 3: Part Lawrence Golf Course*

The third section lies to the north of the Lawrence Golf Course Reserve. It is covered by a mix of bush and long grass. This section is leased to, and forms part of the Lawrence Golf Club

**Management and maintenance:**

*Section 1: Steep Street Domain*

A local volunteer group maintains the bush tracks and fitness trail within the Steep Street Domain, and funding for improvements has previously been provided through the Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board. The main entrance to the reserve from Gabriel’s Gully Road (Figure 4-13) is maintained under Council’s greenspace contract.

*Section 2: Gymkhana Grounds*

As the lease holder, the Lawrence Gymkhana Club and Tuapeka Harness Racing clubs maintain this section of the reserve and manage its use for a range of activities, as described above.

*Section 3: Part Lawrence Golf Course.* This section is maintained by the Lawrence Golf Club.



## Development:

### *Section 1: Steep Street Domain*

This section of the reserve is strategically located near the junction of the Clutha Gold Trail, Gabriel's Gully Road, and State Highway 8. The *Our Place Lawrence–Tuapeka Community Plan* includes a project to make improvements to this reserve, particularly the car park and riverbank areas. This reserve forms a public access link to the Wetherstons Creek Plantation Reserve, where potential improvements were also identified through the community plan process.

### *Section 2: Gymkhana Grounds*

As noted above, the local community has made some significant improvements to the Gymkhana Grounds in recent years and has additional plans it is wanting to implement. As for all reserves, any proposed improvements will be considered by Council in the context of the recreational reserve status, and the goal, objectives and policies set out in this Reserves Management Plan.

Due to concerns raised over the use of this reserve for motocross, the administering body (Council) will require a management plan to be developed for this activity. The form of this plan is to be determined between Council and the Lawrence Bike Club, with involvement of other stakeholders including neighbours and other leaseholders. The plan will include conditions and restrictions to manage this activity, which may include restricting access where necessary, and ensuring the safe operation of potentially conflicting activities. Relevant objectives and policies are listed in section 2.0. A legal opinion which relates to the use of this reserve for motocross activity is included as Appendix A7.0.

*Section 3: Part Lawrence Golf Course:* Council's intention is to continue to allow for the provision of a Golf Course on this section of the reserve.

#### **4.1.9 Wetherstons Creek Plantation Reserve**

**Description:** Wetherstons Creek Plantation is gazetted as a Local Purpose Reserve (Plantation) and can be accessed via the Steep Street section of the Tuapeka Recreation Reserve. Most of the reserve is currently planted in relatively mature *pinus radiata* (Figure 4-17).



**Figure 4-17** View towards the Wetherstons Creek Plantation Reserve (the forested area)

**Management and Maintenance:** City Forests Limited previously leased the forested part of this reserve, although this lease has now lapsed. There is currently no active management or maintenance program for the forestry block.

The southernmost part of the reserve (situated between the Steep Street Domain and the Golf Course) is currently fenced off and used for grazing. There is currently no formal agreement in place for this use.

**Development:** Council’s intention is to enable the community to develop the forested part of this reserve into an active recreation area. The *Our Place Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Plan* includes a project to develop a trail network and associated improvements (e.g., seats, signs) at this reserve. Any proposed physical works or improvements will be considered by Council in the context of its reserve status, and the objectives and policies set out in this Reserves Management Plan. The Community Plan notes that a community group interested in progressing this project has not yet been identified.

Any future lease arrangements for this reserve should ensure that a trail network can be established and accessed.

**4.1.10 Lawrence Reservoir Reserve**

**Description:** This area is gazetted as a Local Purpose Reserve (Reservoir Site) and is accessed via the Steep Street and Wetherstons Creek Reserves (Figure 4-12). The reserve has previously been used as part of forestry operations in this area and is no longer used as a reservoir (Figure 4-18).

**Maintenance:** Council does not maintain the reserve.

**Development:** None planned by Council. Potential community-led improvements within the adjacent Wetherstons Creek Plantation may also require work to be undertaken in the Lawrence Reservoir Reserve. Council’s approach towards any proposed developments would be consistent across both reserves.



**Figure 4-18** View of the Lawrence Reservoir Reserve

## 4.2 LAWRENCE RESERVES (UNDEVELOPED)

The reserves described in this section are all currently used as farmland or undeveloped paddocks.

### 4.2.1 Mining Terraces Reserve

**Description:** The Mining Terraces Reserve is a gazetted Recreation Reserve owned by Council. The reserve is located opposite the Gabriel Read Memorial, itself situated on land administered by DOC (Figure 4-19). The mining terraces located along Gabriel's Gully Road are a significant historic feature, and are a reminder of Lawrence in the 1860's.

**Maintenance:** Council does not maintain the Mining Terraces Reserve and the land is currently fenced off and used for farming purposes.

**Development:** No developments currently planned. The *Our Place Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Plan* includes a project to develop the nearby Gabriel's Gully Reserve as a key destination within the Clutha District. If required, the Mining Terraces Reserve could potentially form part of such a development.

Alternatively, Council could consider the revocation of reserve status and potential sale of the Mining Terraces Reserve, if this was consistent with the objectives and policies contained within this Reserve Management Plan. Revocation of a gazetted reserve needs to follow a statutory process that requires the Minister of Conservations involvement and approval (Appendix A5.0).



**Figure 4-19** Mining Terraces Reserve (left) and view of the reserve from the Gabriel Read Memorial (right)



### 4.2.2 Pladda Street Reserve

**Description:** The Pladda Street Reserve is a gazetted Public Utility Reserve owned by Clutha District Council. The reserve is currently undeveloped and is used for grazing, as part of a larger, privately-owned paddock (Figure 4-20). The 1,012m<sup>2</sup> reserve is surrounded by private homes and farmland.

**Maintenance:** Council does not maintain the reserve, and it is currently utilised as farmland. Council remains the landowner.

**Development:** No developments are planned. Feedback through the consultation process was that revocation of the reserve status could be considered, in consultation with the Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board. Revocation of a gazetted reserve needs to follow a statutory process that requires the Minister of Conservations involvement and approval (Appendix A5.0).



**Figure 4-20** Left: Aerial photo, showing the boundary of the Pladda Street Reserve. Right: View towards the reserve from Annan Street.

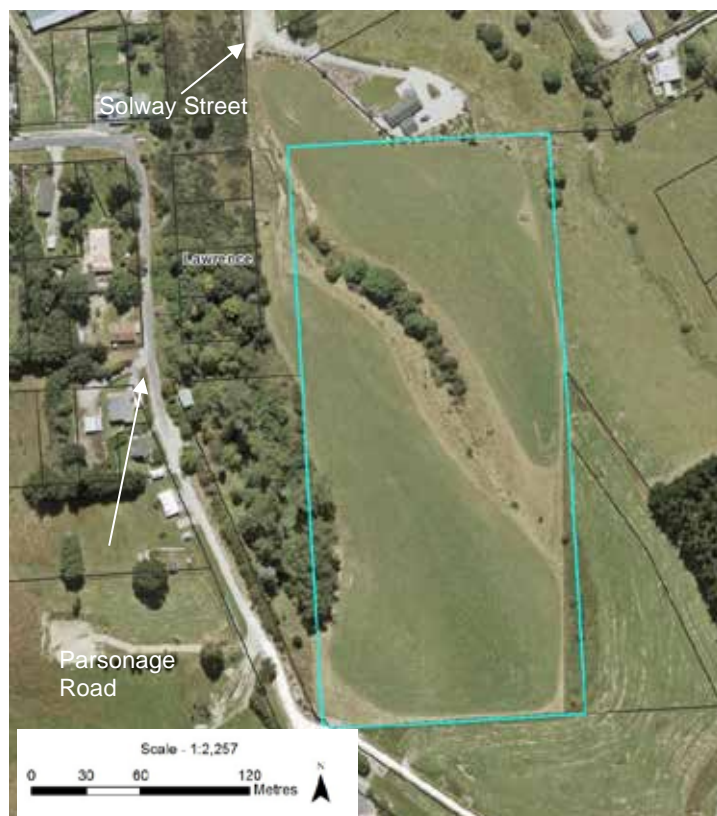
### 4.2.3 Solway Street Reserve

**Description:** A gazetted Public Utility Reserve owned by Clutha District Council is located between Solway Street and Parsonage Road (Figure 4-21 and Figure 4-22). Clutha District Council own the 4.0469 ha area of reserve land and it is currently leased out for farming purposes to G. Kenny (Appendix A2.0).

**Maintenance:** Council does not maintain the reserve, and it is currently utilised as farmland. Council remains the landowner.

**Development:** No developments are planned. Feedback through the consultation process was that revocation of the reserve status could be considered, in consultation with the Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board. Revocation of a gazetted reserve needs to follow a statutory process that requires the Minister of Conservations involvement and approval (Appendix A5.0).





**Figure 4-21** Aerial photo, showing boundary of the Solway Street Reserve.



**Figure 4-22** View towards the lower part of the Solway Street Reserve, from Parsonage Road

#### 4.2.4 Peel Street Reserve

**Description:** This gazetted Recreation Reserve located on Peel Street, between Rea Street and Canna Street is a single 3,162m<sup>2</sup> parcel of land (Figure 4-23). The reserve and adjoining road reserve is currently fenced and used for grazing. There is no known formal or informal agreement in place for the current use of this land. The upper part of the reserve is reasonably flat, while the southern part slopes away towards Canna Street.

**Maintenance:** Council does not maintain the reserve, and it is currently utilised as farmland. Council remains the landowner. Council has recently upgraded the footpath on Peel Street, along the eastern side of this reserve.

**Development:** No developments are planned. Feedback through the consultation process was that revocation of the reserve status could be considered, in consultation with the Lawrence-

Tuapeka Community Board. Revocation of a gazetted reserve needs to follow a statutory process that requires the Minister of Conservations involvement and approval (Appendix A5.0).



Figure 4-23 Gazetted reserves on Peel Street and Canna Street

#### 4.2.5 Canna Street Reserve

**Description:** This gazetted reserve located on Canna Street is a 1,012 m<sup>2</sup> gazetted Public Utility Reserve (Figure 4-23). The reserve is separated from the Peel Street reserve by a fence and is similarly utilised for grazing. There is no known formal or informal agreement in place for the use of this land.

**Maintenance:** Council does not maintain the reserve, and it is currently utilised as farmland. Council remains the landowner.

**Development:** No developments are planned. Feedback through the consultation process was that revocation of the reserve status could be considered, in consultation with the Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board. Revocation of a gazetted reserve needs to follow a statutory process that requires the Minister of Conservations involvement and approval (Appendix A5.0).

#### 4.2.6 Harrington Street Reserve (R104)

**Description:** This reserve on the eastern boundary of the Lawrence wastewater treatment plant (Figure 4-24) comprises twenty 1,012m<sup>2</sup> parcels of Recreation Reserve that were gazetted as part of the Simpson Park Recreation Reserve. The land is currently fenced off as



a paddock and used as farmland through an informal agreement with Council. The land is flat with a grouping of trees on the far end of the paddock.

**Management and Maintenance:** Council does not maintain the reserve, and it is currently utilised as farmland. Council remains the landowner.

**Development:** No developments are planned. Feedback through the consultation process was that Harrington Street Reserve R104 should be retained for public utility purposes.



**Figure 4-24** Greenbank Road and Gabriel Street reserves, and Harrington Street reserves R104, R108 and R109



**Figure 4-25** View of Harrington Street Reserve R104 from Harrington Street

### 4.2.7 Harrington Street Reserve (R109)

**Description:** This reserve is also located on Harrington Street, and as for R104, was gazetted as part of the Simpson Park Recreation Reserve. The R109 reserve comprises three separate areas of gazetted Recreation Reserve.

The first area (R109-1) is 8,052m<sup>2</sup> of flat land, surveyed as eight separate parcels, which lies on the north side of Harrington Street (Figure 4-24), forming part of the Lawrence wastewater treatment plant.

The second area (R109-2) is located on the south side of Harrington Street, is also 8,052m<sup>2</sup>, and is also separated into 8 parcels.

The third area (R109-3) of 8,189m<sup>2</sup> also lies on the south side of Harrington Street and has been landscaped by the adjoining landowner. The second and third areas are more elevated, and generally slope towards the north (Figure 4-26).

**Maintenance:** The first and second areas are utilised as farmland. Council remains the landowner but does not maintain the reserve. The third landscaped area is currently maintained by the adjacent landowners.

**Development:** No developments are planned. Feedback through the consultation process was that revocation of the reserve status of R109-2 and R109-3 could be considered, in consultation with the Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board. Revocation of a gazetted reserve needs to follow a statutory process that requires the Minister of Conservations involvement and approval (Appendix A5.0). Other feedback through the consultation process was that Harrington Street Reserve R109-1 should be retained for public utility purposes.



Figure 4-26 View from the Harrington / Kilmarnock Street intersection

### 4.2.8 Harrington Street Reserve (R108)

**Description:** Harrington Street Reserve is a gazetted Recreation Reserve owned by Clutha District Council. The reserve is a triangular shape that is surrounded by road reserve land (Figure 4-24).

**Maintenance:** Council does not maintain the reserve, and it is currently utilised as farmland. Council remains the landowner.

**Development:** No developments are planned. Feedback through the consultation process was that revocation of the reserve status could be considered, in consultation with the Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board. Revocation of a gazetted reserve needs to follow a statutory process that requires the Minister of Conservations involvement and approval (Appendix A5.0).

#### 4.2.9 Thurso Street Reserve

**Description:** Thurso Street Reserve is a single triangular parcel of Council-owned, gazetted Recreation Reserve. The reserve is surrounded by road reserve land adjacent to private farmland off Ardrossan Street making the reserve inaccessible to the public (Figure 4-27).

**Management and maintenance:** Council does not maintain the reserve, and it is currently utilised as farmland. Council remains the landowner.

**Development:** No developments are planned. Feedback through the consultation process was that revocation of the reserve status could be considered, in consultation with the Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board. Revocation of a gazetted reserve needs to follow a statutory process that requires the Minister of Conservations involvement and approval (Appendix A5.0).



Figure 4-27 Thurso Street Reserve

#### 4.2.10 Greenbank Road Reserve

**Description:** A gazetted Public Utility reserve owned by Clutha District Council is located on Greenbank Road (Figure 4-24). The reserve is utilised as farmland by the neighbouring landowner. The reserve is not easily identifiable from the road as it forms part of a larger paddock which is surrounded by vegetation.

**Maintenance:** The reserve is currently being used as farmland, and Clutha District Council does not maintain it.



**Development:** No developments are planned. Feedback through the consultation process was that revocation of the reserve status could be considered, in consultation with the Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board. Revocation of a gazetted reserve needs to follow a statutory process that requires the Minister of Conservations involvement and approval (Appendix A5.0).

#### **4.2.11 Gabriel Street Reserve**

**Description:** A gazetted Public Utility reserve owned by Clutha District Council is located on Gabriel Street (Figure 4-24). The reserve is situated on the stretch of road between the Lawrence Cemetery and the Lawrence wastewater treatment plant. The reserve is currently utilised as farmland by the neighbouring landowner. The reserve is not easily identifiable as it forms part of a larger paddock.

**Maintenance:** The reserve is currently being used as farmland, and Clutha District Council does not maintain it.

**Development:** No developments are planned. Feedback through the consultation process was that revocation of the reserve status could be considered, in consultation with the Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board. Revocation of a gazetted reserve needs to follow a statutory process that requires the Minister of Conservations involvement and approval (Appendix A5.0).

#### **4.2.12 Kilmarnock Street Reserve**

**Description:** A gazetted Public Utility Reserve is located on Kilmarnock Street Lawrence (Figure 4-28). The reserve is used as private farmland by the neighbouring landowner. The 1,012m<sup>2</sup> reserve is on sloping land and has a large tree on the lower section (Figure 4-29).

**Maintenance:** Council does not maintain the reserve, and it is currently utilised as farmland. Council remains the landowner.

**Development:** No developments are planned. Feedback through the consultation process was that revocation of the reserve status could be considered, in consultation with the Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board. Revocation of a gazetted reserve needs to follow a statutory process that requires the Minister of Conservations involvement and approval (Appendix A5.0).



**Figure 4-28** Kilmarnock Street Reserve



**Figure 4-29** View of the Kilmarnock Street Reserve, from Kilmarnock Street

### 4.3 WAITAHUNA RESERVES

#### 4.3.1 Waitahuna River Reserve & Picnic Grounds

**Description:** The Waitahuna River Reserve is located on the southern bank of the Waitahuna River, with access via a gravel track from the corner of Boyldon Street and Waitahuna Gully Road (Figure 4-30). The reserve includes a publicly accessible picnic area and playground, and basic toilet facilities. This attractive riverside area is well utilised by local residents and is located close to State Highway 8. The Clutha Gold Trail is intended to pass through this reserve, once completed.

Although the reserve is considered by locals as a single entity, it comprises three separate parts:

1. *The Domain (an area of gazetted Recreation Reserve)*
2. *Council-owned land originally designated as road reserve but now functioning as part of the reserve*
3. *A section of the Crown esplanade reserve land on the banks of the Waitahuna River.*

These areas are identified on Figure 4-30. The surveyed area of Council-owned land (Part 2) is estimated as 939m<sup>2</sup>, while the gazetted area (Part 1) is estimated to be 1,888m<sup>2</sup>.

**Management and Maintenance:** The reserve is managed and maintained by the Waitahuna Recreation Reserve Committee,<sup>5</sup> who mow an extensive area from State Highway 8, alongside the river, to the trees on the eastern margin (Figure 4-30). The Havelock Commonage (section 3.3) has previously funded improvements to the river front recreational area. The Waitahuna Fire Service also have a tank in place at the entrance to the river front for emergency water supplies.

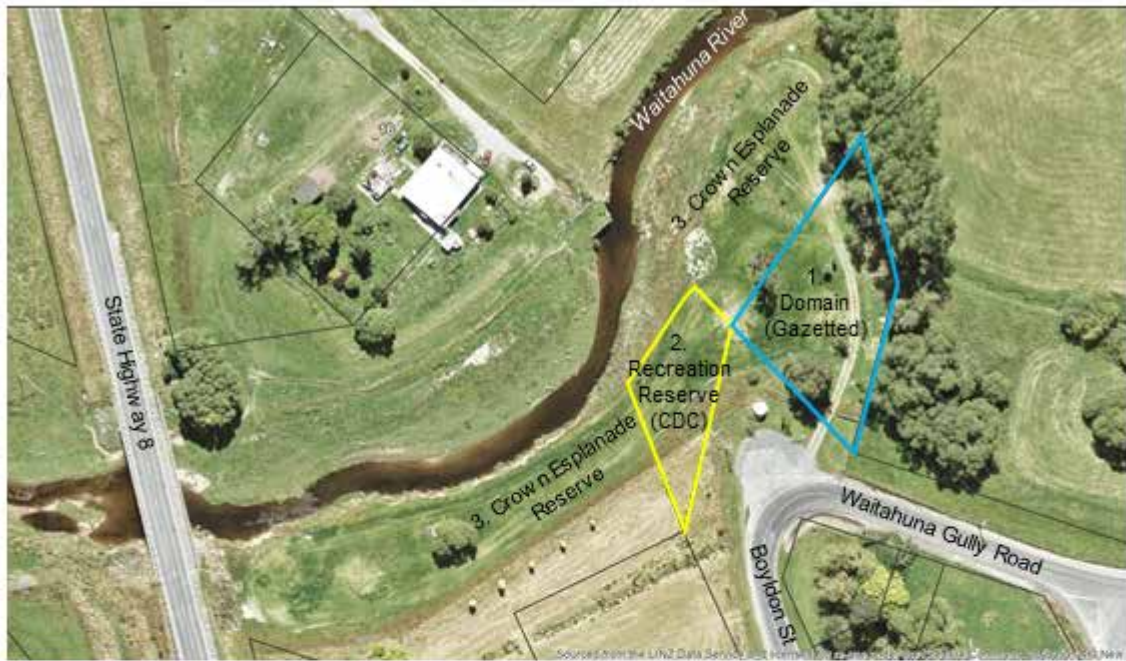
**Development:** Council does not currently have plans to develop this reserve further, and no feedback on this reserve was received through consultation for the *Our Place Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Plan*.

As noted above, the Clutha Gold Trail will extend across the State Highway bridge and pass through this reserve along the top of the flood bank, and out onto Boyldon Street. Any improvements associated with this project may need to be considered by Council in the context of its reserve status, and the objectives and policies set out in this Reserves Management Plan.

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<sup>5</sup> Previously known as the Waitahuna Domain Board. This group is recognised by and receive support from CDC (including preparation of financial statements).





**Figure 4-30** Waitahuna River Reserve. Top: the designated extent of the domain (blue) and recreation reserve (yellow) sections of the reserve; Bottom: the area generally utilised as reserve (green).



**Figure 4-31** View from SH8 towards the Waitahuna River Reserve and Picnic Grounds

### **4.3.2 Other Waitahuna reserves**

Four other sections of publicly owned land in the Waitahuna area are noted below. These sections are not directed by the policies and objectives of this Reserve Management Plan, as they are either not administered by Council, or are not currently used as a public reserve. However, they have been included below to provide a complete list of public land in Waitahuna, and because there may be potential to use them for reserve purposes in the future.

#### ***Waterfront section***

A section of land immediately to the south of the Waitahuna River Reserve was previously purchased by local residents and vested in Council. Residents graze and mow this area, which is known locally as the 'waterfront section'. It is not currently used as a reserve but could be used for recreational purposes in the future.

#### ***Waitahuna Gully Corner***

A section of land at the Boyldon Street / Waitahuna Gully Road corner is owned by and maintained by the Waitahuna Recreation Reserve Committee. This section is located across the road from the Waitahuna River Reserve, and the Clutha Gold Trail will pass alongside this and the neighbouring section on Boyldon Street (Figure 4-32 and Figure 4-33).

#### ***Boyldon Street***

A section of land on Boyldon Street was previously vested in Council by Jean Jackson and is currently administered by the Waitahuna Recreation Reserve Committee.

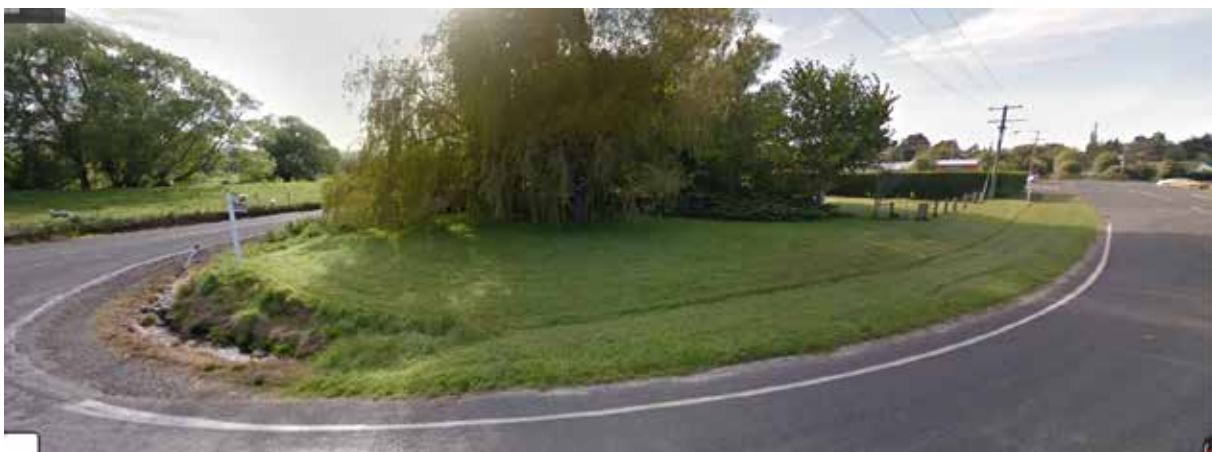
#### ***Waitahuna West Road Reserve***

A gazetted Recreation Reserve is located at 38 Waitahuna West Road, and the Waitahuna Playgroup use the building on-site. This reserve is administered by DOC and maintained by the Waitahuna Recreation Reserve Committee.





**Figure 4-32** Sections of publicly-owned land on Waitahuna Gully Corner and Boyldon Street



**Figure 4-33** View of the corner of Boyldon Street and Waitahuna Gully Road

## 5.0 CEMETERIES

### 5.1.1 Lawrence Cemetery

The Lawrence Cemetery was established around 1886 and is located on the outskirts of the Lawrence township on Gabriel Street, where it is surrounded by farmland (Figure 5-1). The reserve site is gazetted as a 40,810m<sup>2</sup> Local Purpose Cemetery Reserve, and is owned and maintained by Council under its greenspace contract. The cemetery is regularly visited and expected to be maintained at a high standard due to its historic importance. The cemetery has a large amount of land available within the reserve boundary to expand in the future.

The cemetery is the final resting place of the district's first pioneer settlers, George and Helen Munro. Helen is remembered as the first and only woman to discover part of a major goldfield in New Zealand. From early on, the Lawrence Cemetery was sectioned into religious denominations, with a separate section for the Chinese. The tomb of one of Lawrence's most recognisable Chinese characters, Sam Chew Lain stands out from surrounding graves.



Figure 5-1 Lawrence Cemetery (left) and Information Panel (right)

### 5.1.2 Waitahuna Cemetery

The Waitahuna Cemetery is a gazetted Cemetery Reserve located on Waitahuna Cemetery Road (Figure 5-2). The reserve site is surveyed as 36,346m<sup>2</sup>.

The reserve is managed by Council, and the area where the graves are is currently maintained under Council's greenspace contract. Waitahuna residents assist with mowing outside the area maintained under this contract.

One war grave is located within the cemetery, belonging to Trooper John McMillan who served in the New Zealand forces in WW1. McMillan died at age 24 from head wounds inflicted while on active service on 15 June 1916.





**Figure 5-2** Waitahuna Cemetery

### 5.1.3 Waipori Cemetery

The Waipori Cemetery consists of two sites, both gazetted as Local Purpose reserves located on Waipori Cemetery Road. The cemetery has views of Lake Mahinerangi as it sits on a hillside above the lake. Headstones within the cemetery date from 1865 and are memorials to several well-known families within the district.



**Figure 5-3** Waipori Cemetery

### 5.1.4 Beaumont Cemetery

The Beaumont Cemetery is privately owned and is not managed by Council. As such, the management of this cemetery is not directed by the policies and objectives of this Reserve Management Plan. This cemetery is located on Weardale Street, alongside the Clutha River/Mata-Au. Dunkeld Cemetery Trust maintains and manages the reserve. It is noted here to provide a complete list of cemeteries in the Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward.

## **APPENDICES**

## A1.0 APPENDIX 1: LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS

**Table A1.1** Legal descriptions of Council-administered reserves

Reserve name (unofficial title)	Legal description	Classification under the Reserves Act 1977	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	District Plan Zone (Reserve No.)
<b>Lawrence Reserves</b>				
Market Reserve	Part Section 10, Block LXV, Town of Lawrence, and Part Sections 7, 8, Block XX, Tuapeka East S.D. Vest - CDC	Market Reserve	3,617	Rural Resource Area (R102)
Peace Garden	SECS 1 1A 2 2A 2B 3 PTS 3A 11 BLK I LAWRENCE TOWN-PT SUBJ TO ROW-PEACE GARDENS & WAR MEM	Council owned land	2,346	Urban Resource Area
Whitehaven Street Playground	Fee Simple, 1/1, Lot 2 Deposited Plan 22200, 849 m <sup>2</sup>	Council owned land	861	Urban Resource Area
Simpson Park	Sections 1-20, 1564R, Block XVIII, Sections 113, 16-23, Part Sections 14, 15, Block XIX Sections 6, 7, Block LIII, Tuapeka East S.D. Vest - CDC	Recreation Reserve	73,864	Rural Resource Area (R106)
Lawrence Arches	Fee Simple, 1/1, Section 4, 14 Block XII Town of Lawrence, 2,024 m <sup>2</sup>	Public Utility Reserve	1,075	Urban Resource Area
Harrington Place Rest Area	Parcel Type: Road	Road Reserve	6,465	Urban Resource Area
Tuapeka Recreational Reserve	Sections 2-6, 8-11, Block LIV, Town of Lawrence, Sections 26, 180, 187, 197 & 214 and Part Section 181, Block XIX, Tuapeka East S.D. Vest - CDC	Recreation Reserve	68,428	Rural Resource Area (R103)
Lawrence Golf Club Reserve	Fee Simple, 1/1, Section 180 and Section 215-216 Block XIX Tuapeka East Survey District, 225,194 m <sup>2</sup>	Local Purpose Reserve	203,800	Rural Resource Area R440
Wetherstons Creek Plantation Reserve	1/1, Section 30, 178-179, 182, 213 Block XIX and Section 217 Block XIX Tuapeka East Survey District, 466,647 m <sup>2</sup>	Local Purpose Reserve	24,293	Rural Resource Area
Lawrence Reservoir Reserve	Section 195-196 Block XIX Tuapeka East SD	Local Purpose Reserve	23,851	Rural Resource Area
<b>Lawrence Reserves (Undeveloped)</b>				
Mining Terraces	Section 199 Block XIX Tuapeka East SD	Recreation Reserve	3,221	Rural Resource Area
Pladda Street Reserve	Fee Simple, 1/1, Section 16 Block XXVII Town of Lawrence, 1,012 m <sup>2</sup>	Public Utility Reserve	1,012	Urban Resource Area
Solway Street Reserve	Fee Simple, 1/1, Municipal Reserve Block XLVI Town of Lawrence, 43,554 m <sup>2</sup>	Public Utility Reserve	43,500	Rural Resource Area
Peel Street Reserve	SEC 21 BLK XII Lawrence TN-PT Simpson Park Recreation Reserve	Recreation Reserve	3,162	Urban Resource Area

Canna Street Reserve	SEC 4 BLK XII Lawrence Town	Public Utility Reserve	1,012	Urban Resource Area
Harrington Street Reserve R104	Secs 1-20 Blk XVI Lawrence Town	Recreation Reserve	20,240	Rural Resource Area
Harrington Street Recreation Reserve R109	Part 1: Secs 9-16 21 Blk XXXV Lawrence Town Part 2: Secs 1-6 17-18 Blk XXXIV Lawrence Town Part 3: Domain Lease 145 Sections 1/7 20 BLK XX BLK XVII Lawrence Town - Part Simpson Park Rec	Recreation Reserve	24,293	Rural Resource Area
Harrington Street Recreation Reserve R108	Section 19 Block XXXIV Town of Lawrence	Recreation Reserve	1,012	Rural Resource Area
Thurso Street Reserve R107	Section 20 Block XXXIV Town of Lawrence	Recreation Reserve	2,909	Rural Resource Area
Greenbank Road Reserve	Fee Simple, 1/1, Section 13 Block XXXVI Town of Lawrence	Public Utility Reserve	961	Rural Resource Area
Gabriel Street Reserve	Fee Simple, 1/1, Section 3 Block XXXVI Town of Lawrence	Public Utility Reserve	1,012	Rural Resource Area
Kilmarnock Street Reserve	Section 6 Block XXXVII Town of Lawrence	Public Utility Reserve	1,024	Rural Resource Area
<b>Waitahuna</b>				
Waitahuna River Picnic Area	Part 1: Section 26 Block XVI TOWN OF Havelock  Part 2: Land Marked A SO 20031 -Stopped Road BLK XIV Town of Havelock	Part 1: Gazetted Recreation Reserve  Part 2: Council-owned land (ex. Road Reserve)		Rural Resource Area
<b>Cemeteries</b>				
Lawrence Cemetery	SEC 1 BLK LXVIII LAWRENCE TOWN-CEMETERY	Cemetery Reserve	40,810	Rural Resource Area
Waitahuna Cemetery	SEC 10 BLK XXVIII HAVELOCK TOWN	Cemetery Reserve	36,346	Rural Resource Area
Waipori Cemetery	Fee Simple, 1/1, Lot 1 Deposited Plan 17526, 6,301 m <sup>2</sup>	Local Purpose Reserve	6322	Rural Resource Area



## A2.0 APPENDIX 2: LEASES, LICENCES AND CONCESSIONS

**Table A2.1** List of leases, licences, and concessions on Council-administered reserves

Location	Known as	Concession Holder	Expiry	Lease term
Waipori Road, Lawrence	Lawrence Golf Club	Lawrence Golf Club	31 Dec 2043	33 years
Harrington Street, Lawrence	Harrington Street Reserve R104	P M Sinclair	NA	Informal
Harrington Street, Lawrence	Simpson Park	Simpson Park Sporting Complex Inc	30 Jun 2046	33 years
Wetherstons Road, Lawrence	Tuapeka Recreation Reserve	Tuapeka Harness Racing Club and Lawrence Gymkhana Club	31 Dec 2026	33 Years
Solway Street, Lawrence	Solway Street Reserve	G Kenny	31 January 2022	5 years

## **A3.0 APPENDIX 3: RELEVANT DISTRICT PLAN OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

### **RURAL RESOURCE AREA**

The objective and policies potentially relevant to the development of reserves with an underlying zoning of Urban Resource Area are:

#### **OBJECTIVE RRA.1**

To provide a management framework for the rural environment that promotes the sustainable management of the resources of the district.

#### **POLICY RRA.2**

To ensure that the adverse effects that activities can have on the soil resource including the adverse effects of:

- *Erosion*
- *Instability*
- *Nutrient loss*
- *Soil contamination*
- *Soil compaction*

are avoided, remedied or mitigated.

### **RURAL SETTLEMENT RESOURCE AREA**

The objective and policies potentially relevant to the development of reserves with an underlying zoning of Rural Settlement Resource Area

#### **OBJECTIVE RST.1**

To maintain the low density and quiet amenity values of rural settlements.

#### **OBJECTIVE RST.2**

To promote the sustainable management of public services developed in rural settlements.

#### **OBJECTIVE RST.3**

To take into account the fact that some natural features may migrate inland as the result of dynamic coastal processes when considering subdivision, use and development of rural settlements located in the coastal environment.

#### **POLICY RST.3**

To avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects that activities can have on the amenity values of rural settlements.

### **URBAN RESOURCE AREA**

The objective and policies potentially relevant to the development of reserves with an underlying zoning of Urban Resource Area are:

#### **OBJECTIVE URB.1**

To manage the development of the urban area in order to:

- *provide a framework which enables people and communities to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing, and their health and safety, while*

- *maintaining and where possible enhancing the environmental quality of particular environments within the urban area, and*
- *avoiding, remedying or mitigating any adverse effects on the natural and physical resources of the Urban Resource Area.*

#### POLICY URB.1

To avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects that activities can have on existing amenity levels of the District's Urban areas.

## A4.0 APPENDIX 4: 'OUR PLACE' COMMUNITY PLAN PROJECTS

**Table A4.1** Relevant projects from the *Our Place Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Plan*

Project	Outcome	Lead Agency
Project 2: Whitehaven Street Playground	Improved safety and upgrade of the Whitehaven Street Playground.	Safety improvements (fencing) to be led by Council. Playground upgrade to be led by the community, through the LTCB. <sup>6</sup>
Project 4: Mountain Bike Trail Network	Creation of a trail network and other activities within the Wetherstons Creek Plantation Reserve.	This will be a community-led project, with Council input.
Project 5: Gabriel's Gully Entrance – Car Park Reserve	Improvements to the reserve and car park area at the entrance to Gabriel's Gully.	Council-led, with input from the LTCB. Potential for community involvement if local groups are interested in progressing certain elements (e.g., heritage).
Project 6: Gabriel's Gully Entrance – Community Hub Investigations	A comprehensive business case to investigate options for a community hub facility in Lawrence	Investigations to be led by Council, with input from the LTCB.
Project 8: Gabriel's Gully	The development of Gabriel's Gully as a key destination within the Clutha District.	The project lead is likely to be Clutha Development, and/or a community group. The Department of Conservation (DOC) is the primary manager of this asset and are supportive of such a project.
Project 10: Community Owned Facilities	Community owned facilities which are well supported by locals and by Council.	This project relates to a range of community-led activities in the Lawrence-Tuapeka area. Where possible, Council will provide support for community-led improvement projects. This may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <i>Administrative support</i></li> <li>· <i>Representative(s) on project groups.</i></li> <li>· <i>Provision of Council information and analysis.</i></li> <li>· <i>Council's website.</i></li> <li>· <i>Destination marketing support through Clutha Development.</i></li> </ul>
Project 11: Beaumont and Waitahuna	Community facilities in Beaumont and Waitahuna are fit for purpose, and well used by residents and visitors.	This project to be community-led because the assets are community-owned or managed.

<sup>6</sup> Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board.

## **A5.0 APPENDIX 5: PROCESS FOR REVOKING RESERVE STATUS**

Any land subject to the Reserves Act 1977 must have its reserve status revoked prior to disposal.<sup>7</sup> Although Council can formally approve a resolution seeking to revoke the status of the reserve, it does not have the power to revoke the reserve status and must apply to the Department of Conservation to do so. Once the reserve status has been revoked and the land is fee simple, it may be disposed of, subject to any other impediments or claims on the title.

The process to revoke is prescribed by Sec 24 of the Reserves Act 1977. In the case of reserves in the Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward, the steps required to revoke status are described generally below:

1. LTCB forwards a recommendation to Council for reserve status to be revoked for one or more reserves.
2. Council resolution to seek revocation and proceed with disposal.
3. Council approaches Commissioner with the resolution and seeks advice on the revocation of the reserve. Commissioner responds with instruction how to proceed.
4. Property or properties to be evaluated for disposal:
  - a. Assess reserve value.
  - b. Consider effects of disposing of the land.
  - c. Consult with required parties (including LTCB).
5. Council to publicly notify intent to revoke reserve status and make evaluation publicly available. Objections able to be made over a 1-month period.
6. Submissions received and assessed, and report prepared for Council.
7. Council decides on reserve revocation and disposal.
8. Council recommendation to Commissioner on revocation. The decision on the revocation is that of the Commissioner.

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<sup>7</sup> Reference: Carterton District Council, 2019. *Proposal to revoke reserve status* [[link](#)]

## **A6.0 APPENDIX 6: RESERVE ACT CLASSIFICATIONS**

### **RECREATION RESERVES**

Reserves classified as recreation reserves fall under section 17 of the Reserves Act 1977 (the Act) and have a duty to provide areas for sporting and recreation activities to promote the physical enjoyment and welfare of the public whilst enhancing and protecting the natural environment. Provisions under the RA state that recreation reserves must:

- *provide freedom of entry and access to the reserve, subject to conditions and bylaws set by the district council*
- *be managed to protect the scenic, historic, archaeological, biological, geological, or other indigenous flora and fauna that are present on the reserve. This is to be done in a way that is compatible with primary purpose of the reserve.*

Activities undertaken on the reserve shall not conflict with the Wildlife Act 1953, or the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014.

Conservation of qualities that contribute to the pleasantness, harmony and cohesion of the natural environment and those which enable the better use and enjoyment of the reserve shall be retained.

### **HISTORIC RESERVES**

Reserves classified as historic reserves fall under section 18 of the Act, where its purpose is the protection of places, objects and natural features that are of special interest historically, archaeologically, culturally or educationally. To be classified as historic reserves must:

- *have structures, objects or sites that illustrate the history of New Zealand*
- *have significant or notable features which shall be managed and protected to the extent compatible with the primary purpose of the reserve*
- *provide freedom of entry and access to the reserve, subject to conditions and bylaws set by the district council.*

### **SCENIC RESERVES**

Reserves classified as scenic reserves fall under section 19 of the Act and have a primary purpose of either protecting and preserving flora where it possesses qualities of scenic interest, beauty, natural landscape or enabling the provision and development of indigenous or exotic flora where such improvements enhance and protect areas that are desirable and in public interest.

### **NATURE RESERVES**

Reserves classified as nature reserves fall under section 20 of the Act and are for the purpose of protection of natural features, flora and fauna of rarity, scientific interest, importance and so unique their preservation is in public interest. Nature reserves must:

- *be kept in its natural state as far as possible*
- *extermination of exotic flora and fauna unless otherwise determined*
- *public entry not permitted within the reserve for better protection of the natural environment, except by form of permit granted under sections 48a or 57 of the Act.*



## **SCIENTIFIC RESERVES**

Reserves classified as scientific reserves fall under section 21 of the Act and have a primary function to protect and preserve for scientific research, study, education the benefit of the country, ecological associations, plant or animal communities, types of soil, geomorphological phenomena, and like matters of special interest. Scientific reserves must:

- *ensure the eradication of exotic species unless otherwise specified*
- *reserve may prohibit public access by notice in order to achieve management priorities in accordance with Wildlife and Heritage Acts.*

## **GOVERNMENT PURPOSE RESERVES**

Reserves classified as government purpose reserves fall under section 22 of the Act and are for the purpose of providing and retaining areas for government purpose or as otherwise specified. These may be assigned as such for the purposes of wildlife management or other specified wildlife purposes.

## **LOCAL PURPOSE RESERVES**

Reserves classified as local purpose reserves fall under section 23 of the Act and serve the purpose of providing and retaining areas for local purpose or as otherwise specified in the classification of the reserve. Where a local purpose reserve is vested in a local authority, it may by public notice prohibit access to the whole or any specified part of the reserve except under the authority of a permit

## A7.0 APPENDIX 7: LEGAL OPINION – MOTOCROSS ACTIVITY

6 October 2021

Clutha District Council  
PO Box 25  
Balclutha 9240

Attention: Mr Ian McCabe

By Email: [Ian.McCabe@Cluthadc.govt.nz](mailto:Ian.McCabe@Cluthadc.govt.nz)



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Dear Ian

### LAWRENCE TUAPEKA RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN – MOTOCROSS ACTIVITY

1. You have asked for our advice as to whether under the Reserves Act 1977 (the Act) existing motocross activity can be accommodated in the Tuapeka Recreational Reserve through the Draft Lawrence-Tuapeka Reserve Management Plan (the Plan) and if so, whether the Plan achieves this.
2. The Act defines the administrative purposes for recreation reserves<sup>1</sup> which include providing areas for public access and protection of amenity and the natural environment<sup>2</sup>.
3. Motocross is an active outdoor recreational activity which recreation reserves may appropriately provide for under the Act.<sup>3</sup>
4. In terms of public access, the Act does not require all of a recreation reserve to be available to all of the public all of the time. A meditation class, rugby game, and family picnic could not sensibly or safely occur on the same area of a reserve at the same time. Rather the Act empowers<sup>4</sup>, the administering body, the Council in this case, to apply conditions and restrictions to manage a range of active and passive recreational activities in various areas of the reserve to protect and control the reserve and the public using it.<sup>5</sup>
5. The purposes of protection of amenity and natural environment are also constrained to the provision of areas. Different zones, catering to different purposes as well as activities are contemplated by the Act.
6. Balancing recreational uses and protecting amenity and the natural environment through controls in a Reserve Management Plan<sup>6</sup> or leases is also consistent with the approach of other local authorities to managing a range of uses within a recreational reserve.

<sup>1</sup> Reserves Act 1977, sections 3(1) and 17

<sup>2</sup> Section 17(1)

<sup>3</sup> Section 3(1)

<sup>4</sup> Sections 53 and 54

<sup>5</sup> Section 17(2)(a)

<sup>6</sup> Section 41(3)

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### Recreation Reserve Purposes under the Act

7. The motocross activity and track are situated within the Tuapeka Recreation Reserve classified<sup>7</sup> as a recreation reserve under the Act. The following sections are relevant to the purposes which apply to administering recreation reserves.
8. Section 3(1) sets out the general purposes of administering the Act as they apply to recreation reserves:
  - (a) To preserve and manage areas of active and passive recreational use for the benefit and enjoyment of the public;
  - (b) To ensure as far as possible the survival of all indigenous flora and fauna; and
  - (c) To ensure as far as possible access for the public along waterways while preserving the natural character of coasts, and river and lake margins from unnecessary development.
9. Section 17 of the Act sets out the purposes to be achieved in the administration of recreation reserves to be:
  - (a) providing areas for:
    - (i) the recreation and sporting activities and the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public, and
    - (ii) for the protection of the natural environment and beauty of the countryside, with emphasis on the retention of open spaces and on outdoor recreational activities, including recreational tracks in the countryside.
  - (b) Within this context administration of a recreation reserve should also achieve:
    - (i) Freedom of entry and access, subject to controls for the protection of the reserve and the public
    - (ii) Protection and management of certain features and indigenous flora and fauna where this does not conflict with the primary purpose of the reserve
    - (iii) Conservation of the qualities of the reserve which contribute to pleasantness, harmony, and cohesion of the natural environment and to the better use and enjoyment of the reserve
    - (iv) Maintain the soil, water and conservation area of the reserve so long as it does not conflict with the primary purpose of the reserve
10. Concerns about the ability of the track to conserve qualities contributing to pleasantness, harmony and cohesion of the natural environment fail to recognise that all existing recreational activities including motocross inform the qualities to be conserved. The Council is obliged to conserve or retain the existing qualities. Whatever qualities may exist in the absence of the motocross activity cannot be retained because they do not exist.
11. The impact of a motocross track on the environment is largely indistinguishable from the impact of any other recreational track in terms of effects on beauty and the natural

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<sup>7</sup> Section 16



environment. Further the protection of the natural environment and natural beauty is only required to be provided for in areas rather than the whole of the reserve.

12. The Plan proposes controls to address safety and to limit hours of operation for the activity. However, noise effects are more appropriately controlled through the district plan. Aggressive behaviour is a nuisance or criminal matter, and also outside the control of the Act.
13. Both the general purpose and the specific recreation purpose consider areas of differing recreational use coexisting in a recreational reserve. The leasing and non-leasing powers of the administering body provide for managing differing recreational uses.<sup>8</sup> Section 53(1)(c) of the Act expressly empowers the Council to prescribe, restrict or prohibit what activities may occur in any particular area of the reserve.
14. The different areas managed for different purposes approach has been applied by the Central Otago District Council (CODC) to Molyneux Park and the Dunedin City Council (DCC) to Island Park, the latter having both a speedway circuit and a gun club in the same recreation reserve.

#### A Common Approach

15. The CODC administers Molyneux Park through the Molyneux Park Reserve Management Plan 2021 (a copy of which is enclosed). This modern plan manages a Recreational Reserve which serves active and passive recreational activities that include among others:
  - (a) A BMX track
  - (b) Children's playground
  - (c) Sports Arena
  - (d) Skatepark
  - (e) Cycle park
  - (f) Skating Rink
  - (g) Playing fields
  - (h) Oval and Grandstand and
  - (i) Aquatic Centre.
16. Many of these activities are managed under leases but we note that instead of a lease the BMX track is subject to a memorandum of understanding between the Alexandra BMX Club and the CODC. Given the high demand for the sports facilities a booking system is in place which has the effect of limiting access to areas of the Reserve, yet this is necessary for the Reserves efficient operation. Whether the control is via lease or via rules in the Plan is immaterial as to whether the purposes of the Act are achieved.
17. Though older, the Island Park Recreation Reserve Management Plan administered by the DCC is another current example of a recreational reserve managed through controls restricting access and establishing different zones for different uses to ensure the safe

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<sup>8</sup> Sections 53 and 54

operation of potentially conflicting active and passive recreation activities. In addition, to swimming, walking and equestrian activities this Recreation Reserve also contains Beachlands Speedway and the Dunedin Clay Target Club, which are controlled by lease arrangements. Though the mechanism is different the fundamental approach of administering discrete areas by function remains.

18. We consider the approach to controlling to the motocross activity in the Plan to be consistent with administration scheme of the Act and the approach taken by CODC and DCC in relation to similar recreation reserves.

Yours faithfully

**GALLAWAY COOK ALLAN**



**Phil Page / Rebecca Crawford**  
Partner / Solicitor (Dunedin)

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