# Stoddart Point Reserve and Coastal Cliff Reserves Network, Diamond Harbour / Te Waipapa

# **Management Plan September 2013**







#### Stoddart Point Reserve and Coastal Cliff Reserves Network Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa Management Plan 2013

Cover photos from top: Coastal Cliff Track looking towards Stoddart Point and the mouth of Lyttelton Harbour/Whakaraupō, and looking at Stoddart Point Reserve from the coastal cliffs in Purau Bay.

#### **Preface**

Stoddart Point Reserve and the Coastal Cliff Reserves Network are standout features of Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa and its surrounds. The Coastal Cliff stretches from Purau Bay through to Church Bay and around Black Point to Hays Bay. The Coastal Cliff Walkway links the community and provides a recreational asset for the people of Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa.

Following the amalgamation of the Banks Peninsula District Council and the Christchurch City Council, it was agreed that a management plan would be developed for the coastal reserve area of Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa.

A Diamond Harbour Reserves Draft Management Plan had been prepared in 1992, with input by the community and Peter Rough and Associates Landscape Architects, however this plan was never formally adopted. Information from that plan has been included where appropriate in this plan.

An initial draft management plan was open for submissions between the 30 September 2010 and 9 December 2010. Public notice was given in accordance with section 41 (6) of the Reserves Act 1977 stating that the draft management plan was available for inspection and inviting submissions on it.

The Hearings Panel was scheduled to meet in March 2011 however due to the Canterbury earthquakes this hearings never took place. The management plan process was then put on hold. At the time Council officers were fully engaged in earthquake recovery.

Due to the time delay since the draft management plan was initially consulted on, and as a consequence of the earthquakes, some details and some circumstances around the management of the reserves changed. Consequently, the initial draft management plan was amended to reflect this.

Submissions were invited on the amended draft management plan between 26 April 2013 and 27 June 2013. A Hearings Panel heard submissions on Wednesday 14 August 2013, considered the submissions and recommended changes to the amended draft management plan.

The final management plan was officially approved by the Hearings Panel under delegated authority from the Christchurch City Council, on Friday 13 September 2013.

#### **Acknowledgments**

The Asset and Network Planning Unit of the Christchurch City Council would like to thank the following staff and groups for their assistance and input into the draft management plan.

#### **Hearings Panel Members**

Councillor Aaron Keown
Lyttelton/ Mt Herbert Community Board Members – Jeremy Agar and Ann Jolliffe

#### **Christchurch City Council Project Team:**

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All individuals and groups that submitted during the issues gathering and initial draft management plan consultation stages, and to all those individuals and groups who have contributed their knowledge, ideas and experience.

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#### Stoddart Point Reserve and Coastal Cliff Reserves Network Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa Management Plan 2013

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To the community who have looked after the reserves in the past, in the present and for continued guardianship and involvement in partnerships with the Council heading into the future.

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## 1 OVERVIEW

# 1.1 Purpose of the management plan

The purpose of this management plan is to recognise the values of the reserves, establish a vision for their future, and set management objectives and policies to achieve desired outcomes. The plan has been developed in consultation with the community and key stakeholders, and follows the process outlined in the Reserves Act 1977.

The Reserves Act 1977 - section 41(3) outlines the following:

The management plan shall provide for and ensure the use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection and preservation, as the case may require, and to the extent that the administering body's resources permit, the development, as appropriate, of the reserve for the purposes for which it is classified, and shall incorporate and ensure compliance with the principles set out in sections 17 - 23 as the case may be, of this Act for a reserve of that classification.

The reserve areas in Stoddart Point Reserve and the Coastal Cliff Reserves Network are classified as Recreation, Historic and Local purpose (community building) reserves, as shown on Figure 2.

A Recreation reserve is to be managed as outlined in the Reserves Act 1977, section 17 (1):

For the purposes of providing areas for the recreation and sporting activities and the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public, and for the protection of the natural environment and beauty of the countryside, with emphasis on the retention of open spaces and on outdoor activities, including recreational tracks in the countryside.

A Historic reserve is to be managed as outlined in the Reserves Act 1977, section 18 (1):

For the purpose of protecting and preserving in perpetuity such places, objects and natural features, and such things thereon or therein contained as are of historic, archaeological, cultural, educational and other special interest.

A Local purpose (community building) reserve is to be managed as outlined in the Reserves Act 1977, section 23 (1):

For the purpose of providing and retaining areas for such local purpose or purposes, as are specified in any classification of the reserve.

#### 1.2 Location

Stoddart Point Reserve and the Coastal Cliff Reserve Network are located on Banks Peninsula, on the southern side of Lyttelton Harbour/Whakaraupō. They comprise a stretch of coastline from Hays Bay, Church Bay and east to Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa and Purau Bay. This area of coast is directly south over the harbour from Lyttelton township, and is approximately 45 minutes drive from Christchurch City.

The Coastal Cliff Reserve Network can be accessed at various points along Marine Drive between Hays Bay and Stoddart Point Reserve. The following roads have access to this network of reserves, Koromiko Crescent, Otamuhua Lane, Whero Avenue, Waipapa Avenue and Purau Avenue. Figure 1 outlines the location of the reserves network in Lyttelton Harbour/Whakaraupō.

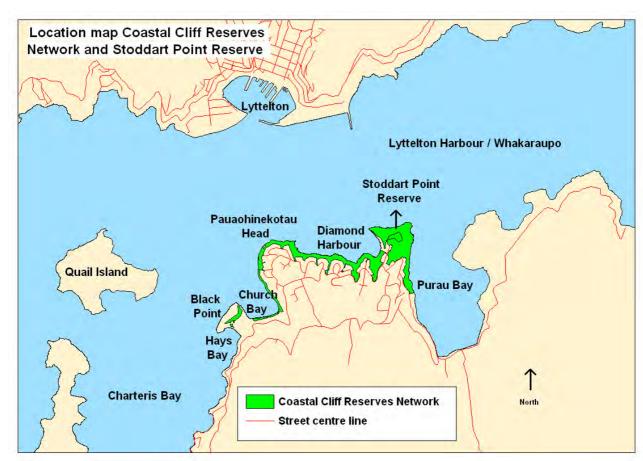


Figure 1 location map

# 1.2.1 Areas covered by the management plan

This management plan relates to the reserves and publicly accessible land (formed and unformed legal road) adjoining the coast from Hays Bay Beach through to midway on the western side of Purau Bay, as shown on Figure 2. This includes public areas along Hays Bay, Black Point Reserves, Church Bay, James Drive Recreation Reserve, Otamuhua Lane Reserve, Diamond Harbour/ Te Waipapa Coastal Cliff Reserves, Stoddart Point Reserve, the Coastal Cliff Walkway, and midway on the western side of Purau Bay.

Stoddart Point/

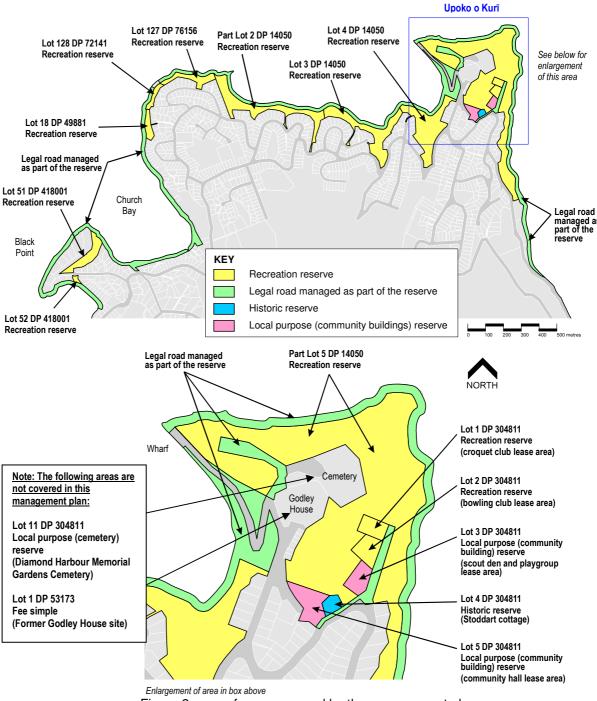
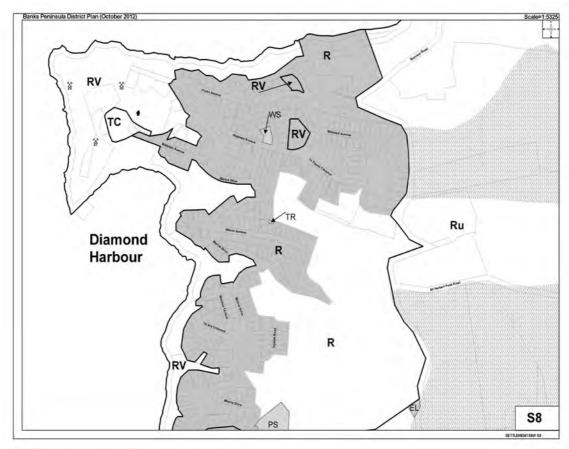


Figure 2: map of areas covered by the management plan



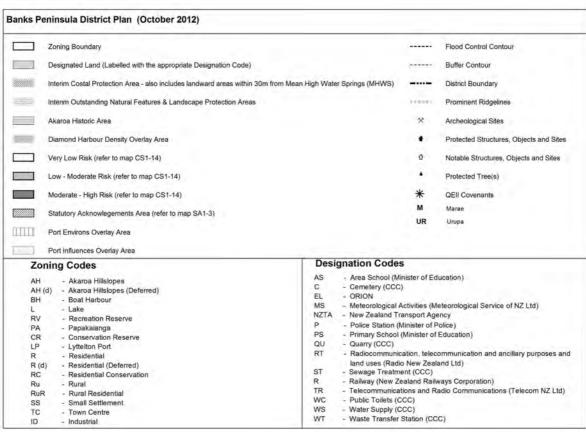


Figure 3: Banks Peninsula District Plan Zonings Map and Legend

## 1.2.2 Areas not covered by the management plan

Lot 11 DP304811 is owned by Christchurch City Council and is the site of the Diamond Harbour Memorial Gardens Cemetery. The Diamond Harbour Memorial Gardens Cemetery is not covered by this management plan. The cemetery is classified Local Purpose Cemetery Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977. The cemetery is covered in the Christchurch City Council Cemeteries Master Plan approved by Christchurch City Council on 27 June 2013. It is however important to consider any linkages between the cemetery and Stoddart Point Reserve and ensure future management is considerate of each other.

Lot 1 DP 53173 is owned by Christchurch City Council, is held as fee simple land and not classified as reserve. This is the site of the former Godley House which had to be demolished due to major damage following the Canterbury earthquakes. This parcel of land is zoned Town Centre in the Banks Peninsula District Plan. Refer Figure 3 for the zoning map.

Under the Banks Peninsula District Plan "the provisions of the town centre zone are intended to allow for a range of business and community activities within a framework, which maintains the character and amenity of the area and provides adequate infrastructure to service new development. The provisions also recognise that in most locations the town centre zone is adjacent to open space and residential areas and that the amenity of those areas must be protected."

The former Godley House was registered as a Category II Historic Place under the Historic Places Act 1993. Although Godley House has been demolished the foundations are still protected under the archaeological provisions of the Act.

Future management of Lot 1 DP 53173 will be considered through a separate process and not covered in this management plan acknowledging that a wide range of issues need to be considered for this site. It is intended however that any future management of this site will be considered in conjunction with the application of the objectives and policies of this management plan and the relevant sections of the Christchurch City Council Cemeteries Master Plan.

# 1.3 Stoddart Point Reserve, Coastal Cliff Reserves Network and Unformed Legal Road

Stoddart Point Reserve, the Coastal Cliff Reserves Network and unformed legal road all play a part in delivering a recreational experience to Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa and its surrounds. The main feature is the Coastal Cliff Walkway, which links Purau Bay, Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa and Church Bay, and, with further track development, this linkage can continue on to Hays Bay. There is a limited opportunity for pedestrians to walk on footpaths in Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa, however the Coastal Cliff Walkway provides a valuable route for linking the community.

#### 1.3.1 Stoddart Point Reserve

Stoddart Point Reserve is predominantly covered in a forest of exotic pines with some understory vegetation that provides food and habitat for fauna. There are also open areas of mown grass. Located within the reserve is the main car parking area for commuters using the ferry service from Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa to Lyttelton. The reserve is used as an organised sport area and as a place for informal recreation.

# Stoddart Point Reserve has a variety of key features and activities:

Rugby Cricket
Scouts Play ground
Bowls Croquet
Library Playcentre
Picnic areas Car parking

The Coastal Cliff Walkway Views and lookout points

Pathway to Diamond Harbour Jetty Pine forest area Diamond Harbour Community Hall Stoddart Weirs

Historic Stoddart Cottage

#### 1.3.2 Coastal Cliff Reserves Network

The Coastal Cliff Reserves Network extends from Purau Bay through to Hays Bay. This area includes the Coastal Cliff Reserve, Otamuhua Lane Reserve, James Drive Recreation Reserve and Black Point Reserve. The Coastal Route and the Cliff Edge Track are both located on this network (both tracks pass over Stoddart Point Reserve).

# The Coastal Cliff Reserves Network has a variety of key features and activities, including:

Coastal Route The Cliff Edge Track
The Coastal Cliff Walkway Views and lookout points
Access to the cemetery Stoddart Point Reserve

Purau jetty and boat ramp Picnic area

Toilet Diamond Harbour Beach

Sam's Gully
Pauaohinekotau Head
Black Point Reserves
Access to swimming areas
Walking
Botanising
Morgans Gully
Church Bay
Hays Bay
Access to jetties
Bird watching
Fishing access

## 1.3.3 Unformed Legal Road

The unformed legal road that forms the seaward side of Stoddart Point Reserve and the Coastal Cliff Reserves Network is publicly accessible land. It is not the intention of the Christchurch City Council to construct a road on this land. It is intended for this strip of land to provide for landscape protection and pedestrian access above the foreshore and around the bays.

# 1.4 Ngāi Tahu: Tangata Whenua

Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke (Rāpaki) Rūnanga, one of eighteen Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga, holds manawhenua, manamoana (customary authority) and kaitiaki responsibilities over the land, waterways and sea within its takiwā of Whakaraupō (Lyttelton Harbour) and Kaituna. The Rūnanga, based in the small settlement of Rāpaki on the northern shore of Whakaraupō, represent tangata whenua for the area of Stoddart Point/Upoko o Kurī and Coastal Cliff Reserves.

Tangata whenua have a history associated with Whakaraupō that spans up to 1000 years, that includes Waitaha, Ngāti Māmoe and, more recently, Ngāi Tahu. The Ngāi Tahu ancestor Te Rakiwhakaputa claimed possession of Rāpaki for Ngāi Tahu in the seventeenth century by placing his waist-mat (Rāpaki) down on the beach. This gave the Rāpaki kāinga (settlement) its name, Te Rāpaki o Te Rakiwhakaputa. Whānau living at Rāpaki are fourteenth generation descendants of this tūpuna.

Up until the nineteenth century Ngāi Tahu lived in kāinga around Whakaraupō that included Ōhinehou Purau, Te Waipapa, and Te Pōhue, a larger village at Ōhinetahi at Governors Bay. Several other kāinga were dotted around the harbour coastline, including Taukahara and Motu-kauati-rahi, on either side of Rāpaki.

The area was significant as a rich mahinga kai (food and resource gathering area), and in particular, for its kaimoana. The collection and offering of kaimoana (including whiore/stingray, pioke/rig, pātiki/flounder, aua/mullet, mussel, pāua, pipi and cockle) for cultural purposes was, and continues to be, an important manawhenua custom.

Today it is important for manawhenua (through Rāpaki Rūnanga) to establish and maintain positive working partnerships with the Christchurch City Council and wider community. The Rūnanga see the benefits of the telling of local Māori history associated with places around Whakaraupō, and wish to be involved in this process. They believe that promoting understanding of the past is a key to a deeper appreciation of place and identity, as well as the natural and social environment.

Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke (Rāpaki) Rūnanga was involved in the preparation of this reserves management plan. Rūnanga members joined Council officers on a hīkoi from Purau around the coastal walkway, during which sites of importance for manawhenua history were identified, as well as issues that could be addressed by the plan. A report was provided to the Christchurch City Council summarising the results of the hīkoi and consultation with the Rūnanga.

# 1.5 Diamond Harbour Community

Since the early 1900s the community of Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa has been involved in caring for Stoddart Point Reserve and the Coastal Cliff Reserves Network. This level of involvement and commitment has provided, and continues to provide invaluable community guardianship of the area.

The amalgamation of Banks Peninsula District and Christchurch City Councils has increased the awareness of the recreational value of Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa for the greater Christchurch population. It is with the continued guardianship by the local community that Stoddart Point Reserve and the Coastal Cliff Reserves Network shall continue to be a valued community asset that future generations are able to enjoy and help to protect.

# 1.6 Effect of the Canterbury earthquakes on the management plan process

The Christchurch City Council Hearings Panel was scheduled to meet in March 2011 to deliberate on the public submissions on the initial draft management plan. Following the 22<sup>nd</sup> Feburary 2011 earthquake, this process was placed on hold. At the time Council and the community were fully involved with the emergency response and subsequent recovery work, following the earthquake and subsequent aftershocks, many of which were located in the Lyttelton Harbour/Whakaraupō area. Stoddart Point Reserve and the Coastal Cliffs Network sustained some damage however the main resource to suffer was Godley House. Consequently, Godley House has since been deconstructed due to the damage it suffered during this period. Only the foundations remain. Godley House has been a major loss to the community. Future use of the former Godley House site will be determined through a separate process, as the land is not held as reserve. It is important however that determinations on the future use of the site take into consideration the application of the objectives and policies of this management plan.

Following the earthquakes the draft management plan was amended to account for the impacts of the earthquakes and changes brought about since the initial public consultation. The amended draft management plan was open for public consultation from 26 April 2013 – 27 June 2013, following which a hearings took place on 14 August 2013.

# 2 VISION

A coastal reserve network providing local and visitor recreational, historical, cultural and ecological experiences characteristic of the area, that are well managed, protected and enhanced where identified.

#### 3 OBJECTIVES & POLICIES

This section sets out objectives and policies to be adhered to in managing the reserves. The objectives state what is to be achieved and the policies outline actions to regulate management decisions. The objectives and policies in this section shall apply to all areas that the management plan covers, unless stated that they apply to a specific area.

# 3.1 Coastal Cliff Walkway

OBJECTIVE: To provide a continuous Coastal Cliff Walkway from

Hays Bay to Purau Bay with suitable pedestrian

access

**POLICIES:** 

**3.1.1** Walking tracks shall be maintained in a safe condition to a minimum of tramping track standard that has minimal impact on the environment and coastal experience.

Note: Where appropriate some higher use tracks may be upgraded to a standard higher than tramping track standard as agreed by Council. For example the track from the jetty to the town centre.

- **3.1.2** The Coastal Cliff Walkway shall be extended from Purau Bay through to Hays Bay. Any gaps in the walkway shall be developed to create continuous public access with links to nearby public roads where appropriate.
- **3.1.3** The walkways to Diamond Harbour Beach from the Diamond Harbour jetty and from the town centre shall be upgraded.
- **3.1.4** Upgrades and construction of the remainder of the walking tracks shall include erosion and safety control measures as necessary, to make the tracks stable, safe and easy to use.

- **3.1.5** Any structure that has been erected or installed on public land on the Coastal Cliff Reserve Network shall be removed if it has not been put in place by the Christchurch City Council or with Christchurch City Council approval. The removal shall be at the cost of the occupier.
- **3.1.6** Christchurch City Council officers shall work with Department of Conservation staff to ensure appropriate signage is in place for the Mt Herbert Walkway from the Diamond Harbour jetty and at prominent points along the walkway network.
- **3.1.7** The Coastal Cliff Walkway shall form part of the Head to Head Walkway in the future through appropriate links and signage.

<u>Note</u>: The Head to Head Walkway is a proposed walkway around Lyttelton Harbour/Whakaraupō from Godley Head to Adderley Head.

# 3.2 Ecology, flora and fauna

**OBJECTIVE:** 

To manage vegetation in such a way over time, to establish the original indigenous plant communities of the area, and to enhance the habitat for its indigenous fauna, while not compromising the stability of the ground.

**POLICIES:** 

**3.2.1** A development plan will be prepared in line with the objectives and policies of the management plan.

<u>Note</u>: This plan will include details of where areas/zones of native and exotic plantings will be focused. At present re-vegetation is taking place in a well-intentioned but unplanned manner. A development plan will enable a more co-ordinated approach to planting.

**3.2.2** A long term approach shall be taken to remove exotic conifer trees including pines and macrocarpa as they become unsafe, and to replace them with indigenous tree species such as kanuka (as a nurse crop for future native forest plantings), and to remove seedling pine trees to prevent their regeneration and spread.

<u>Note</u>: It is intended that objective 3.2 is a long term objective for the reserves. With the exception of indentified projects in this plan it is not intended to undertake significant removal of exotic conifer trees,

including pines and macrocarpa, at any one time, but rather take a long term approach to the removal as the trees become unhealthy, dying or dangerous.

**3.2.3** Removal of exotic vegetation shall be done using methods that do not cause erosion and minimises damage to indigenous flora or fauna.

Note: Sediment and erosion particularly in gully systems can contribute to harbour infilling and poor water quality. Refer to objectives of the Banks Peninsula/ Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū Zone Implementation Programme.

- **3.2.4** Exotic vegetation removal should be followed by infill planting at an appropriate time if this is needed to reduce the risk of future erosion and the spread of boneseed and other woody weeds.
- **3.2.5** Priority shall be given to undertaking concentrated weed control measures in the gully systems throughout the reserve network, with appropriate indigenous planting to support regeneration of native species and halt further weed spread.

<u>Note</u>: This includes Sam's Gully, where the restoration of riparian areas is a particular priority.

**3.2.6** Plant and animal pest control shall be undertaken in accordance with the Christchurch City Council Operational Pest Plan.

*Note: The Christchurch City Council has obligations* under the Biosecurity Act and the Environment Canterbury Regional Pest Management Strategy to control plant and animal pests on land it administers. The Christchurch City Council Operational Pest Plan 2010 also identifies additional plant and animal pests on its land and water assets. These are prioritised for control and monitoring each year under the Annual Operational Pest Programme. Information about the current programme is available via the Manager of Parks Operations. The pest control for the reserves in this management plan will include annual surveillance to determine pest control action required, including control of banana passionfruit and old mans beard. Other plant and animal control will be determined as the issue arises. The management plan area is within a control area monitored by ECAN for rabbit control.

**3.2.7** Support for the control of animal pest species, including rabbits and possums, must be done in collaboration with other agencies including ECAN and the local community in order to provide effective control.

Note: This does not negate one off control as identified.

**3.2.8** The dumping of garden waste in the reserve areas shall be prohibited.

<u>Note</u>: Dumping of garden waste in public places is an offence under the Litter Act 1979, with offenders liable to fines.

- **3.2.9** Weed control and management of woody vegetation shall be planned to minimise adverse effects on bird nesting.
- **3.2.10** Species for re-vegetation shall be selected from those that are naturally occurring at the site with their value for food and habitat for native fauna taken into consideration. All plant material shall be eco-sourced.
- **3.2.11** The retention of standing old wood shall be considered for its value in creating suitable habitat and food source for foraging birds. Such old wood shall be made safe.
- **3.2.12** The Christchurch City Council shall retain the right to utilise current stands of woody weed species known to assist in regeneration of native flora in the reserve network unless there is a legislative requirement for their removal. The Christchurch City Council shall control the further spread of such woody weed plants.
- **3.2.13** Vegetation considered a fire risk by the rural fire officers shall be managed to reduce the risk of wild fires. Fire risk shall be taken into consideration for all planting programmes.
- **3.2.14** The stand of walking stick bamboo on the Coastal Cliff Walkway shall be confined to the location where it is currently found. If spread should occur, or bamboo is found in other locations, it shall be treated as a pest and appropriately controlled in those new areas.

<u>Note</u>: The bamboo stand on the Coastal Cliff Walkway is important in terms of its recreational value to children.

- **3.2.15** A tree assessment shall be undertaken in Stoddart Point Reserve. The trees shall be managed in accordance with that assessment.
- **3.2.16** Christchurch City Council will not lease any area of land within Stoddart Point for the purpose of private commercial forestry.
- **3.2.17** Monitor the health and safety of large trees according to the Christchurch City Council Tree Policy (currently being developed and yet to be adopted). Any tree that poses an immediate risk to public safety shall be isolated by an appropriate barrier and warning signs pending removal and replacement of these trees. Tree removal should occur as soon as possible, with consideration to protecting any establishing native understorey.
- **3.2.18** All tree maintenance, pruning and felling shall only be undertaken with the approval of the Christchurch City Council Arborist, and in accordance with Christchurch City Council arboricultural standards, practices and procedures.

#### 3.3 Recreation

**OBJECTIVE:** 

To manage areas for recreation that meet the needs of the community and that is appropriate for the reserves and surrounding environment

POLICIES:

- **3.3.1** The open space and coastal character of the reserves shall be conserved to optimise the benefits of public enjoyment and recreation in an outdoor setting.
- **3.3.2** Motorised and non-motorised vehicular recreational opportunities shall not be provided along the Coastal Cliff Walkway.
- **3.3.3** At time of renewal, the playground located to the south of the community building shall be assessed and upgraded in line with current playground standards in use by the Christchurch City Council, with consultation undertaken to ascertain the most suitable location for this asset.
- 3.3.4 A youth specific outdoor recreational area or areas shall be investigated and developed within Stoddart Point Reserve. Activities including, but not limited to, skate boarding, dirt jumps for bikes, a climbing net and/or a

flying fox shall be considered for any such development.

**3.3.5** The Christchurch City Council shall investigate improved access to coastal rocks for fishing.

# 3.4 Sporting activities and organised club activities

OBJECTIVE: To continue to support sport and organised clubs

to use Stoddart Point Reserve where their activities

meet a recreational need in the community

**POLICIES:** 3.4.1 The reserves network shall continue to provide both organised and non-organised recreational opportunities.

**3.4.2** The Christchurch City Council shall approach those lessees on Stoddart Point Reserve that currently have solid fences or barriers between their land and the rest of the reserve, to discuss the possibility of replacing them with see-through or open style fencing.

<u>Note</u>: This is consistent with Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) practices, maximises integration with the greater reserve land and may provide greater awareness within the community of such groups.

- **3.4.3** The existing sport field in Stoddart Point Reserve shall be retained and any activity that compromises its use for organised sports shall be prohibited.
- **3.4.4** The public shall retain the right to access and use the sports field outside of booked competition and training times, and when the ground is not closed due to weather or maintenance concerns.
- **3.4.5** The right to temporarily close the sports fields for any reason shall be retained by the Christchurch City Council.
- **3.4.6** Bookings for the Stoddart Point Reserve sports field and/or picnic areas shall be through the Christchurch City Council booking system.

#### 3.5 Access

OBJECTIVE: To improve access to key areas of interest

**POLICIES:** 3.5.1 Christchurch City Council shall investigate suitable options to improve access to key features that are

currently either hard to access or inaccessible.

Note: This might include the negotiation of easements for public access across adjoining private land.

**3.5.2** Access points throughout the reserve network shall be marked, using, signs that comply with the signage and interpretation objective and policies of this management plan.

# 3.6 Scenic and landscape character

OBJECTIVE: To protect the landscape character of Diamond

Harbour/Te Waipapa and its surrounds through

appropriate management regimes

**POLICIES:** 3.6.1 Scenic values of the reserves shall be retained and

consideration given to the protection and enhancement of those scenic values when planning all installation and

upgrade of tracks and other works.

Note: Views from the Coastal Cliff Walkway across the Lyttelton Harbour/Whakaraupō should be protected and appropriate plantings selected so as not to block views.

# 3.7 Signage and interpretation

OBJECTIVE: To provide clear, consistent and informative

signage to enable ease of access and enjoyment throughout Stoddart Point and the Coastal Cliff

**Reserve Network** 

**POLICIES:** 3.7.1 All signs shall conform with Christchurch City Council

signage guidelines, bylaws, standards, and policies.

**3.7.2** Reserve signage shall distinguish between the Coastal

Cliff Reserve Network and Stoddart Point Reserve.

**3.7.3** Combined European/Māori names shall be employed on all signs referring to Diamond Harbour (Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa) and Stoddart Point (Stoddart Point/Upoko o Kurī). Signs referring to Stoddart Point

Reserve, though, shall have only have the European name.

- **3.7.4** Signage is to be informative and where appropriate provide reserve visitors with a map identifying publicly accessible land and walking track routes.
- **3.7.5** New entrance signs shall be installed at key locations, including, but not limited to:
  - Stoddart Point Reserve car park, the area adjacent to the Diamond Harbour jetty
  - Start of the Coastal Cliff Walkway at Hays Bay
  - Start of the Coastal Cliff Walkway at Stoddart Point Reserve above Purau Bay
  - Behind Stoddart's Cottage on Purau Avenue
- **3.7.6** Where-ever possible information provided by several organisations shall be combined on to one signboard.

<u>Note</u>: This will serve to prevent the unnecessary proliferation of signs.

**3.7.7** Signs shall be provided to inform the public that open fires are prohibited, if the Christchurch City Council's Principal Rural Fire Officer identifies a need to do so.

# 3.8 Amenity

#### **OBJECTIVE:**

To provide for the comfort of users while not compromising the rural character of the area

#### **POLICIES:**

- **3.8.1** The changing shed on the foreshore of Diamond Harbour Beach shall be demolished and removed.
- **3.8.2** The area of the changing shed referred to in policy 3.8.1 shall be turned into a useable space incorporating seating and a shaded area.
- **3.8.3** No further car parking areas shall be allowed within Stoddart Point Reserve, unless a need is identified that supports activity use within the reserve and it is not to the detriment of activity use within the reserve.
- **3.8.4** The Christchurch City Council shall investigate the opportunity for a fully accessible toilet to be located in a suitable location in the town centre.

Note: This investigation will be made in consultation with Disability Advisory Group.

- **3.8.5** The public toilet underneath the rugby clubrooms shall be signposted to better inform visitors to the area of its location.
- 3.8.6 The public toilet facility located within the Stoddart Point Reserve ferry car park area shall be signposted. The toilet block shall be cleared of vegetation to make the block more visible and easily seen. The toilet facility shall be placed on the renewals program for demolition and rebuild to meet current building standards.
- **3.8.7** Seating shall be retained in the current locations along the Coastal Cliff Walkway.
- **3.8.8** Additional seating shall be investigated for the Coastal Cliff Walkway where there are good viewpoints and existing seating nearby is limited.
- **3.8.9** New or replacement seating and picnic tables in Stoddart Point Reserve shall be located, and of a design, suitable for those with limited mobility.
- **3.8.10** A picnic area shall be investigated for installation at Hays Bay, including seating and appropriate plantings for shade.

# 3.9 Tangata Whenua

**OBJECTIVE:** 

The Council acknowledges Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke (Rāpaki) Rūnanga as manawhenua, and commits to protect and restore values significant to tangata whenua associated with the Coastal Cliffs Reserve Network

**POLICIES:** 

**3.9.1** Interpretation material that present stories about tangata whenua history and associations with the area shall be established at selected sites along the Coastal Cliff Walkway.

<u>Note</u>: These may include information on Purau, Rīpapa, Upoko o Kurī, Ka Kohata Whakarakaraka a Tamatea Pōkai Whenua and Pāua o Hine Kōtau.

**3.9.2** Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke (Rāpaki) Rūnanga shall be involved in the development of appropriate interpretation material (text and artwork) to tell their history and stories at these sites.

**3.9.3** Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke (Rāpaki) Rūnanga shall be informed on proposals to maintain and upgrade the Coastal Cliff Walkway, and restore and enhance native vegetation, particularly at and around interpretation sites.

# 3.10 Cultural heritage values

OBJECTIVE: Places and features of cultural heritage value are protected and acknowledged appropriately

**POLICIES:** 3.10.1 A conservation report for the heritage sites within Stoddart Point Reserve, including the lower and upper Stoddart Weirs shall be prepared to inform the future management of the heritage values of the sites.

Note: It is intended that an archaeological assessment report will form the basis of the archaeological section within the conservation report. The intention is to reinstate both the lower and upper Stoddart Weirs. Stoddart Cottage has its own conservation plan. Refer objective 3.11.

- **3.10.2** Adherence will be made to the requirements of the Historic Places Act 1993 with regard to archaeological matters and with respect to known and potential archaeological sites and features including Maori cultural sites. Consultation will be undertaken with Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke (Rāpaki) Rūnanga with regard to Maori cultural sites.
- **3.10.3** An interpretation plan for both European and Māori locations shall be developed. This plan shall take into account the sites identified by the Rūnanga in the cultural values report referred to in section 10 of this plan and the findings of the conservation report referred to in 3.10.1.

"Note: Council shall liaise with The New Zealand Historic Places Trust, Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke (Rāpaki) Rūnanga, The Diamond Harbour and Districts Historical Association, and other appropriate community organisations including the Church Bay Neighbourhood Association with regards to input into the interpretation plan."

**3.10.4** Settings associated with places and features of heritage value shall be protected. Taking into account the findings and recommendations of the conservation

report noted in 3.10.1 and the cultural values report referred to in section 10.

# 3.11 Stoddart Cottage

**OBJECTIVE:** 

To ensure that Stoddart Cottage is managed in line with the conservation plan and that The Stoddart Cottage Trust are able to offer activities that are in line with the values of the historical activities of the cottage and promote the use of the area to the public

**3.11.1** Christchurch City Council shall advise and assist the lessee of Stoddart Cottage as necessary.

Note: Stoddart Cottage has been closed following the Canterbury earthquakes and as a result The Stoddart Cottage Trust numbers have reduced. Council will support the Trust in future as necessary.

- **3.11.2** The conservation plan in place for Stoddart Cottage shall be followed to ensure the appropriate management of, and outcomes for the cottage.
- **3.11.3** The lessee of Stoddart Cottage shall adhere to the terms and conditions of the Deed of Lease.
- **3.11.4** Stoddart Cottage shall continue to be used to support local artists to reflect Margaret Stoddart's legacy.
- **3.11.5** Ancillary commercial operations shall be permitted at Stoddart Cottage, where these are consistent with the provisions of the lease, and provided they:
  - enable the public to obtain greater understanding or enjoyment of the heritage values of the cottage
  - do not significantly alter or permanently damage the reserve, and
  - do not impact on the rights of the public

# 3.12 Commercial activities

OBJECTIVE: To ensure commercial activities occur only if they are for the recreational benefit of reserve users

**POLICIES:** 3.12.1 Commercial activities that assist in the recreational use of Stoddart Point Reserve shall be considered where there is no detrimental effect on existing users of the area and where no permanent feature or support

structure is erected upon recreation or historic reserve land.

**3.12.2** Concessions for commercial activities within the reserves shall be considered to be granted, in line with the Christchurch City Council's policies and practice, only where there is a genuine need for this activity in terms of reserve management, or where the activity contributes to achieving the vision and objectives of this management plan.

# 3.13 Leases, licenses and bylaws

OBJECTIVE: To support recreation, sport and appropriate

community activities to optimise availability of the

reserves for public enjoyment

**POLICIES:** 3.13.1 The occupation or exclusive use of a facility or part of a reserve by clubs or organisations shall be allowed only through the issuing of a lease and/or license to occupy.

**3.13.2** Leases/licenses with a right of renewal, shall be renewed, provided that the continuing use of the facility is needed, there is no higher priority use identified, and the lessee/licensee is financially viable and has a stable membership.

- **3.13.3** Consider and grant new leases or licenses for existing or new activities on their merits and conformity to achieving the vision and objectives of this management plan, up to the maximum term permitted by the Reserves Act 1977 and in accordance with the Christchurch City Council's policies and practices for such leases and licences.
- **3.13.4** Regulate and manage the reserves in accordance with relevant statutory and legal requirements, Christchurch City Council by-laws and policy.
- **3.13.5** Allow the issuing of liquor licenses to be considered only when there is no negative impact on the reserves.

# 3.14 Buildings and structures

OBJECTIVE: To encourage multi-use of existing buildings and

#### POLICIES:

- **3.14.1** Existing and new buildings and structures, including extensions of existing buildings, shall be located where possible within existing leased areas.
- **3.14.2** Encourage multiple use of buildings and facilities where feasible.
- **3.14.3** New buildings on the reserves shall only be allowed when they are necessary to facilitate what the reserve is vested for, the use cannot be accommodated within existing buildings, and they do not have significant negative impact on the reserves and reserve users. This will require public notification and Christchurch City Council approval.
- **3.14.4** Develop a landscape plan in consultation with the community for the area immediately around the community building in Stoddart Point Reserve. This should include the car parking area and investigate the potential for an off road accessible pedestrian track from the town centre, to the community building including the rugby club and public toilets, through to Stoddart Cottage.

# 3.15 Utility services

**OBJECTIVE:** 

Allow for the installation and operation of essential utility services and structures not able to be located elsewhere

**POLICIES:** 

- **3.15.1** Where applications for easements in gross through or in the reserves are received they are to be processed in accordance with the requirements of section 48 of the Reserves Act 1977, or in accordance with any subsequent legislation which is prevailing at the time.
- **3.15.2** Where in the opinion of the Christchurch City Council the effects on the reserves of any structure proposed to be erected within the easement are no more than minor, the Council may approve the granting of an easement in gross in accordance with any Council policy prevailing at the time, and with any conditions the Council deem necessary.
- **3.15.3** The visual and physical impact of utility services shall be minimised and services shall be placed underground where possible.
- **3.15.4** The continued operation of existing utility services will be allowed, and opportunities shall be taken to reduce

any adverse effects they may have on the reserves at such time as they are upgraded or replaced.

# 3.16 Volunteer assistance and community involvement

OBJECTIVE: The community continues to assist the Council to

look after the reserve network

**POLICIES:** 3.16.1 Christchurch City Council shall support and encourage

the voluntary assistance of individuals and community groups with projects which align with the objectives and

policies of the management plan.

**3.16.2** The timing of voluntary assistance and community work

events shall take into consideration the bird nesting

season.

#### 4 ISSUES

# 4.1 Coastal Cliff Walkway

The public want the walkway to retain its rugged character, while providing a safe and accessible recreational experience. The majority of respondents and people that Council officers have spoken to in Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa agree that the Coastal Cliff Walkway should be extended south from Stoddart Point Reserve through to Purau Bay and that it should also continue from Church Bay to Hays Bay.

There appears to be division on how the walkway should ultimately feel. Many have said that they would like to retain the rugged coast line character whilst others have stated it would be ideal to have a safer walkway. It would appear that people fear the track will be urbanised to resemble a neighbourhood walkway similar to one that would be found in an urban area in Christchurch City. An urban style track is not appropriate in this environment and is out of character with Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa. It would be appropriate to have safety aspects designed into the track that allow for the rugged nature to be retained, much like a regional park track.

People also felt that the walkway should have a slip resistant surface and that the construction of additional rest stops for older adults should be considered. Additional rest stops would aid in the confidence of older walkway users and encourage more people to use the walkway.



The Coastal Cliff Walkway supports a variety of plant species, many of which are suited to the Mediterranean climate.

In future it is intended that the Coastal Cliff Walkway will form part of the Head to Head Walkway, a concept at investigatory stage as at September 2013, to form a walkway around the Lyttelton Harbour/ Whakaraupō from Godley Head to Adderley Head. In future where appropriate the relationship between the Coastal Cliff Walkway and the Head to Head Walkway will need to be considered including the implications of increased visitor numbers through the reserve network and the design of signage.

# 4.2 Ecology, flora and fauna

There is a desire to see native vegetation replace the exotics in cliff areas of Stoddart Point Reserve, through the establishment of native plants, removal of exotic plants and allowance of a natural succession. Any shift from the current pine plantation would take years, hence any decision to remove the trees needs to come with a long term commitment.

Other feedback has stated that fire mitigation and erosion control need to be the main factors when selecting future plant species. Heritage values associated with existing exotic vegetation also need to be taken into account, before any work is started.

Support was received for native plantings to provide suitable habitat and food sources for birds along the Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa coast line.

Bylaws already exclude dogs from certain areas, this being important now that the Reef Heron has been identified as visiting the area.

The dumping of garden waste has caused the spread of exotic weeds species at the expense of the native vegetation.

#### 4.3 Recreation: General

A variety of recreational uses occur throughout Stoddart Point Reserve and the Coastal Cliff Reserve Network. Each user group needs to be provided for while not compromising other activities. The range of uses encompasses both organised, and non-organised activities. This allows a high level of use by the community which in turn generates support for the reserves network. It is essential that this continues through the future management of the reserves network.

# 4.4 Recreation: Playground

Currently the playground is located between the medical centre on Waipapa Avenue and Stoddart Cottage. The existing playground was relocated from its original site (on the rugby clubroom site) in about 1998. The current site was chosen at the time due to its proximity to the library, hall, medical centre and because it was a safe distance from the sports field.

While some submitters felt the current location services the community well others commented that the current playground is under a large canopy of trees, shaded, sited next to a carpark, is relatively unknown as to its location, needs a wider range of age appropriate elements and provides little for adult supervision/interaction at the site.

At the time funding is secured for playground upgrade/ renewal in Stoddart Point Reserve consideration should be made, in consultation with the community, as to what age appropriate elements could be incorporated and what the most suitable location should be for the playground. Consideration of location and design should take into account the overall planning for recreation for children and youth in the Diamond Harbour area.

# 4.5 Recreation: Youth recreation provision

Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa has had an increase in people under the age of 15. Recreation activities for this group are equally as important as for older adults and for children. Traditionally, youth recreation opportunities have been overlooked, due to concern that by providing youth with areas to recreate they will vandalise them. This has in the past led to places not having any provision for youth recreation activities and hence they become unwelcoming to young people.

People have stated that they would like a controlled or designated area where youth can create dirt jumps for BMX and mountain bikes or have a place to skate board. Currently the school and the shop area in the Diamond Harbour/ Te Waipapa town centre are being used for these activities. Both locations are unsuitable because they are not designed to handle this sort of use and therefore unsafe. Investigation is needed to identify a suitable area for skate boarding and dirt BMX / mountain bike jumps. This does not mean a mountain bike track, rather an area where jumps cater for both BMX and mountain bikes.

Both the playground and any youth facilities should be designed to allow adults to interact and recreate alongside their children. Christchurch City Council playgrounds are now designed to enable adults to participate in the activities alongside children. Activities that cater for female youth need to be considered, such as climbing structures and youth spaces. Female youth as a group have been overlooked in the past when designing facilities on parks.

# 4.6 Recreation: Sport and organised clubs

There is a need to create greater community awareness of the clubs that currently operate within Stoddart Point Reserve. The clubs are isolated from the rest of the reserve area due to the nature of the fencing that enclose their activities. Open style fencing and coordinated signage could help address this issue and could encourage more people to join the clubs.

#### 4.7 Access

Submitters have stated that better access is needed to the beaches of Diamond Harbour/ Te Waipapa and the surrounding area. While the public can access Diamond Harbour Beach, Purau Bay Beach, Hays Bay Beach and Church Bay Beach, only Purau Beach has an access way that would be considered easy to walk. Access to all of the other beaches is limited by the steepness and the low standard of many tracks, and by the difficulty in finding some of them.



Diamond Harbour Beach with changing sheds in the foreground, which are proposed for removal.

At the Diamond Harbour Beach area, it has been proposed that the changing sheds be removed and the track to this beach from Waipapa Avenue be upgraded to make it accessible by those with limited mobility.

In the case of Church Bay Beach, new easements or access routes to the beach are needed. At Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa an upgrade of the walking track to the beach would suffice and is the only practical option. A new walkway to Hays Bay Beach has been provided through the development of the Black Point Reserves.

Submitters have identified a need to ensure that future residential development does not cut off access routes into reserve areas, especially in light of the opportunities that have been lost at Church Bay. The historic access to Church Bay Beach from Athol Place has been closed because it crossed private land, and the public would like to regain some form of access into the Bay. This has proven to be difficult because the foreshore is hemmed in by residential properties. Submitters do not want to see this happen in future residential areas.

# 4.8 Scenery and landscape

The Coastal Cliffs and Stoddart Point Reserve have been identified as an important landscape feature for those using the reserves and for those looking across the harbour.

Submitters have stated that the views of the reserves and across the harbour are important, and give value to the landscape character of Diamond Harbour/ Te Waipapa and its surrounds. The public comment received was that any works both on and around the reserves should not detract from their scenic values.

# 4.9 Amenities: Changing shed

The changing shed on the Diamond Harbour Beach is to be removed. The flat terrace under the existing building could be made into an attractive landscaped picnic area with seats overlooking the beach. The current toilet facilities at Diamond Harbour Beach will be available for changing.

# 4.10 Amenities: Litter and rubbish

The dumping of rubbish in the Stoddart Point Reserve picnic area has been noticed on regular occasions. A rubbish bin rationalisation programme and consideration of placement of rubbish bins within the Coastal Cliff Reserves Network and Stoddart Point Reserve should be undertaken to ensure effective placement of rubbish bins in locations that have minimal detraction from the environment.

# 4.11 Amenities: Toilet facilities at Stoddart Point Reserve

Currently there are public toilets at the Diamond Harbour Beach, in the main picnic area above the ferry terminal, and underneath the rugby clubrooms in Stoddart Point Reserve. It has been suggested that the town centre would be a suitable location for a toilet block as many visitors access the town centre. The current toilets are not fully accessible and are not suitable for those with limited mobility.

The toilets at the main picnic area above the ferry terminal need to be cleared of vegetation to make them more welcoming and visible. The toilet block in time will need to be considered for redesign or removal. Signage to direct public to the location of the toilets is necessary.



Stoddart Point picnic area toilet block, hidden by surrounding vegetation.

Photo taken in April 2010.

The toilets underneath the rugby clubrooms have a lack of directional signage and are therefore relatively unknown to visitors of the area. Until such times as there are toilet facilities in the town centre, toilet facility directional signage is necessary.

# 4.12 Signage

Currently there are a variety of signs throughout the Coastal Cliff Reserve Network and Stoddart Point Reserve. Submitters have asked for better quality signs, in a consistent style, which do not detract from the rugged experience of the track. Future co-ordinated signage will need to meet the new Council signage guidelines.

Consistent, informative signage could alleviate issues of people accidentally trespassing or accessing areas that are not publicly owned. A number of side tracks lead to neighbouring private properties. With a lack of informative and consistent signage it is difficult for the general public to know which tracks to follow.



Signage for the Coastal Route and the Cliff Edge Track.

## 4.13 Interpretation and heritage

Historical celebration of the area through interpretation material would add to the experience of the Coastal Cliff Walkway. Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa has a rich history from both Māori and European perspectives. During the issues gathering phase of the plan, many people offered information about the history that has shaped the area.

## 4.14 Stoddart Cottage

Following the Canterbury earthquakes Stoddart Cottage had to close and as at September 2013 had not reopened. Stoddart Cottage sustained structural and cosmetic damage that needs to be repaired before it can open to the public again. Stoddart Cottage is maintained by The Stoddart Cottage Trust. However as a result of the earthquakes and subsequent closure the Trusts member numbers have diminished. It will be important for the Council to support the Trust to ensure its effectiveness into the future. Once the cottage reopens it would benefit greatly from increased marketing to entice more visitors to the site.

#### 4.15 Stoddart Weirs

The Diamond Harbour Historical Association has put forward a preliminary landscape proposal plan to reinstate the upper and lower Stoddart Weirs. The weirs are located to the south of the cemetery in the gully that runs adjacent to the croquet club. The reinstatement of the weirs would add to the historic interest of the reserve.



Above, looking from the cemetery towards the general area of the Stoddart Weirs, the croquet club building can be seen in the distance.

While work on the weirs is subject to archaeological authority prior to any commencement it is acknowledged that some urgent work is needed to prevent further deterioration of the weirs. The New Zealand Historic Places Trust has agreed to meet

with appropriate Council staff and community members on site to ensure there is a clear understanding about the archaeological methodology, precautions and issues.

# 4.16 Old concrete building by Stoddart Point Reserve car park

There is an old concrete building between the Stoddart Point Reserve car park and the track that leads to Diamond Harbour Beach. One submitter provided information that the building was built for the Lyttelton Borough Council probably around the 1920's as a place where people could light fires to 'boil the billy'. Its roof has since been removed. Currently there is limited information on the building. The policies of this management plan support the retention of any heritage building. If information is received on the old concrete building that results in it being listed as a heritage building, then appropriate action should be taken to protect its heritage values.

# 4.17 Leases, licenses and bylaws

A number of organisations currently have leases over parts of Stoddart Point Reserve. The lease gives each group a right to occupy and run its club or organisations activity within the reserve area. With limitation on land within Stoddart Point Reserve, no further land should be set aside under an exclusive use lease area unless absolutely necessary, and the usage meets with the objectives and policies of this management plan.

Christchurch City Council bylaws determine some of the activities that can and cannot be conducted at the reserve.

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# 4.18 Wastewater treatment plant

Submitters stated a desire for the smell emanating from the sewage treatment plant to be addressed, or the treatment plant to be relocated. In places along the Coastal Cliffs Walkway, the smell can detract from an otherwise pleasant experience.

The Christchurch City Council has approved a programme of works to decommission the Diamond Harbour/Charteris Bay Wastewater Treatment Plant, with all of the Lyttelton Harbour raw wastewater proposed to be pumped directly to the Christchurch Wastewater Treatment Plant by 2022.

## **5 LEASE INFORMATION**

The following leases are in place at Stoddart Point Reserve:

Lessee	Property usage	Final lease expiry date	Renewal
The Stoddart Cottage Trust	Promotion of historic significance of cottage and art display	30 March 2019	Advertise lease on expiry for a new term
Canterbury Play Centre	Educational facility for the operation of a play centre	30 June 2016	Advertise lease on expiry for a new term
Scouting New Zealand	Recreation facility for the operation of a scout hall	30 June 2016	Advertise lease on expiry for a new term
Diamond Harbour Rugby Football Club Incorporated	Rugby club rooms	26 October 2013	Advertise lease on expiry for a new term
Diamond Harbour Community Association Incorporated	Community hall and library	29 June 2015	Advertise lease on expiry for a new term
Diamond Harbour and Bays Club Incorporated (Bowls)	Bowling club and green	30 March 2030	Advertise lease on expiry for a new term
Diamond Harbour and Districts Croquet Club Incorporated	Croquet club and green	30 March 2030	Advertise lease on expiry for a new term

The Christchurch City Council proposes to have each of the above leases advertised for a further term on expiry. This being subject to the lessee still being a viable entity, the Christchurch City Council is satisfied that the terms and conditions of the lease or licence have been complied with, that there is still sufficient need for the facilities and amenities and that some other use should not have priority in the public interest.

# **6 HISTORICAL INFORMATION**

## 6.1 The Stoddarts and Stoddart Cottage

Stoddart Point and Stoddart Cottage were the home of Mark and Anna Stoddart, the father and mother of renowned Canterbury Artist, Margaret Stoddart and the first European to own land at Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa.

Mark Stoddart had the cottage built in Australia of hardwood and shipped to Lyttelton. Once in Lyttelton Mark Stoddart began to assemble the cottage in time for his honeymoon. Mark Stoddart decided to name the area Diamond Harbour, his reason being the glitter of the sun track on the water resembling diamonds. Before this time the bay was referred to as Stoddarts Bay.



Stoddart's Cottage (Photo supplied by Maddi Naylor of The Stoddart Cottage Trust).

Stoddart Cottage is currently leased by The Stoddart Cottage Trust which, up until the Canterbury earthquakes, provided information on the cottage's history to visitors. The Trust assisted local artists by offering gallery space in the cottage to display their works to visitors, an appropriate mark of respect to the artistic history that the Stoddarts brought to the region. The cottage remains closed as at September 2013. The Council will need to work with the Trust to ensure the necessary repairs to the cottage are completed following the earthquakes and to ensure the future use of the cottage for the community.

Stoddart Cottage is registered by the New Zealand Historic Places Trust as a category 1 historic place. The cottage is also listed as a protected heritage item in the Banks Peninsula District Plan and is maintained in accordance with a conservation plan. It is considered an excellent example of colonial prefabrication.

## 6.2 The Lyttelton Borough Extension Act 1911

In 1911 the Mayor of Lyttelton (Malcolm James Miller) instigated a process to allow the Lyttelton Borough Council to acquire tracts of land in Diamond Harbour/ Te Waipapa (including much of the Coastal Cliff and Stoddart Point Reserve). At this time, Diamond Harbour/ Te Waipapa was part of the Mt Herbert County Council. On 6 February 1913, the rate payers of the Lyttelton district went to vote on the proposed Extension Act. With half of the rate payers turning out for the vote, the proposal was carried by 250 votes to 216. The Act was passed by Parliament and Lyttelton Borough Council was then able to borrow between £7,000 and £15,000 to purchase around 350 acres including Stoddart Point and the Coastal Cliffs.

The Act has been superceded in recent years. In November of 1989 the Lyttelton and Mt Herbert Councils amalgamated to become Banks Peninsula District Council. Lyttelton and Mt Herbert now sit within the Christchurch City Council after Banks Peninsula amalgamated with Christchurch in 2006.

# 7 RESOURCE INFORMATION

#### 7.1 Land tenure

Christchurch City Council holds the Certificates of Title for the reserves described in this management plan. There are some areas of unformed legal road, existing rights of way and areas leased by sports clubs and community groups on the reserves or adjacent to them. The Christchurch City Council controls the legal roads, both formed and unformed, under Section 317 of the Local Government Act 1974.

# 7.2 Legal status and classification

The land parcels referred to in Table 1 below are held as reserves under the Reserves Act 1977.

Table 1

Schedule	Description	Title and Legal Description	Area hectares	Classified as
Α	Stoddart Cottage	Lot 4, DP 304811. 19080	0.1443	Historic reserve
В	Stoddart Point Reserve (community hall lease area)	Lot 5, DP 304811. 19081	0.4638	Local purpose (community building) reserve
С	Stoddart Point Reserve (scout den and play centre lease area)	Lot 3, DP 304811. 19079	0.2816	Local purpose (community building) reserve
D	Stoddart Point Cemetery	Lot 11, DP 304811. 19087	1.1805	Local purpose (cemetery) reserve
E	James Drive Recreation Reserve (area adjoining Church Bay Foreshore)	Lot 18, DP 49881	0.5509	Recreation reserve
F	Otamuhua Lane Reserve (section adjoining the Coastal Cliff Reserve)	Lot 127, DP 76156, CT-43D/642	1.0089	Recreation reserve
G	Otamuhua Lane Reserve (Church Bay section)	Lot 128, DP 72141, CT-42A/132	0.3792	Recreation reserve
Н	Stoddart Point Reserve (croquet club lease area)	Lot 1, DP 304811, CT-19077	0.2409	Recreation reserve
I	Stoddart Point Reserve (bowling club lease area)	Lot 2, DP 304811 CT- 19078	0.2984	Recreation reserve
J	Black Point Reserve above Church Bay, created as a result of	Lot 51, DP 418001, CT- 469251	1.3200	Recreation reserve

# Stoddart Point Reserve and Coastal Cliff Reserves Network Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa Management Plan 2013

	subdivision			
К	Black Point Reserve adjoining Hays Bay beach, created as a result of subdivision	Lot 52, DP 418001, CT 469252	0.1185	Recreation reserve
L	Coastal Cliff Reserve (section north of Laurenson Park)	Pt Lot 2, DP 14050, CT-CB575/79	3.5008	Recreation reserve
M	Coastal Cliff Reserve (section containing Sam's Gully)	Lot 3, DP 14050, CT- CB520/296	3.2375	Recreation reserve
N	Coastal Cliff Reserve (section above Diamond Harbour Beach containing Morgan's Gully)	Lot 4, DP 14050, CT- CB520/296	3.9457	Recreation reserve
0	Stoddart Point Reserve (the main land parcel making up Stoddart Point Reserve)	Pt Lot 5, DP 14050	11.8729	Recreation reserve

#### 8 PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Stoddart Point Reserve and the Coastal Cliff Reserve Network are an important part of the Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa area. The coastal connection that allows people to walk from Stoddart Point/Upoko o Kurī through to Church Bay provides an attractive and diverse range of recreational opportunities. The environment contains a variety of flora and fauna residing along the Coastal Cliff.

# 8.1 Hays Bay

The public beach at Hays Bay is one of the more sheltered beaches in the Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa area. There is currently a walking track from Marine Drive (Charteris Bay) that provides access to the beach. This track is rugged, has limited car parking and is not easy to see from the road. As part of the residential development of Black Point, Black Point Reserve has been created, which includes a steep stepped track providing access to the beach.

The beach itself consists of fine crushed shell that gently grades into mud flats with pebbles. It is a relatively calm beach and is suitable for paddling and picnicking.

Hays Bay will be either a start or finish point of the track that Council is proposing to make through to Purau Bay. Access is proposed to go over both Black Point headland through Black Point Reserve and be situated within the legal road boundary located adjacent to the foreshore, and around the headland.



The above photo of Hays Bay Beach was taken in 2008 prior to the Black Point residential development.

#### 8.2 Black Point

Black Point is a gated community. As part of this subdivision two reserves have been created, both named Black Point Reserve. The intention with the reserves is to create public access from Hays Bay through to Church Bay. The reserves are steep between the two mentioned bays. Steep stair access has been developed from Black Point Reserve down into Hays Bay. Future access from Black Point Reserve down into Church Bay requires further investigation as the terrain is steep. An alternative route is around the Black Point headland. This track also requires upgrading.

# 8.3 Church Bay

The foreshore at Church Bay is dominated by boatsheds and slipways overlaying volcanic bedrock and stones. This has created small pockets of rocky beaches and rock pools in between the slipways. Church Bay has two other significant features - a swimming beach to the east and a jetty that sits to the west of the boatsheds. The jetty is approximately 30 metres long with a platform at the end. The swimming beach is well sheltered and is a well utilised recreational area for local residents. Access into the beach is difficult due to limited parking at the Marine Drive entrance. Housing in Church Bay is built on steep terrain amongst trees and other vegetation making for a dramatic setting.

#### 8.4 Pauaohinekotau Head

The most notable aspect of Pauaohinekotau Head is the views over the Lyttelton Basin. The unobstructed nature of the headland allows for great vistas in relatively shade free setting. The old Payne's quarry site sits below the track at this location. It is now the site of a wastewater treatment plant.

#### 8.5 Coastal Cliff Reserve Network and Coastal Cliffs Walkway

#### 8.5.1 James Drive Recreation Reserve

James Drive Recreation Reserve is the land parcel that lies to the east of Church Bay heading towards Pauaohinekotau Head. The reserve contains part of the Coastal Cliff Walkway and a variety of vegetation. James Drive Recreation Reserve should not be confused with James Drive Reserve which has a basketball court and playground. The two are not the same reserve despite the similar names. James Drive Reserve is outside the scope of this management plan.

#### 8.5.2 Otamuhua Lane Reserve

Otamahua Lane Reserve links James Drive Recreation Reserve to the Coastal Cliff Reserves. It wraps around Pauaohinekotau Head past the wastewater treatment plant. The reserve is part of the Coastal Cliff Walkway and has relatively exposed cliffs compared with James Drive Recreation Reserve.

#### 8.5.3 Unformed Legal Road

The Coastal Cliff Reserve Network includes unformed legal road that sits between the reserves and the foreshore. This unformed legal road is public land and as such has been taken into account in this management plan. The track offers a great variety of settings for those that walk it. The track is situated below the houses of Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa and high above the rocky shoreline. The cliff drops away dramatically in places and has a great variety of bird life and vegetation. Moving from exposed Mediterranean-like cliffs into decorative succulents, and past remnant native vegetation into pine trees, the cliff track is truly a great coastal walk. One can experience views of Stoddart Point/Upoko o Kurī, Quail Island, Black Point and into Lyttelton Harbour/Whakaraupō.

# 8.6 Cliff Edge Track (part of the Coastal Cliffs Walkway)

What is known as the Cliff Edge Track runs from below the bowling club at Stoddart Point Reserve through to Church Bay. One can walk from the pine plantation of Stoddart Point Reserve, past the Diamond Harbour Beach, through the succulent garden, past the bamboo stand that local children use as a fort and onto Pauaohinekotau headland where both Church Bay and the wastewater treatment plant can be viewed. Both the Cliff Edge Track and the Coastal Route are basically the same walkway. They had been divided in previous years to mark the difference in track experiences. Together the tracks measure approximately 7.5 kilometres to make up the overall Coastal Cliff Walkway.

#### 8.7 Coastal Route (part of the Coastal Cliffs Walkway)

What is known as the Coastal Route runs from below the bowling club at Stoddart Point Reserve through to the Purau Bay end of Stoddart Point Reserve. The Coastal Route walking track is slightly more rugged than the Cliff Edge Track and offers views across to Purau foreshore and Ripapa Island. The area has a mix of native and exotic vegetation.

## 8.8 Diamond Harbour Beach and Jetty

The beach at Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa currently has an old changing shed and toilet complex. There is some signage on the beach and a track to Waipapa Avenue. The beach has access to the Diamond Harbour jetty and ferry terminal, Diamond Harbour town centre and Morgan's Gully. At full tide the beach can be utilised for swimming. The community has shown on several visits to the area during 2007 and 2008 that the Diamond Harbour jetty is popular for swimming, with the crane being a well utilised feature. People of various ages have shown they have the ability to get into the water and back onto the jetty thanks to the stairs leading to the water.

The jetty is becoming increasingly popular for both commuters and people recreating. The jetty itself is outside of the scope of this management plan.

However it is essential to make note of the importance the community places on the jetty as a means of transport and the crane and as a means for recreation. The jetty is also one of the main entrance points for visitors visiting Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa, and therefore it is an important meeting point, and where visitors disembark and start their visit of the area.

# 8.9 Stoddart Point Reserve (picnic area and domain)

Stoddart Point Reserve fulfils the role of a sports park in Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa. It is home to a variety of clubs and is referred to in many situations as Stoddart Domain, although this is not an official name. Stoddart Point Reserve also has a picnic area popular for day trippers. The picnic area has long term parking available for those that travel to Christchurch via the ferry. The ferry arrives at the jetty just below Stoddart Point Reserve so fulfils an important role for the community in regards to accessing Christchurch and Lyttelton.

# 8.10 Purau Bay

Purau lies to the southeast of Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa. The bay is enclosed by volcanic hills and crags with views across the harbour to Ripapa Island and the Port Hills. The western side of the bay is scattered with moored boats and wooden anchoring devices. There is a small jetty, boats stored on the shoreline and a launching ramp.

## 8.11 Diamond Harbour Memorial Gardens Cemetery

The Diamond Harbour Memorial Gardens Cemetery lies to the northeast of the former Godley House site. It is terraced and is planted in native tussocks.

#### 8.12 Mt Herbert Track

Mt Herbert is the highest point on Banks Peninsula at 920 metres above mean sea level. Views from Mt Herbert extend from Lyttelton Harbour and Banks Peninsula to the Southern Alps. The Mt Herbert track can be accessed via the Diamond Harbour jetty or car park at the Stoddart Point Reserve picnic area.

The mountain can be accessed by several routes including from Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa. The first route leaves Kaituna Valley and takes four to six hours return via the Packhorse Hut. The route reaches both Mt Bradley and Mt Herbert. This route can also be accessed from Gebbies Pass.

• Department of Conservation Description: "This track is well sign-posted and passes the farm, following vehicle tracks up a bush-filled valley before climbing onto a big spur. It then follows the spur for some distance before reaching a farm track past Parkinsons Bush Reserve. This leads to the saddle and historic stone hut, well situated for the views." The second route leaves Diamond Harbour side. It can be accessed in two places, either Diamond Harbour Road or Orton Bradley Park. This route takes five to seven hours return.

• Department of Conservation Description: "Can be accessed from Diamond Harbour Road or Orton Bradley Park. Can also be accessed from Packhorse Hut or Port Levy Saddle (via Summit Road Walkway). This is a strenuous walk from the sea to the summit of Mt Herbert/Te Ahu Pātiki, the high point of Banks Peninsula. The walkway mostly follows a farm vehicle track up a volcanic spur. There is a shelter on the saddle between Mt Herbert and Mt Bradley."



The Mt Herbert track can be started from the jetty at Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa

#### 8.13 Climate

Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa is on the southern side of Lyttelton Harbour/Whakaraupō and therefore sits on the northern and sunniest aspect of the harbour basin. The south-west delivers most of the rainfall to the Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa area, which is about 850 mm annually. The seasonal temperature range is smaller than what is experienced in Christchurch due to maritime influence and is in the order of 20-30 degrees Celsius. The prevailing wind comes off the sea from the north-east and is a cool wind. The warm north-west wind generally occurs in early summer.

## 8.14 Geology and soils

Lyttelton Harbour/Whakaraupō is the centre of two extinct volcanic centres that created Banks Peninsula. It is estimated the coast line of the Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa area was created between 8.2 and 5.2 million years ago when volcanic activity near Mount Herbert resulted in lava flows of olivine basalt to the sea. The long period of volcanic activity has resulted in rocks of varying age from some of the earliest at Church Bay, to the last lava flow from Mt Herbert.

Since volcanic activity ceased, the hills and mountains of the Peninsula have been covered by wind swept loess carried by the north-west wind over the Canterbury Plains. Erosion carried the loess down from the upper slopes creating a deeper layer in the lower areas.

Agricultural practices on the hills of the harbour basin are thought to have increased the rate of sedimentation.

These soils made up of volcanic matter and loess deposits are continually affected by the drying out action of the seasonal north-west winds. Consequential cracking makes them susceptible to tunnel and gully erosion especially where vegetation has been removed.

# 9 RELEVANT STRATEGIES, LEGISLATION AND POLICIES

Management of the reserves is governed by the Reserves Act 1977, under which they are held, and by the legal responsibilities of the Christchurch City Council under the Local Government Act 2002 and the Resource Management Act 1991. This management plan has been prepared with reference to a number of key policy documents including, but not limited to:

- Reserves Act 1977
- Local Government Act 2002
- Resource Management Act 1991
- Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011
- Biosecurity Act 1993
- Historic Places Act 1993
- Christchurch City Council Public Open Space Strategy 2010-2040
- Christchurch Active Living Strategy 2004
- Physical Recreation and Sport Strategy 2002
- Christchurch Visitor Strategy 2007 2017
- Christchurch City Council Biodiversity Strategy 2008 2035
- Canterbury Region Biodiversity Strategy 2008
- Canterbury Regional Pest Management Strategy 2011-2015
- Christchurch City Council Operational Pest Plan
- Christchurch City Council Long Term Plan
- Banks Peninsula District Plan
- Christchurch City Council Bylaws
- Christchurch City Council Tree Policy (Draft)
- Banks Peninsula District Council Tree Planting on Reserves Indigenous Trees and Shrubs Policy
- Christchurch City Council Artworks in Public Places Policy
- Banks Peninsula District Council Art in Public Places Policy
- Christchurch City Council/ Environment Canterbury Banks Peninsula/ Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū Zone Implementation Programme

The following plan was released in 2013 and while it was not available when preparing this plan it is important to acknowledge here, to ensure that it is made reference to in any future implementation of relevant projects identified in the indicative developmental proposals outlined in 11.6 of this plan.

• Mahaanui Iwi Management Plan 2013

Other relevant documents that effect neighbouring land parcels:

- Christchurch City Council Cemeteries Master Plan June 2013
- Christchurch City Council Cemeteries Handbook June 2013

#### 10 REFERENCES

AspxZ Ltd. (2009). Rāpaki Consultation on Stoddart Point and Coastal Reserves Management Plan. Prepared for the Christchurch City Council.

Diamond Harbour Reserves Draft Management Plan (1992). Prepared for the Banks Peninsula District Council and the Diamond Harbour Landscape Management Group by Peter Rough and Associates, Landscape Architects. This plan was never formally adopted.

Standards New Zealand Handbook. SNZ HB 8630:2004. Tracks and Outdoor Visitor Structures.

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Anderson, Johnannes C. (1927). Place-names of Banks Peninsula: A Topographical History. New Zealand Board of Science and Art. Manual No. 6.

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Harper, Barbara. (1980). Petticoat Pioneers. South Island Women of the Colonial Era. Book Three.

Watson, James D. (1962). The First 100 Years – Municipal Government in Lyttelton. Published by the Lyttelton Borough Council.

# 11 APPENDICES

The following can be found in the appendices:

11.1 Issues outside the management plan area
11.2 Bird survey
11.3 Botanist report
11.4 Demographic profile of Diamond Harbour
11.5 Indicative development proposals
11.6 Indicative development plans

## 11.1 Issues outside the management plan area

#### 11.1.1 Traffic issues for pedestrians

There is a lack of pedestrian walkways through out Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa. There is a real concern that possible conflicts between pedestrians and cars could result in accidents occurring within the area. Submitters stated a need to rectify this issue by implementing a pedestrian walkway route that would take people through Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa in a safe manner on a footpath and not on the road.

#### 11.1.2 Godley House

Following the February 2011 earthquake Godley House needed to be demolished. This has removed an important entertainment venue from Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa with only the foundations of the former house remaining. Understandably there is significant interest by the community in the future of the former Godley House site. While the former Godley House site is not covered in this management plan, it is important that any future planning and consultation take into consideration the objectives and policies of this management plan. The land parcel on which Godley House once stood is held as fee simple, not currently part of the reserve network, and is therefore not subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

#### 11.1.3 Diamond Harbour ferry terminal and the crane

There has been much said of the ferry terminal at Diamond Harbour jetty. There are conflicts of interest at the current ferry terminal in regards to recreational swimmers, fisher people, private boats, access issues for those with limited mobility and ferry passengers. The jetty has been noted on several site visits as being more popular for swimming than Diamond Harbour Beach. This can be attributed to the old crane that allows swimmers to swing into the water, a popular activity. The crane however, is seen to be an obstruction by people who would like to see limited mobility access onto the ferry. This is because the cranes area of swing is the only place where an access pontoon could be located. This may mean the removal of the crane should the access pontoon be installed.

As the Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa population grows and the commuting population becomes larger, there will be increasing pressure on the jetty and potentially increased conflicts as a result between commuters, boaters and recreation users. Currently this jetty is the only ferry terminal within the Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa district. This adds pressure onto the car park in both Stoddart Point Reserve and next to the ferry terminal. Once capacity is reached for both, there is limited ability for expansion.

#### 11.1.4 Diamond Harbour Memorial Gardens Cemetery

The community has outlined various issues with the current cemetery and how they perceive it could be better utilised. This includes natural burials, use of native vegetation, more colourful plantings and some have suggested it be moved altogether to an alternative location. The latter is not an option as some plots have been filled and others booked.

The cemetery is covered in the Christchurch City Council Cemeteries Master Plan.

#### 11.1.5 Recreational opportunities along the waters edge

The Council does not have authority over the foreshore around Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa. Suggestions have been put forward to reinstate the diving boards that used to be in place near the Diamond Harbour Beach. Others had suggested that a floating pontoon similar to Corsair Bay could be installed at Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa, either near the jetty or the beach. Much of the water activity at Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa in regards to swimming appears to occur from the jetty where an old crane is utilised for access into the water.

## 11.1.6 Purau Bay foreshore

There are a number of issues that have been put forward by both the local community and Ngāi Tahu. These issues are being dealt with outside the management plan and will be discussed further with the community at an appropriate time.

## 11.1.7 Purau Bay campground

The campground which has been part of Purau Bay for many years closed down in April 2009 due to financial constraints. It is likely the closing of the campground will have an impact on the summer time use of Purau and will effect opportunities for people to camp in the area. The closest campground will be situated at Orton Bradley Park, this being approximately 8.5 kilometres from Purau. There could be a decrease in visitors to the area as campers look to other places for camping. Orton Bradley, Duvuachelles and Pigeon Bay are the next closest campgrounds.

#### 11.1.8 Purau Bay boat ramp, jetty and car park area

Feedback has signalled that safety at the ramp in Purau is of concern due to slippery surface of the boat ramp. Many suggest that a better non-slip surface would be suitable or that the angle needs to be adjusted. Others feel that the ramp needs a complete overhaul as the direction it faces is unsuitable. Floating pontoons and other examples such as Duvauchelle boat ramp have been outlined as suitable options. Those that submitted on this issue felt that the jetty should not be the alternative to the boat ramp when it is slippery. They felt that the boat ramp should be able to handle boat launching.

Boat ramp users have stated that due to high demand for car parking there is issue when trying to park both vehicle and trailer once a boat has been launched. Submitters stated that the car park should be marked to make better use of the area as people currently park in a random fashion and eliminate space for other users. Car park users have highlighted that people are now parking on the sealed footpath that leads to Purau Bay foreshore, this causes pedestrians to walk on the road and submitters feel this should be stopped as it could be a hazard.

The Christchurch City Council's Asset Management Plan for marine structures will address the Purau boat ramp, jetty and car park area assets.

#### 11.1.9 Future growth in Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa

Submitters raised concerns about the issue of continual growth in Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa and its surrounds, without a long term vision or implementation plan, on how to ensure services and facilities such as the town centre and amenity shops may be included in the long term. With an increase of commuters to the area there is an expectation that services generally on offer in urban areas may also be available within the Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa area in years to come. This issue does have a flip side, in that there are residents within the area that have enjoyed the low key nature of Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa or have moved there specifically due to its rural nature and lack of amenity shops. There are positives and negatives about such facilities in this area. In the long term there will need to be consideration of how to support continual residential growth.



The Coastal Cliff Walkway and houses that reside above the track.

## 11.2 Bird survey

## **Background**

In 2007 a bird survey was commissioned by Council, for the Stoddart Point Reserve area. The survey also included the coastline from Stoddart Point/Upoko o Kurī around to Church Bay. The aim of this survey was to identify the species present within the study area, identify how they were using the habitats present (through for example breeding, roosting or foraging) and how the habitat management of this area could be improved to enhance the area for the bird species present.

#### Method

Bird surveys were all undertaken by an experienced ornithologist (Andrew Crossland – Port Hills Ranger). Several visits were made within the study area between April and October 2007 to assess birdlife using the area. These were comprised of land-based visits and two boat-based surveys (on 11 April 2007 and 26 October 2007). The surveys were spread out so that bird abundance and species richness could be assessed during the breeding and non-breeding seasons.

Two survey methodologies were used. The first survey type was completed from a boat, which travelled along the coastline of the study area. Any species identified during this trip were recorded, including a note relating to the birds activity and the numbers present. The second survey type was undertaken on foot and transects were walked through the study area, again any species present were recorded, their activity noted and abundance assessed.

All surveys were undertaken at an appropriate time of day and during weather conditions that the birds would be active

#### Results

Detailed results of all three bird surveys are provided in a series of tables at the end of this report.

In summary, it was confirmed that three coastal bird species, including black-backed gull, white faced heron and New Zealand kingfisher, currently breed upon the section of coast line within this study area.

In addition a further 14 coastal bird species were recorded foraging or roosting along the coastline. These included the reef heron, which is considered a rare/threatened species along the Canterbury coastline (considered to be less than eight individuals on the Banks Peninsula and less than 25 in Canterbury). The study area falls within the foraging range of a pair of reef heron known to be resident at Adderley Head – Port Levy.

The key habitat for most coastal birds is the inter-tidal rocky shoreline where many species feed and roost. It has been noted that pied cormorant and little cormorant use the large conifers along the eastern side of Stoddart Point/Upoko o Kurī as a roosting site. These trees could provide cormorants with a future nesting colony site and are therefore of significant value.



Reef heron, noted to be foraging or roosting along the coastline, the reef heron is considered rare or threatened along the Canterbury coastline.

Photo supplied by Andrew Crossland.

Six native bird species (bellbird, silvereye, grey warbler, fantail, shining cuckoo and kererū) were recorded breeding within the mixed native/exotic secondary woodland situated along the eastern side of Stoddart Point Reserve. In addition, Tūī has also been recorded foraging in this habitat (although they were not observed during this study). Tūī are no longer known to breed on Banks Peninsula. Historically (prior to the 1970s) this area was frequented by Tūī.

In the same habitat 12 introduced passerine species were recorded nesting. These included song thrush, chaffinch and dunnock.

#### **Discussion and Recommendations**

The survey results confirm that a number of bird species are resident along the coast line and within the mixed secondary woodland situated on the eastern side of Stoddart Point/Upoko o Kurī. In addition, it was noted that the secondary woodland is of value to foraging birds as is the inter-tidal rocky shore zone. However, the quality of these habitats is being undermined by the current management of this site. Therefore the following recommendations have been made to enhance the value of this site for birds.

The mature eucalyptus and conifer trees present upon Stoddart Point Reserve are of value to birds as roosting and foraging habitat and they should be retained. To ensure the longevity of this habitat feature it should be assessed by an experienced abor-

culturalist as to whether or not there are specimen trees that are being grown on to take over from these trees as they come to the end of their life.

To enhance the site for birds' standing old wood should be retained, with removal of limbs to stabilise the trunk, removing the risk of injury to the public, while retaining the old wood for nesting birds and invertebrates.

It will be necessary to undertake arboriculture works on the mature and developing trees (including scrub) present at Stoddart Point/Upoko o Kurī. These works should be timed so that they occur outside of the bird nesting period, which extends from mid-August to the beginning of February. This can be achieved by completing tree assessment works in February and undertaking works over the winter period. If emergency works are required during the breeding season and there is doubt as to whether the tree is being used as a nesting site an experienced ecologist should be contacted. This approach should be adopted to ensure that the growth of the population of native birds is not inhibited by the accidental loss of active nests.

It was identified within the Stoddart Point Reserve that the under storey beneath the mature trees is becoming dominated with invasive weeds (this does not include tree lucerne *Chamaecytisus palmensis*, which is a useful food source for birds), which is reducing the quality of the habitat for foraging birds. It is proposed that a programme of weed control is implemented and that new planting is selected that will provide foraging and suitable nesting sites.

Access by dogs along the water's edge in areas where coastal birds feed and roost, and where penguins formerly nested (and may be induced to return) results in disturbance and potential predation.

To aid pedestrian access to this coastline it is recommended that ladders are installed at key locations so that the impact of pedestrian traffic is focused to the ladders rather than extending along the full coast line.

### **Tabled bird survey results**

# 1.Coastal Birds - Breeding

Common Name	Latin Name	Local Status
black-backed gull	Larus dominicanus	Common
white-faced heron	Ardea novaehollandiae	Less common
New Zealand kingfisher	Halcyon sancta	Common

# 2. Coastal Birds - Roosting/Foraging

Common Name	Latin Name	Status
Cormorant/Shag		
pied cormorant	Phalacrocorax varius	Common
little cormorant	Phalacrocorax sulcirostris	Common
black cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo	Less common
spotted shag	Stictocarbo punctatus	Common

Common Name	Latin Name	Status
Gannet		
Australasian gannet	Morus serrator	Occasional visitor
white-faced heron	Ardea novaehollandiae	Less common
reef heron	Egretta sacra	Uncommon/rare
Waders		
South Island pied	Haematopus ostralegus	Common
oystercatcher		
variable oystercatcher	Haematopus unicolor	Less common
Gulls		
black-backed gull	Larus dominicanus	Common
red-billed gull	Larus novaehollandiae	Common
black-billed gull	Larus bulleri	Less common
Caspian tern	Sterna caspia	Less common
white-fronted tern	Sterna striata	Common
black-fronted tern	Sterna albostriata	Less common
Swallow		
welcome swallow	Hirundo tahitica	Common
Kingfisher		
New Zealand kingfisher	Halcyon sancta	Common

# 3.Bush Birds - Native

Common Name	Latin Name	Status
Bellbird	Anthornis melanura	Less common
Grey warbler	Gerygone igata	Abundant
Fantail	Rhipidura fuliginosa	Common
Silvereye	Zosterops lateralis	Abundant
Shining cuckoo	Chrysococcyx lucidus	Less common
New Zealand pigeon	Hemiphaga	Less common
	novaeseelandiae	
Tui	Prosthemadera	Rare in Christchurch
	novaeseelandiae	

# 4.Bush Birds - Non-native

Common Name	Latin Name	Status
Blackbird	Turdus merula	Abundant
Song thrush	Turdus philomelos	Abundant
House sparrow	Passer domesticus	Abundant
Greenfinch	Carduelis chloris	Abundant
Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis	Abundant
Redpoll	Carduelis flammea	Abundant
Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs	Abundant
Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	Abundant
Dunnock	Prunella modularis	Abundant

# Stoddart Point Reserve and Coastal Cliff Reserves Network Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa Management Plan 2013

Australian magpie	Gymnorhina tibicen	Common
Feral pigeon	Columba livia	Common
Californian quail	Callipepla californica	Common

## 11.3 Botanical report

The cliff faces between Purau and Church Bay, Lyttelton Harbour/Whakaraupō, comprise a relatively steep, rocky zone between the relatively flat, mostly urbanised shelves above and the harbour below. The cliffs are accessed by a semi-continuous track that winds its way along the more gentle slopes, although at Stoddart Point/Upoko o Kurī and a few other smaller locations, the cliffs become sheer and the track passes along the shelf above. However, access to areas off the track is difficult as much of the cliff face is occupied by virtually impenetrable coastal scrub. The main exceptions are the deeply incised gullies, which have their own tracks, and some situations where locals have constructed their own tracks from houses to the foreshore.

The north-facing side of Lyttelton Harbour/Whakaraupō has a distinctive 'Mediterranean' climate, and a flora of exotic species to match. This climate is characterised by hot, dry summers and cool winters that are relatively frost-free. The thin, rocky soils accentuate the dryness and even in winter, soil moisture is relatively low for most of the time. This situation matches similar climates elsewhere in the world that are described as Mediterranean, and plants from such regions thrive in this area. Such areas include the northern Mediterranean coast in Europe, coastal California, the south-eastern coast of Australia, coastal South Africa and other areas. Indeed it is remarkable to note how many exotic plants at Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa owe their origins to the Canary Islands, clearly the similarity of climates have allowed species from there to thrive.

There are however, remnants of the original native coastal forest vegetation. This is especially well-developed in the part between Purau and Stoddart Point/Upoko o Kurī, which is more sheltered from the dry conditions and faces the moist easterly harbour winds. That part of the coast has a patchwork of native and exotic woody vegetation. There the most common native plant is mahoe (Melicytus ramiflorus), usually as scattered individuals or small clumps, but dense and tall enough to form a low canopy in sheltered gullies. The other location where native plants dominate is in the deeply-incised gullies to the west of Stoddart Point/Upoko o Kurī where successional kanuka (Kunzea ericoides) forest dominates. These trees are however, over-mature and are gradually being replaced by regenerating native species such as māhoe and māpou (Myrsine australis). The occasional kōwhai (Sophora microphylla) and ngaio (Myoporum laetum) trees can be found in the open.

A variety of smaller native species are associated with these forest fragments. Larger woody trees and shrubs include *Olearia paniculata* (the local form), akeake (*Dodonaea viscosa*), *Lophomyrtus obcordata*, five-finger (*Pseudopanax arboreus*) and species of *Coprosma*. Forest floor species are restricted to the most sheltered shady areas and include ferns such as prickly shield fern (*Polystichum vestitum*). Native climbers are few, but include New Zealand jasmine (*Parsonsia heterophylla*).

There are also remnants of native cliff vegetation, but these are very fragmented. Prostrate kōwhai (*Sophora prostrata*) occurs as scattered old plants, and creeping pōhuehue (*Muehlenbeckia complexa*) scrambles throughout as quite big patches. Occasional shrubs of *Coprosma propinqua* and *C. crassifolia* are common. Other native species do occur as remnants, such as silver tussock (*Poa cita*), or are typical colonisers such as haloragis (*Haloragis erecta*) or New Zealand groundsel (*Senecio glomeratus*). On steep cliffs there are occasional hanging plants of New Zealand iceplant (*Disphyma australe*). It should be noted that the danthonia grasses present are not the native species, but the common Australian plants that appear to be very similar (*Rytidosperma caespitosum*, *R. racemosum*). The only native grass found in any abundance is the dryland plume grass (*Dichelachne crinita*).

Apart from these small coastal forest and cliff areas of native species, the coastal cliffs are dominated by exotic plants. Three structural types dominate: forest, scrub and grassland. The forests are all planted. They dominate the area of Stoddart Point and comprise plantation plantings of radiata pine (*Pinus radiata*) with the occasional macrocarpa (*Cupressus macrocarpa*). These two species come from the Mediterranean climate of California. Along the very cliff face of Stoddart Point a smaller pine occurs, this being Aleppo pine (*Pinus halepensis*) and this is the only South Island location where this Mediterranean tree grows wild. The forest understory is mostly absent, probably because the soils are so thin, but in a few places there have been attempts to establish native species. So far only kohūhū (*Pittosporum tenuifolium*) has established at all well. Ngaio (*Myoporum laetum*) has been successfully established around the margins of the pine plantations. A surprise beneath and around the margins of the pine forest is the succulent New Zealand spinach (*Tetragonia trigyna*).

By far the most dominant vegetation type is the shrub lands. Two species dominate the taller tree lucerne (*Chamaecytisus palmensis*) and the shorter boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*). Other woody species are mixed with these, such as broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) and gorse (*Ulex europaeus*). Of these, only tree lucerne is not considered to be a pest plant. While gorse and broom are ubiquitous weeds, it is the boneseed that has fully exploited the Mediterranean climate to become very successful here, and now dominates much of the cliff face. It occurs everywhere from the thickest soils, where plants get very large, to rock crevices, where the plants are extremely dwarfed. Although boneseed is listed in the Regional Pest Strategy, this area is within the containment zone, so the plant need not be controlled.

In addition to these weedy shrubs, there are a number of exotic climbers that are of concern, mostly species of banana passion fruit. Remarkably, four species and a hybrid have been recorded from Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa, but during the site visit only two were recorded; *Passiflora mollissima* and *P. pinnatistipula*, of which the latter was the most common. These climbers are a major threat to both the exotic shrubs and the remnant native vegetation, which they are able to completely smother.

Grassland would have previously been much more widespread, but has succumbed to invasion by woody species, especially boneseed. In the past, such woody plants would have been kept under control by fires, but the change from rural to urban land has resulted in the woody vegetation dominating. The remnant grasslands are dominated by exotic dryland grass species of danthonia grasses and *Austrostipa nodosa*, with the typical range of exotic herbs such as hawksbeard (*Crepis capillaris*).

There are other components of the vegetation that are localised but can be abundant in such situations. These comprise both plantings and species that have established from garden discards. The plantings have been varied and include native restoration plantings and exotic garden plantings that are either maintained or have been abandoned. The native plantings have mostly been in areas close to native forest remnants and comprise appropriate species in the main, but the presence of non-local natives such as karo (*Pittosporum crassifolium*), taupata (*Coprosma repens*) and karaka (*Cornycarpus laevigatus*) that are able to spread, is unfortunate. A small collection of Chatham Island plants has been established, but many of the more interesting species (e.g. *Leptinella featherstonii*) have not survived.

The most commonly planted exotic species are the succulents, and some have spread from their original sites. A major collection of succulent *Agave*, *Aloe* and others has been planted as a garden near the western end of Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa. Fortunately, few plants seem to have spread from this although some wild plants of the cactus prickly pear (*Opuntia monacantha*) were noted. A large patch of walking stick bamboo (*Phyllostachys aurea*) occurs close by along with a large patch of the scrambling climber Cape ivy (*Senecio angulatus*). Succulents have established elsewhere from mostly garden discards and of these pig's ear (*Cotyledon orbiculata*) and pinwheel aeonium (*Aeonium haworthii*) are the most abundant. In Church Bay a much greater variety of succulents have spread from gardens (e.g. *Aptenia cordifolia*).

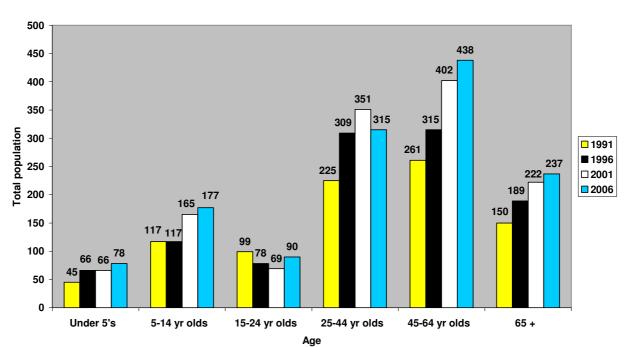
Garden discards have established in a number of locations, mostly from plants dumped from gardens above. In one area, the aggressive veld grass (*Ehrharta erecta*) has established below a canopy of tree lucerne and is climbing through it as well as spreading along the ground. Other garden discards that are common include parsley (*Petroselinum crispum*) and horned oxalis (*Oxalis corniculata* var. *corniculata*). Of particular concern are climbing asparagus (*Asparagus setaceus*) and smilax (*A. asparagoides*), which are found close to Purau. It is likely that other garden discards will establish and become problems in the area.

# 11.4 Demographic profile 1991 – 2006

The information utilised for the demographic profile of this document have been taken from information supplied by Statistics New Zealand from the 1991, 1996, 2001 and 2006 census. Please see the two graphs below and on the next page for statistical information on Diamond Harbour. Graph 1 details population numbers by age group in Diamond Harbour between 1991 – 2006. Graph 2 details the total population in Diamond Harbour between 1991 – 2006.

There have been steady increases in most age categories except for the 15-24 year olds. The increase in the adult, under 14 year olds and over 65's demographic means that a greater variety of users will be demanding space in the reserves network. This is evident from the information gathering phase of the plan. The variety of ideas that the community had put forward is reflective of the differing needs of each age group. Groups and individuals from differing view points have helped to create a plan that represents the age demographic mix of Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa.

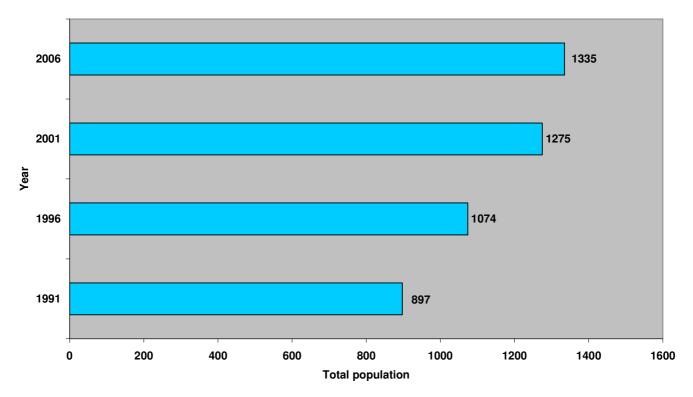
Diamond Harbour/Te Waipapa and its surrounds have been subject to an increasing population since 1991. With increased development comes a growing population. Diamond Harbour's population has grown by over 400 people between 1991 – 2006. There has been a significant decrease in the growth between 2001 – 2006. During this time the population only grew by approximately 60 people. This is significantly lower than the approximate 177 and 201 between 1991 – 1996 and 1996 – 2001.



Population changes by age group from 1991 - 2006 in Diamond Harbour

Graph 1

# Total population of Diamond Harbour from 1991 - 2006



Graph 2

## 11.5 Indicative development proposals

The indicative development proposals are presented in the following table and plan. The indicative development proposals highlight the projects raised for consideration that would assist in achieving the objectives and policies of the management plan. The indicative development proposals will be used to identify significant expenditure items which the Christchurch City Council may consider providing for in a future Long Term Plan. Costs for the proposals are indicative only, and some proposals will require additional planning specific to the proposal. All proposals are indicative only and may be changed with Community Board approval as long as the proposal/s meet the objectives and policies of this management plan.

## Status of proposed projects

It is important to understand that approval by the Christchurch City Council of this management plan does not constitute a commitment by the Council to implement any of these projects, but that each proposed project may be considered and prioritised alongside other possible Christchurch City Council projects and that this may result in further consultation and/or implementation. The impact on ongoing operational budgets will also need to be assessed before any project will be considered for funding. No proposed project will be implemented unless the required funding is met from existing budgets, raised in the Long Term Plan or sourced from an external party. It should be noted that the Christchurch City Council budget is fully committed until 2016 and new projects can only be considered for funding after that date as part of the appropriate funding processes applicable to that time. No funding has been allocated to Stoddart Point Reserve and the Coastal Cliff Reserves Network as at September 2013.

Project	Description	Possible Capital Cost	Possible Annual Operational Cost	Indicative Timeframe
Note: Dollar amounts indicated represent a rough order of capital/ operational costs. These costs will be raised for consideration in future Christchurch City Council Long Term Planning processes, but there is no certainty that the projects will be approved for inclusion in the Long Term Plan. If not, they will not be funded by Council. The projects are included here to give an indication of the potential projects and costs.				Council Long be approved Council. The
Completion of the Coastal Cliff Walkway	Complete and fill in gaps of walking track provision along the Coastal Cliff Network so that it extends continuously from Hays Bay through to Purau Bay	\$50,000 Note: \$25,000 per year for 2 years	\$5,000	2016-2019

Project	Description	Possible Capital Cost	Possible Annual Operational Cost	Indicative Timeframe
These costs will Term Planning p for inclusion i	Note: Dollar amounts indicated represent a rough order of capital/ operational costs. These costs will be raised for consideration in future Christchurch City Council Long Term Planning processes, but there is no certainty that the projects will be approved for inclusion in the Long Term Plan. If not, they will not be funded by Council. The projects are included here to give an indication of the potential projects and costs.			
Upgrade of the walking track to Diamond Harbour Beach	Redevelop the walking track that leads from the Diamond Harbour jetty down to the beach at Diamond Harbour	\$20,000	\$2,000	2016-2019
Upgrade of walking track from town centre to Diamond Harbour Beach	Redevelop the walking track that leads from the town centre down to the beach at Diamond Harbour	\$20,000	\$3,000	2016-2019
Hays Bay entrance from Marine Drive	Upgrade the walking track from Marine Drive to Hays Bay Beach to create public access and awareness of the beach	\$15,000	\$1500	2016-2019
Install new walking track from town centre to Stoddart Point Reserve	Prepare and implement a landscape plan for area around community buildings in Stoddart Point Reserve including development of an accessible off road pedestrian walking track from town centre to community building, public toilets and Stoddart Cottage	\$40,000	\$3,000	2016-2019
Weed control in gully systems	Control of weeds and pest plants within the gully systems of both Stoddart Point Reserve and the Coastal Cliff Reserves Network	\$20,000	\$2,000	2016-2019

Project	Description	Possible Capital Cost	Possible Annual Operational Cost	Indicative Timeframe	
These costs wil Term Planning p for inclusion i	Note: Dollar amounts indicated represent a rough order of capital/ operational costs. These costs will be raised for consideration in future Christchurch City Council Long Term Planning processes, but there is no certainty that the projects will be approved for inclusion in the Long Term Plan. If not, they will not be funded by Council. The projects are included here to give an indication of the potential projects and costs.				
New Entrance Signage	New entrance signage to be installed as per the indicative landscape plan at key locations: - Start of track at Hays Bay - Start of track at Purau Bay - Stoddart Point Reserve area - Church Bay Area - Picnic area at Stoddart Point Reserve opposite Rawhiti Street Reserve	\$12,500 Note: Cost \$2,500 Per Sign	\$1,250	2016-2019	
Upgrade signage	New signage to be installed as per the indicative landscape plan and Christchurch City Council signage guidelines	\$20,000 Note: \$2,500 per sign	\$1,500	2020-2026	
Interpretation	Prepare and implement an interpretation plan with input from the New Zealand Historic Places Trust, Te Hapū O Ngāti Wheke (Rāpaki) Rūnanga and other community organisations as per the Indicative Landscape Plan and Sites Of Historical Significance for both Māori And European history of the area. Interpretation may be in various forms including information panels and artwork.	\$50,000 Note: Cost \$6,000 Per Panel Plus Artwork Costs	\$ 5,000	2020-2026	

Project	Description	Possible Capital Cost	Possible Annual Operational Cost	Indicative Timeframe			
Note: Dollar amounts indicated represent a rough order of capital/ operational costs. These costs will be raised for consideration in future Christchurch City Council Long Term Planning processes, but there is no certainty that the projects will be approved for inclusion in the Long Term Plan. If not, they will not be funded by Council. The projects are included here to give an indication of the potential projects and costs.							
Upgrade of the Coastal Cliff Walkway surface	Apply new surface material in areas of greatest concern. Investigation and application will need to be undertaken to achieve this	\$80,000 Note: \$20,000 per year for 4 years	\$8,000	2020-2026			
Youth recreation area	Installation of a youth recreation area in Stoddart Point Reserve as per the indicative landscape plan, including either a dirt jump area, skate board area, flying fox and/or climbing net	\$100,000	\$10,000	2020-2026			
Planting of native and exotic vegetation	Preparation of a development plan and planting of appropriate native and exotic vegetation to support the vision, objectives and policies of this plan	\$70,000 Note: \$10,000 per year for 7 years	\$1,000	2020-2026			
Rationalisation of rubbish bins	The removal of rubbish bins at considered locations over the coastal reserve network area	\$500 Note: Cost per bin	Nil	2020-2026			
Toilet in town centre	Installation of a toilet near the town centre shall be investigated and installed with detailed design and location at a later stage once funding is acquired	\$150,000	\$15,000	2020-2026			

Project	Description	Possible Capital Cost	Possible Annual Operational Cost	Indicative Timeframe			
Note: Dollar amounts indicated represent a rough order of capital/ operational costs. These costs will be raised for consideration in future Christchurch City Council Long Term Planning processes, but there is no certainty that the projects will be approved for inclusion in the Long Term Plan. If not, they will not be funded by Council. The projects are included here to give an indication of the potential projects and costs.							
Picnic areas	Replacement and additional picnic areas along the reserves network (including Hays Bay) in line with the indicative development plan and be considerate of people with mobility constraints	\$30,000	\$3,000	2020-2026			
Stoddart Weirs	Prepare a conservation report with the intention to reinstate the upper and lower Stoddart Weirs. Use interpretation to acknowledge the site	\$10,000 for conservation report \$40,000 to reinstate the weirs	\$4,500	2016-2019			
Removal of changing shed on beach and replace with picnic area/ shelter and /or changing area	Removal of the changing shed at the Diamond Harbour beach and replacement with suitable picnic area, shelter and/or other informal recreation opportunity that supports the use of the Diamond Harbour beach for activities such as swimming or picnicing	\$50,000	\$5,000	2027+			
Replacement of pines with kanuka	Ongoing management and replacement in Stoddart Point Reserve of areas of pines with kanuka to establish a native canopy with a long term commitment	\$50,000 note: \$5,000 per year for 10 years	\$500	2027+			

Project	Description	Possible Capital Cost	Possible Annual Operational Cost	Indicative Timeframe			
Note: Dollar amounts indicated represent a rough order of capital/ operational costs.  These costs will be raised for consideration in future Council Long Term Planning processes, but there is no certainty that the projects will be approved for inclusion in the Long Term Plan. If not, they will not be funded by Council. The projects are included here to give an indication of the potential projects and level of costs.							
Childrens playground	Renewal of playground. Consideration for new elements and location	\$180,000	\$18,000	2027+			
Seating	Replacement and additional seating along the reserves network in line with the indicative development plan and be considerate of people with mobility constraints	\$20,000 Note: cost \$2,000 per seat	\$2,000	2027+			
Fishing access	Establish tracks to the rocks that cater for safe passage to popular fishing points along the coastal walkway	\$10,000	\$1,000	2027+			

The developments above are not part of the statutory process of a management plan. In order to highlight the need for funding, it is necessary to develop a list of proposals as above.

# 11.6 Indicative development plans

Please see following pages for:

- 1. Indicative Development Plan- Coastal Reserve Land Around Black Point, Church Bay Foreshore And Diamond Harbour Coastal Reserve Network.
- 2. Indicative Development Plan Stoddart Point Reserve

The indicative development plans may be altered in line with the management plan objectives and policies without the need to review the management plan.

