

Kōrero mai | Let's talk

## **Submission form - Te Ra Community Gardens Results**

Nov 21 - Dec 14, 2025

*Please note: these are all accepted submissions on Te Ra Community Gardens. The views are those of the submitters and may include mis- or disinformation, hearsay and offensive or discriminatory language.*

Response No:  
1

Contribution ID: 40544

Date Submitted: Dec 11, 2025, 12:33 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Adrian Daly

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text Yes - please find my uploaded file (0.325KB) 'Submission to CCC Te Ra Community Park & Food Garden 12 Dec 2025'. Your uploading of files facility would not allow me to upload any more than one file , so I gave up trying a number of combinations and forms. However, also in my Submission, page 2, I have referenced a second file (0.932KB) being the Park's Constitution 'Founding Document' for registration as an Incorporated Society on 5 August 2020, but was unable to upload this. I am therefore sending it to you by email as an attachment and to append to my Submission. Thank you.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Yes - please find my uploaded file (0.325KB) 'Submission to CCC Te Ra Community Park & Food Garden 12 Dec 2025'. Your uploading of files facility would not allow me to upload any more than one file , so I gave up trying a number of combinations and forms. However, also in my Submission, page 2, I have referenced a second file (0.932KB) being the Park's Constitution 'Founding Document' for registration as an Incorporated Society on 5 August 2020, but was unable to upload this. I am therefore sending it to you by email as an attachment and to append to my Submission. Thank you.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload [https://letstalk.ccc.govt.nz/download\\_file/7849](https://letstalk.ccc.govt.nz/download_file/7849)

# Submission to Christchurch City Council/Let's Talk Te Ra Community Park & Proposed Food Garden 12 Dec 2025

## INTRODUCTION

Of an age no longer engaged in paid employment I worked in the past as a University, Government, Mineral Resources, and Engineering Geologist in NZ, Australia, and Antarctica. Thence as an operational policy adviser Crown Minerals Group, and thence as a Senior Resource Management Policy/Planner for Environment Canterbury including working in collaboration with Christchurch City Council per the City's rivers and aquifers.

I have been living at 10 Te Ra Crescent Diamond Harbour for 22 years, and have sustained an interest in the future of the land of subject since 2004 (submissions to BPDC in 2004; to CCC in 2008 and 2016) and which is now leased 3 Mar 2021 as Te Ra Community Park, and officially opened by the Deputy Mayor on 11 December 2021. I am ex-officio Chair for Friends of Te Ra Community Park.

As I think we all know circumstances change, and people come and go, and an event such as Covid-19 has an effect. The current committee members of the 'Park' would like others to step up and into their leadership roles, but this is proved challenging to achieve. Hence, the interest in the 'Park' by the Diamond Harbour Community Food Garden people could also be a solution to Park committee members.

Whilst there are mixed opinions among Park and Food Garden members, and interested neighbours, I have tried in my submission to be more attentive to shared benefits. And while I recognise that some members in the Food Garden group would like the big tree removed, I am still not convinced as to why exactly.



**Photographs clockwise from top left are (1) Te Ra Community Park Officially Open 11 Dec 2021; (2) Eucalypt & Site Raised Beds Food Garden; (3) Park Community Picnic; and (4) View to Downhill**

## **Eucalyptus Tree nearest to Waipapa Avenue**

I am an advocate for a community food garden whilst understanding there are mixed opinions concerning the Eucalyptus tree positioned nearest to Waipapa Avenue. There is the opinion that this tree may pose a shading or photosynthetic light deficit issue and hence adversely affect the productivity-biomass of plants in a proposed raised beds food garden.

On this matter of removing the said tree I disagree. I advocate that points of view that the tree if left would exclude a food garden project are lacking strength to warrant the tree's removal. I further advocate that the tree if left alone to live will continue to provide values to the 'Park' as listed below.

## **GREENSPACE & OTHER USE VALUES OF TE RA COMMUNITY PARK**

The following Park use-values and features have been observed and appreciated (Ref: Park's Constitution 'Founding Document' for registration as an Incorporated Society):

- Local children **climbing trees**, riding their bikes, **using a swing from the trees, engaging in safe and unsupervised play.**
- **Native birds including wood pigeons, bell birds, fantails, grey warbler, and wax eyes, attracted to the Site's sense of habitat including safety and nesting, native trees and other flora.**
- **Trees especially large ones play an important role as habitat for various insects and lizards.**
- A significant number of native trees amongst other non-native plantings. Amongst these are two **Eucalyptus**, which **being the highest trees in this residential area are a natural stopping off point for birds and other pollinators (bees).**
- **Provides a greenspace landscape in a suburban area. The heights of the trees form a natural escarpment with other trees close by.**
- People with dogs walking through; and **people preferring to walk through trees** rather than on the road, and dwell on route to enjoy the trees, flowers and fungi, and birdsong.
- **The trees, especially the two large eucalypts, expand the feeling of space, light, and bush experienced by the people living in properties overlooking and adjacent to them.**

New Zealand has a history of substantial modification of our natural environment through development of land and waterways, the result being loss of habitats and species biodiversity. **Further, New Zealand is losing some of our finest urban trees, even if impressively large and exotic (e.g. Eucalyptus), and at such a pace that tree advocates are calling it a crisis.** <https://www.stuff.co.nz/environment/112898870/the-aotearoa-chainsaw-massacre?cid=app-iphone>

In the Christchurch District, we need to do our part to shift the balance in favour of protecting and enhancing our natural environment, where and when we can. Areas of natural values such as this Site in Diamond Harbour need to be protected for the benefit of people and our wildlife.

## THE EUCALYPT & A RAISED BEDS FOOD GARDEN

### Shading and Light for Food Plant Photosynthesis

I maintain that the garden site would likely experience the necessary levels of sunlight (lumens) to sustain productivity-biomass of raised beds food garden vegetables without full or even partial removal of the said Eucalypt.

**The high sunlight high plant productivity-biomass/growth time of year** is expected to be in the summer months, whilst the low sunlight low productivity-biomass/growth time of year would be expected to be in the winter months. And of course, moderate levels of light and productivity-biomass would be expected in the autumn and spring months.

**Density of branches effect on light penetration** – this Eucalyptus's branching is relatively open to allow light through, especially when compared with other trees such as many natives or even Silver Birch's (see Inset Photos).

**Comparing the Proposed Food Garden Site to my residential food garden** – being adjacent and adjoining to the northeast downhill Park boundary. Aside from the diversity and abundance of dominantly native trees and understorey on my property making a natural corridor with the Park for plants and birds, I have a **very productive food garden** which faces north-east to the outer Harbour and consists of the usual vegetables but also some 10 species of fruit including olives, and despite being much more shaded and confined from direct sunlight compared with the proposed Park raised beds food garden site.

### Other factors influencing site productivity-biomass

There are many factors other than sunlight incidence which will variably affect productivity-biomass in the proposed food garden site. Including frequency, volume, and duration watering, soil fertility and pH, and other uncertain factors such as atmospheric carbon levels, **frequency and density of cloud cover**, precipitation, and wind (e.g., warm dry northwesterers and cold southwesters).

Concerning atmospheric carbon, whilst at very low levels today (compared with past geological times when levels and productivity were very high and large marine and terrestrial fauna and flora species thrived), it has doubled since the start of the Industrial Revolution. Consequently today, productivity-biomass of plants and fauna are reportedly in science on the up.

Concerning sunlight penetration, even with clouds daytime light will always find a way through.

Concerning winds, the Park people have been planting along the Waipapa Avenue natural ridge-line to create a wind barrier.

Concerning water, the connection from City supply to the proposed raised beds food garden site is approved, installed, and convenient.

### Tree Shedding

Tree shedding especially in Autumn and Winters, and due to strong wind events, is an issue for most areas of the park (and beyond), be it the top of a Cabbage Tree, a Silver Birch or a Eucalypt branch. From satellite imagery the said Eucalypt crosses the northern Park boundary by about 10 percent. Problem branches if posing a threat to the adjacent house could be trimmed or removed.

## **Cost and Damage of Eucalypt Removal**

Removal of such a large tree will potentially and likely cause damage to surrounding plants, soil disruption, and loss of green cover. And in the absence of having sought advice, I would suspect the removal of a tree of this size and age to be in the thousands of dollars.

And would the Eucalypt be removed to below ground level? This would require more cost, effort, and potential damage, but might also ensure the extensive root system would eventually rot, as well as remove a view to a large stump above ground in the cared for and maintained Park.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

In the Councils Food Resilient Policy, 6 November 2014, under Policy Outcomes I note in Policy 7 use of the term 'weaving' as in 'Weaving edible gardens into public and private spaces ... enriching the liveability and enjoyment of our city.' And I further note in Policy 8 'Edible gardens enrich city life supporting bees, birds, butterflies, and biodiversity.'

Therefore, for Te Ra Community Park I believe the preference need not be to 'delete' the big beautiful healthy Eucalypt, but instead to 'weave' a raised bed food garden into its long lived in (maybe more than 50-years) landscape and ecosystem. Personally, I am happy to have the tree remain, even though it will reduce some light.

The situation could be re-visited in say 2-3 years to ensure issues of safety and health, and to provide opportunity to review concerns if any arise. However, even then divided opinions will arise.

Talk to the Tree

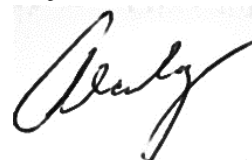
Thank you for the opportunity to speak for the tree and the proposed food garden. I'm sure they could get along together, splendidly.

# Founding Document

Friends of Te Ra Community Park Incorporated



July 2020



## Te Ra Community Park, Diamond Harbour, New Zealand

### Acknowledgements

The Friends of Te Ra Community Park Incorporated (hereafter, the **Society**), in forming our community park proposal for *Lots 55 & 56, corner of Te Ra Crescent & Waipapa Avenue, Diamond Harbour* (hereafter, the Site), gratefully received guidance and support from Felix Dawson (Te Pātaka o Rākohaitū/ Banks Peninsula Community Board Councillor, 2016 to 2019) and Christchurch City Council staff Barry Woodland (Property Consultant) and Russel Wedge (Parks Management), and the Diamond Harbour Community Association in particular its members Richard Suggate and Thomas Kulpe.

The **Society** is also grateful to Ben Cole Landscape Architect for his translating the wishes of our membership into a draft design plan for the Park. Thanks also to Colin Meurk and Rob Smissen, Botanists for Landcare Research Lincoln, for their guidance on our planting plan.



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### 1. Community & Council Processes and Decisions

Community interest in retaining the site, being Lots 55 & 56, corner of Te Ra Crescent and Waipapa Avenue (the Site), Site is strong today, as it was in 2008, and has been at least as far back in time as 2004.

In the June 2019 Issue of the Diamond Harbour Herald the Diamond Harbour Community Association posted an item informing the community that Lots 55 & 56, corner of Te Ra Crescent

and Waipapa Avenue (the Site), had been included in a schedule for disposal of land, but subject to consulting with the community to determine if there are community use values and interest to warrant retaining the Site.

Residents in the immediate area of the Site responded and undertook a door knocking canvass and letterbox drop of a flyer to other residents in Waipapa Avenue and Te Ra Crescent and adjoining street and crescents. An invitation to a meeting was sought to discuss peoples interests and choices, and otherwise some 52 residents had recorded their indication of what they would want for the Site. All such indications were further explored at the said meeting, and if appropriate, how we could demonstrate taking responsibility for the Site's care, improvement and maintenance.<sup>1</sup>

Two community meetings have been held to date, attended respectively by 13 and 17 residents.

At our first meeting a strong primary preference (94% of 52 residents) supported not to dispose of the Site, but instead that Council retain it as greenspace, for which there was also a clear further indication of sub-preferences for this greenspace. The remaining primary preferences (6%) for use of the Site were as a community vegetable garden or for pensioner housing, but these were discounted on the grounds of questionable suitability. See *Summary of Site Use-Value Preferences Appendix 1*.

Our first meetings were attended by Cherie Taylor, local Arborist (treekind.nz), and our second meeting was also attended by Ben Cole, local Landscape Architect.

- With Ben's expertise we produced a rough draft concept development plan for the Site, and for which Ben subsequently considered, consulted, and redrafted to scale, and is here presented in **Appendix 2**.
- Cherie was to undertake a survey and prepare a state of the Site baseline report, identifying features, fauna (e.g birds, skink) and plant numbers, species, and health.

We also discussed how to demonstrate responsibility for the Site, including possible agreement mechanisms with Council, such as a memorandum of understanding, or charitable trust, or covenant, or forming an incorporated society. Charitable trust and Incorporated society choices were given further attention, and subsequently the latter was determined to be the best fit for our community. The main purpose of setting up as an incorporated society is to enable the Council to lease the site to us, as and when a sustainable business model has been approved by Council.

*Ranginui, the sky father, was torn away from Papatūānuku, earth mother, and formed the vault of the heavens. When Māori looked up at the sky, they saw the **sun god, Te Rā**, whose journey was slowed by the legendary*

Names for the Site 'Te Ra Community Park' and for ourselves "Friends of Te Ra Community Park" were determined.

### **Diamond Harbour Community Association Meeting 5 August 2019**

Public forum presentation, of our draft proposal to Council, to the Association, and for which the Association gave its support.

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<sup>1</sup> Mindful that since the Earthquakes 2010-2011 and the creation of red zone greenspace, that Council responsibility for maintenance of greenspace could be relieved by communities as in Diamond Harbour. With social, economic and environmental concerns increasing, people and communities should not wait and expect governments to act on people's behalf, and instead be empowered and to take responsibility where and when possible.

### **Council Staff & Proposed Society Representatives on Site Meeting 11 November 2019**

On 11 November 2019 Council Staff, of Property & Parks management departments, met on Site with three representatives of our proposed **Society** and one representative from our Diamond Harbour Community Association. The purpose of this meeting was for Council staff to gain a greater sense for the Site, the proposed project, and our Team and community, including how we intend taking durable responsibility for the Site.

### **Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū/ Banks Peninsula Community Board Meeting 2 December 2019**

Public forum presentation, of our Proposed Te Ra Community Park to the Board, and requesting the Council acting through the Board:

1. Remove the Site from the Schedule of land 'Declared surplus for disposal' as recommended by the Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū/ Banks Peninsula Community Board, 19 April 2019.
2. Acknowledge the history of community interest in the Site including decisions of the former Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū/Banks Peninsula District Council, **Appendix 3**.
3. Recognise the greenspace and other use values of the Site being important to the recreation, ecology, and visitation interests of the Te Ra and greater Diamond Harbour communities, and others.
4. Recognise 'Friends of Te Ra Community Park' as a viable and durable community, with a genuine interest in retaining and caring for the Site.
5. Agree to enter into a lease agreement with the 'Friends of Te Ra Community Park' as an incorporated society to maintain and develop the Site once the sustainability and ongoing commitment of the group has been established to the satisfaction of Council staff and that any required statutory or legislative issues have been considered and resolved.

The Board responded by thanking us for our presentation, and referred issues raised to Council staff to inform their upcoming report on this matter, and asked for information on planting to be included in said report.

### **Proposed Friends of Te Ra Community Park Social Gathering 8 December 2019**

Social gathering to enjoy the Proposed Park space, meet with neighbours, share food and drink in a convivial pre-Christmas celebration of progress to date.

### **Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū/Banks Peninsula Community Board Meeting 16 March 2020**

Council staff presented to the Board their comprehensive report on the Te Ra Community Park proposal.

The Board's delegation enabled them to then authorise Council staff to work with the proposed Friends of Te Ra Community Park to conclude the issues and processes associated with an approved Council landscape architect plan, determine the name of the park, and to negotiate and grant a ground lease.

What was not so clear was whether the reversal of the original Council resolution declaring the land surplus would need to be ratified by Council. It was deemed not required as paragraphs (a) and (b) of the resolution to the Community Board adequately covered this off as follows:

- (a) That the condition precedent in the Council resolution CNCL/2019/00069 (9 May 2019) has not been satisfied in that there is an alternative public use for consideration:
- i. Declares the following properties surplus for disposal.*
  - ii. Reservoir - 38 Waipapa Ave subject to:*
    - *The property being circularised internally within Council to determine there is no other alternative public use.*
    - *Information on the proposal to dispose of the property being circulated via the Diamond Harbour Community Association to the local community.”*
- (b) The resolution to declare the property surplus for disposal cannot therefore be enacted until the alternative public use is considered and resolved either by accepting it as proposed in this report, or rejecting it, in which case alternative resolutions to the below would be required to declare the property surplus.

From the above Council staff gave their confidence that formal approval of the Council was not required.

It was also the advice of Council staff, that there are minor risks to the Council, but which can be appropriately mitigated within the terms and conditions of the lease agreement, such as failure of the Friends of Te Ra Community Park to maintain and develop the land as per the approved landscape plan.

Agreement to enter into a lease agreement with Friends of Te Ra Community Park, once they are registered as an Incorporated Society, demonstrates the Council's willingness to strengthen community involvement, and encourage healthy lifestyles through a healthy environment towards creating a liveable city.

## 2. Greenspace and Other Use Values

The following use values and features of the Site have been observed:

- Local children climbing trees, riding their bikes, using a swing from the trees, engaging in safe and unsupervised play.
- Native birds including wood pigeons, bell birds, fantails, grey warbler, and wax eyes, attracted to the Sites sense of habitat including safety and nesting, native trees and other flora.
- Native Common Skink lizards (Threatened species) have in the past been observed basking on rock boulders, although these may no longer be present.
- A significant number of native trees amongst other non-native plantings. Amongst these are two eucalyptus, which being the highest trees in this residential area are a natural stopping off point for birds.
- Provides a greenspace landscape in a suburban area. The heights of the trees form a natural escarpment with other trees close by. The reserve also includes a number of large boulders, which add to the amenity value of the reserve.
- Old steel rimmed and spoked wheel chassis which could be integrated into a greenspace setting, e.g. visitor seating.
- People with dogs walking through; and people preferring to walk through trees rather than on the road, and dwell on route to enjoy the trees, flowers and fungi, and birdsong.

- The trees, especially the two large eucalypts, expand the feeling of space, light, and bush experienced by the people living in properties overlooking and adjacent to them.

New Zealand has a history of substantial modification of our natural environment through development of land and waterways, the result being loss of indigenous flora and fauna habitats and species biodiversity, with numerous species on the national threatened list. And then there is the current climate crisis for which substantial investment in replanting is one of the best tools we could engage to address it. Further, New Zealand is losing some of our finest urban trees, even if impressively large and exotic (e.g. eucalypt), at such a pace that tree advocates are calling it a crisis. <https://www.stuff.co.nz/environment/112898870/the-aotearoa-chainsaw-massacre?cid=app-iPhone>

In the Christchurch District, we need to do our part to shift the balance in favour of protecting and enhancing our natural environment, where and when we can. Areas of natural values such as this Site in Diamond Harbour need to be protected for the benefit of people and our wildlife while we have them, rather than allowed to be irreversibly developed for private good.

These properties form an important part of local greenspace for us, our children and our native wildlife.

It is therefore our hope on the basis of strong community interest that the Site is conserved for its greenspace and other use values, and that the Council would give attention to a review of its recent decisions as well as being mindful of the decisions of the former Banks Peninsula District Council (**Appendix 3**).

### 3. A Unique Greenspace Site

The proposed Te Ra Community Park or Site is like no other in Diamond Harbour. Essentially it is a flat to gently sloping small area (less than 0.5 acres/2005m<sup>2</sup> plus road reserve ~0.17 acres/~695m<sup>2</sup>; <8m wide verge) woodland of mixed exotic trees (dominated by two mature eucalypts and eleven silver birch) and native trees (Mahoe, Kohuhu, Akeake, Ngaio, Te Kouka, Makomako, Houhere, etc) in an understorey of relatively unmanaged grass and a few native flaxes (Phormium sp).

The nearest reserve to this Site is the Norman Kirk Memorial Park (~1.6 acres/6500m<sup>2</sup>) located further up Waipapa Avenue. This Park is largely gently sloping and consists of groomed grass lawn with four stand-alone European trees of modest height and a relatively modern children's play gym structure. Otherwise the Park is landscaped to near flat ground close to the road where there are structures that have been built (two standard sized tennis courts and associated building, and a Pétanque Court (100 m<sup>2</sup>). In from the Park border with the road are several Kohuhu trees (*Pittosporum tenuifolium*).

### 4. Our Community Primary Purpose

The Friends of Te Ra Community Park' primary purpose is to care, conserve, enhance, and maintain the unique woodland greenspace character of the Site, without built structures (cf. Kirk Park) excepting to delineate the proposed Park from the road using spaced short posts or similar (e.g. rocks). Our further intention would be to conserve the use values as identified in Sections 2 & 3, and to enhance these use values in accordance with our Landscape Architect Plan (**Appendix 2**).

## 6. First meetings of the Society

First Meeting would be an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) held to:

- Explain, discuss, and finalise the Society Constitution.
- Appoint Committee Members.
- Set an annual membership subscription fee.
- initiate financial arrangements.
- Other matters.

Second meeting would be an Ordinary Meeting (OM) held to:

- determine a Park Enhancement & Maintenance Plan (**Appendix 4 - *First Steps Work Programme*** and **Appendix 5 - *Planting Plan***).
- project management (materials, labour, costs, and schedule) and implementation of the Plan.

The first stage of implementation would be to create a border with the adjacent roading to keep non-service vehicles from the Site, but allow a dedicated & secure vehicle point of entry and access for service vehicles to undertake maintenance work as required.

Other meetings would be Ordinary Meetings (OM) held as necessary, to plan and arrange for working bees for Site enhancement, and thereafter for Site maintenance.

- Some tasks may require contract outsourcing, such as arborist work, grass cutting, and pest management. The means to control pests would need to be agreed by members and with Council.
- It will be important in dry seasons to have a reliable source of water to sustain Site plant-life, and to support professional actions to extinguish any fire hazard should such arise.

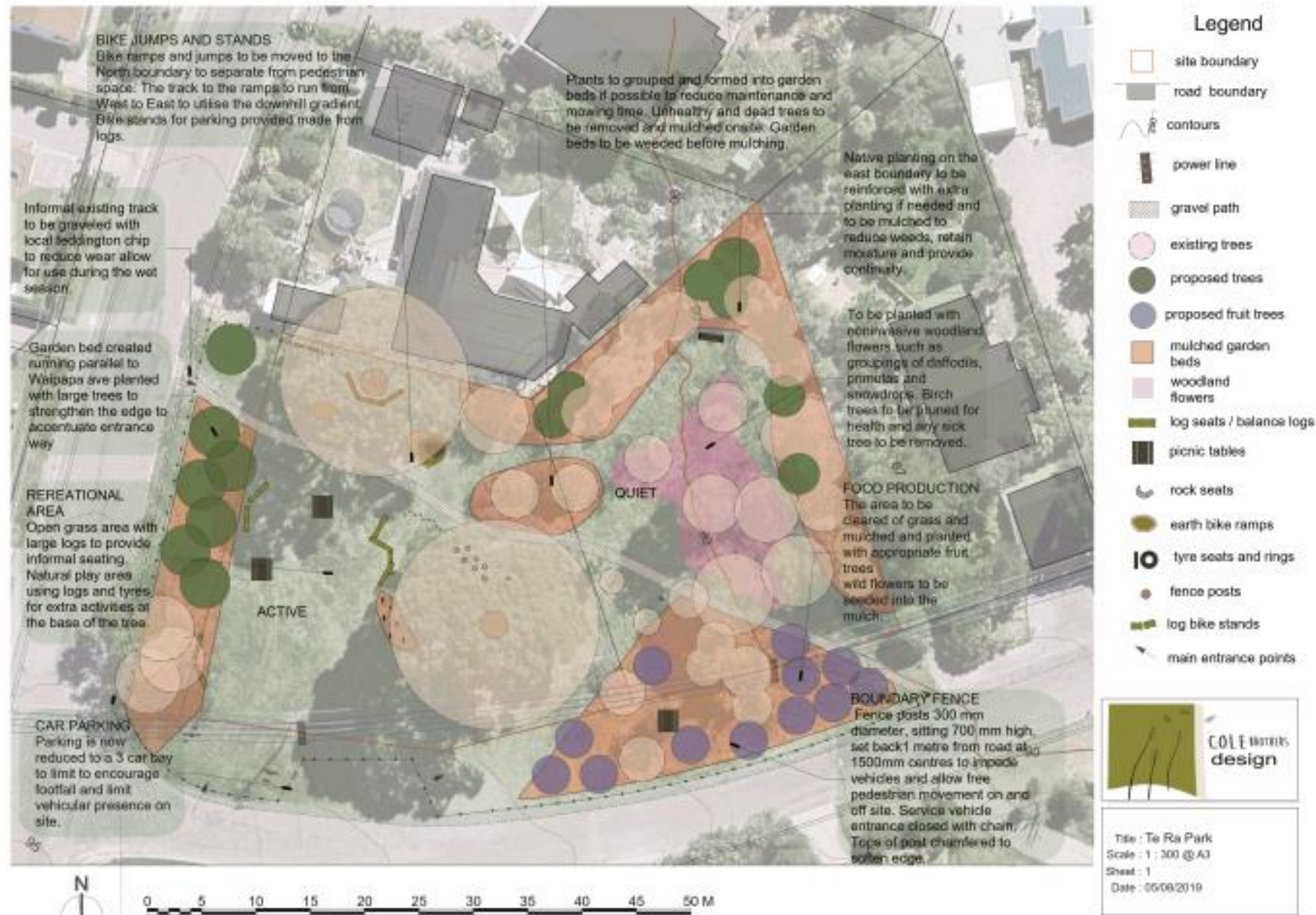
## APPENDIX 1: Summary of Site Use-Value Preferences (Friends of Te Ra Community Park, Meeting Wed 26 June 2019)

Number of community members at Wed 26 June Meeting	13	<b>The Site</b> <b>Corner Waipapa Ave -Te Ra Cres Diamond Harbour</b>	
Number of residents with a use value interest	48		
<b>Community Primary Preference</b>		<b>Community Secondary or Sub-preference</b>	
Retain as greenspace	39	... and, as open space reserve/public-community use/recreation	18
		... and, as eco wildlife space, nature garden, place to forage	10
		... and, community takes responsibility [maintenance]	5
		... and, leave as is	5
		... and, have natural paths, play space, seats, and for picnicking	3
		... and, maybe plant fruit trees; wild flowers	4
		... and, as a dog park	2
		... and, include a community vegetable garden	1
		... and, is community owned	1
		... and, skate park	1
Retain for community use	6		
Community vegetable garden only	3		
[Retirement single occupancy residence] Whiteboard	[1]		
<p><i>** There is also another Diamond Harbour community interest group looking to identify a site for a community vegetable garden; six members of this group met on Saturday 29 June to discuss, and were then aware of this Site, and the community consultation process herein.</i></p>			

### Further Ideas from General Brainstorm Discussion - Whiteboard:

- Preserve the character of the landscape; eco reserve; significant trees
- Cut through diagonal track; sign-posted to connect with starts of other tracks in the greater area.
- Natural log seating.
- Designed large rock and or log defined boundary; and carpark.
- Reduce the area of grass maintenance.
- Working bee's – fire prevention; removal of unstable tree branches
- Retirement single occupancy residence

## APPENDIX 2: Draft Landscape Architect Plans (Ben Cole, Indesign Landscape Architect)





3 Waipapa ave entrance way



4 Forest glade



5 Food forest



6 Car park

## **APPENDIX 3: Council Decisions**

### **Recent Christchurch City Council Decisions**

Christchurch City Council Decision 6 July 2016 (Operative 19 Sept 2016) that Designation C34 (Water Reservoir – decommissioned in 2007-8) to be removed from Planning Maps 59 and R1.

Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū/Banks Peninsula Community Board meeting of 15 April 2019, the Board recommended that the Site, be placed on the schedule ‘Option 2 – Declared surplus for disposal’ on the basis of a workshop, 28 January 2019 which determined that “the Community Board is not aware of any alternative public uses for the site, but acknowledges the community may desire the property be retained as open space. Parks are therefore requested to reconsider whether this property should be retained for that purpose.”

Christchurch City Council meeting, 9 May 2019, the Council Resolved, CNCL/2019/00065, that the Council (1) Receive the Community Board report for April 2019; and (2) Endorse the Community Board working to achieve a holistic, co-ordinated approach to the Banks Peninsula area including reference to, but not limited to, recreation, ecology and visitation.

### **Former Banks Peninsula District Council Processes, Events, & Decisions**

#### **2015 - Christchurch City Replacement District Plan; to include Banks Peninsula**

Submission on Stage 2 & 3 Open Spaces Proposal for Christchurch Replacement District Plan 2015

*Submitter: A B Daly*

*Date of Submission: 26 January 2016*

#### **2010 - 2014 Christchurch Earthquakes & Recovery**

#### **2008 - Stoddart Point and Coastal Reserves Management Plan**

Letter Grant MacLeod, Recreation Planner, City Environment Group, Christchurch City Council 4 April 2008 *Acknowledging submission and referring to the development of the draft management plan.*

Submission (31 March 2008) on the Stoddart Point and Coastal Reserves Management Plan  
Submitter: Diamond Harbour sub-community (signed by 42 residents of Te Ra Crescent & Waipapa Avenue and adjoining street and crescents).

#### **2006 - Amalgamation of Banks Peninsula District into the Christchurch City District**

#### **20 July 2005 - Banks Peninsula District Council Ordinary Meeting Minutes Item 8.1.2**

Chair Jolliffe advised the Council had advised the Lyttelton/Mt Herbert Community Board to review a 2004 Council decision for The Site [Lots 55 & 56] and the need for pensioner housing.

The Board determined that the use of the Site for pensioner housing (1) as a ‘need’ was questionable and needed further investigation; (2) as ‘suitable’ was also questionable; and (3) support from locals for the properties [the Site] to be used as reserves was strong, and would be unlikely to support its use for pensioner housing.

Chair Jolliffe further advised that should the Council wish to make this land into a reserve, that it has the Boards support as they believed it would sit well with the reserves already there.

It was resolved that the Board accept the decision of the Council that [the Site] be made into reserves in terms of the Reserves Act 1977 Section 14.

**Letter 4 July 2005 from B R Gardiner Reserves Manager Banks Peninsula District Council advising that the Council “had decided to take each property [Lots 55 & 56] from the schedule of reserves to be considered for disposal and evaluate each property with the intention of making them into classified reserves for gazettal ... The process for making each property into Recreation Reserves has commenced and Council will be finalising this in the near future.”**

### **8 June 2005 Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes Item 26**

Council Decision/Resolution that said 5 properties [reserve sites] including the Site be removed from the Reserves Disposal Schedule.

### **27 April 2005 Banks Peninsula District Council Meeting**

Council Decision/resolution (1) not to dispose of listed reserves/sites including the Site, and revisit the disposal schedule in 2-years' time; and (2) that reserves/sites listed be evaluated by staff for gazetting as reserves and a report prepared for Council (this was cited in said actual Report, by BR Gardiner, to accompany Item 26 in Minutes for Ordinary Council Meeting 8 June 2005).

### **2005 - Banks Peninsula District Council Rationalisation of Reserves Process**

*Community submissions received including from A B Daly & L J Haslam (10 Te Ra Crescent)*

### **2004 (no exact date given) - Banks Peninsula District Council meeting**

Council Decision/Resolution to use the site for pensioner housing (reference cited in Ordinary Meeting 20 July 2005 Minutes Item 8.1.2; see below for details and new outcome).

### **23 March 2004 Letter from B R Gardiner, Reserves Manager, Banks Peninsula District Council to residents in Diamond Harbour**

Letter advising that Council was considering its reserves including a “Water Reservoir Reserve” corner Waipapa Avenue and Te Ra Crescent, in a rationalisation process to dispose or maintain.

## APPENDIX 4: First Steps Work Programme

### Introduction

Friends of Te Ra Community Park (FOTR) are ready and keen to get moving as the guardians/care givers of this Site, and as we come into Spring and thence into the Summer months. We have the people and access to other resources (specified below) to get stuck in; WE CAN DO NOW, to help the Council and our community, and are mindful of another potential dry season and risk of fire to the Site and surrounding residential properties.

### Funding and Supporting Relationships

- FOTR voluntary goodwill to participate and provide for working bees.
- FOTR Incorporated Society membership subscription fees
- Diamond Harbour Community Association (DHCA) – request funding for works via DHCA, including for initial works, e.g. contract mowing and or construction materials purchase.
- Reserves Management Committee (RMC) per native seedlings, maintenance, watering, etc, guidance.
- Potential sponsorships (material and plants).
- Council Staff & Community Board guidance and approvals.
- Council every year provide opportunities to neighbourhood support groups to apply for funding for social events to promote community connection.

### Our Proposed Progressive Work Programme

Step 1: Site preparation for initial maintenance of Site - by a small number of FOTR volunteers:

- Scrub out around current trees and shrubs - Funding: Zero (FOTR)
- Fell & mulch any dead and unhealthy trees and shrubs - Funding: Zero (FOTR)
- Dig & apply mulch around trees and shrubs as appropriate - Funding: Zero (FOTR)

Step 2: First round grass-cut of the season:

- Contract drive/ride-on mower (sourced locally) - Funding: \$400-\$500  
or
- Strimming & mowing (FOTR) - Funding: Zero (FOTR)

Step 3: Canvass the immediate and wider community to firm up FOTR existing and potential further membership (including via DH Herald article, Facebook, etc).

- Funding: Zero (FOTR)

Step 4: Friends of Te Ra Community Park on-site community meeting & social event:

- To update the community on the FOTR process and the steps ahead (maintenance needs into Autumn 2020; working bees such as to construct a gravel pathway and a Site border). Positioning of a border will require consideration by CCC concerning road reserve, overhead transmission lines, plantings, and public vehicle parking. The border position may need to be surveyed.
- This meeting on-site is a social opportunity to enhance community connection - with each other and with the greenspace and other values that the Site engenders; to inspire a sense of belonging and participation as a FOTR member including in working bees, and to inspire the ongoing use and appreciation for the Site.

- Funding: Zero (FOTR)\*

## Step 5: Gravel Footpath diagonally across the Site:

- Mark out the route including width (75m long x 1.5m wide) - Funding: Zero FOTR
- Removal of grass, base lining (?) - Funding: Zero FOTR
- Teddington gravel (3-4 m<sup>3</sup> of 20mm grade; \$127.50/m<sup>3</sup>) - Funding: \$500
- Laying down and compaction - Funding: Zero FOTR
- Plate compactor hire (or borrow locally); 1 day - Funding: \$100
- Lay the pathway (2 people 1 day's work) - Funding: Zero FOTR

## Step 6: Construction of Site border:

- Border rocks by donation from Members & other sources - Funding: Zero FOTR  
or
- Border posts plastic (futurepost.co.nz; 150mm x 1m x 90) - Funding: \$700  
or
- Border posts wood (40 x 150mm x 2.4m x 40) - Funding: \$400-\$600
- Cement to ground each post (20 kg x 45) - Funding: \$350
- Equipment – auger or post ram hire (\$100/4hrs); 1 day - Funding: \$200
- Survey the border position (?) - Funding: \$
- Construction of border (2 people 1 day's work) - Funding: Zero FOTR

## Step 7 Etc:

- Foot path border plantings, other plantings (fruit & nut, wild flowers, etc)
- Fire prevention and emergency strategy
- Water supply
- Structures as per Landscape concept plan – log seating, tables, bicycle stand, natural play features, signage, etc

**Estimated Total First Steps Funding Need:**

**\$1500 - \$2500**

## APPENDIX 5: Planting Plan

### GENERAL LISTS OF POTENTIAL PLANT SPECIES FOR TE RA COMMUNITY PARK

- Index:** **EN** – endemic to Banks Peninsula  
**BP** – native to Banks Peninsula (BPR – rare; BPL – localised; BPU – uncommon; BPC – common; BPVC – very common; and BPA – abundant)  
**RES** – found in residential properties, Diamond Harbour

**References:** Wilson HD (2013): *Plant Life on Banks Peninsula*. Manuka Press  
 Dawson J & Lucas R (2000): *Nature Guide to the New Zealand Forest*. Random House NZ  
 Koller R & Tripp S (2010): *Ferns of the Port Hills: Photography & Fossicking*. Koller & Tripp  
 Meurk C, Ford K, and Smissen R, of Landcare Research, Lincoln (2019): Personal Communications.

#### Pre-planting surveys are required to:

1. identify and remove invasive plants, e.g. a plum tree and a Cotoneaster, being present on the Site.
2. identify and remove sick plants, e.g. two unhealthy Silver Birch present on the Site.

### AREA 1: Western Boundary – natives & 1 exotic - adjacent Waipapa Avenue

Garden bed created running parallel to Waipapa Avenue planted with large trees to strengthen the edge to accentuate entrance-way.

Planting arrangement from road edge, and entrance-way - Carex grasses, Hebe, Flaxes, large trees

Genus Species	Maori Name	Common Name	Max Height	Other
Carex triffida		Triffid Sedge		BPL
Carex raouli				NZ
Carex testacea				NZ
Carex solandri				NZ
Leptinella minor		BP Button Daisy		BPC; sl to 640m
Hebe strictissima				EN
Phormium cookianum				BPC
Podocarpus totara	Totara		30m	BPC sl to 450m
<b>Acer campestre</b>		<b>Field Maple</b>	<b>25m</b>	<b>Exotic</b>
Nothofagus solandri	Tawhairauriki	Black Beech	25m	BPR; Sl to 750m
Metrosideros umbellata	Rata (Southern)		15m	NZ
Plagianthus regius	Manatu	Ribbonwood	15m	BPC Sl to 650m
Corynocarpus laevigatus	Karaka		15m	BPU; RES
Pittosporum Euglenioides	Tarata	Lemonwood	12m	BPC sl to 700m
Aristotelia serrata	Makamako	Wineberry	10m	BPC sl to 800m
Melicytus ramiflorus	Mahoe	Whiteywood	10m	BPA Sl to 600m
Carpodetus serratus	Putaputaweka	Marble leaf	10m	BPC Sl to 800m
Hoheria augustifolia	Houhere	Narrow leaved lacebark	10m	BPA sl to 700m
Sophora microphylla	Kowhai		10m	NZ
Griselinia littoralis	Kapuka	Broadleaf	10m	BPVC sl to 800m
Pittosporum crassifolium	Karo		9m	RES Sl to 950m
Pittosporum tenuifolium	Kohuhu	Pitch seed	8m	BPC sl to 730m
Pseudopanax arboreus	Puahou	Five-finger	8m	BPC sl to 550m
Coprosma repens	Taupata		8m	RES

Dodonaea viscosa	Akeake		7m	BPC sl to 360m
Coprosma robusta	Karamu		6m	RES
Sophora prostrata		Dwarf Kowhai	2m	BPC sl to 560m

## Area 2: Eastern Boundary – Natives - adjacent Residence 10 Te Ra Crescent

Native planting on the east boundary to be reinforced with extra planting if needed and to be mulched to reduce weeds, retain moisture and provide continuity. Also, a solid area of native bush planting providing habitat in the northeastern triangular area of the Site.

Genus Species	Maori Name	Common Name	Max Height	Other
Asplenium appendiculatum				NZ + Aust
Asplenium gracillimum				NZ + Aust
Solanum aviculare	Poroporo		3m	BPA; understorey
Piper excelsum	Kawakawa	Pepper tree	5m	BPC; understorey
Pseudopanax ferox		Fierce Lancewood	5m	BPC; sl to 550m
Aristotelia serrata	Makamako	Wineberry	10m	BPC; sl to 800m
Griselinia littoralis	Kapuka	Broadleaf	10m	BPVC; sl to 800m
Penantia corymbosa	Kaikomako		10m	BPVC; sl to 600m
Pittosporum tenuifolium	Kohuhu	Pitch seed	8m	BPC; sl to 730m
Olearia paniculata	Akiraho		6m	BPC; sl to 760m
Olearia fragrantissima		Fragrant tree daisy	6m	BPUC; sl to 300m
Olearia avicenniifolia		Mountain akeake	6m	BPC; sl to 600m
Pseudopanax arboreus	Puahou	Five-finger	8m	BPC; sl to 550m
Coprosma repens	Taupata		8m	RES;
Dodonaea viscosa	Akeake		7m	BPC; sl to 360m
Coprosma robusta	Karamu		6m	RES;

## Area 3: Southern Boundary East End - Fruit & Nut Trees – adjac Te Ra Crescent

The area to be cleared of grass and mulched and planted with appropriate fruit and nut trees; wild flowers to be seeded into the mulch.

Genus Species	Common Name	Max Height	To be completed
Malus sp	Dwarf Apple		
	Pear		
	Apricot		
Prunus sp	Blackboy Peach		
	Hazelnut		
	Almond		
	Wild flowers		

#### Area 4: Northern Boundary in from Mid-point – Rock Garden Lizard Habitat

A rock garden area, being a potential lizard habitat (skinks have been seen associated with single large rocks on the Site in the last 10-years) and including shrubs as a source of lizard food in addition to herbs, sub-shrubs, native grass, and sedge, as follows:

Genus Species	Maori Name	Common Name	Max Height	Other
Coprosma sp				BPVC; Lizard food
Mysine australis	Mapou	Red Mapou		BPC; Lizard food
Myrsine divaricata		Weeping Mapou		BPC; Lizard food
Muehlenbeckia australis**	Pohuehue			BPA; sl to 750m; Lizard food
Anaphaloides bellidiodes		Everlasting Daisy		BPC; flowers spectacle
Brachyglottis lagopus		Yellow Rock Daisy		BPC
Myosotis lytteltonensis		Lyttelton forget-me-not		BPR; sl to 500m
Dysphyma australe		Native ice plant		BPC; sl to 400m
Wahlenbergia gracilis		Harebell		BPA; sl to 700m

See Figure 1 next page

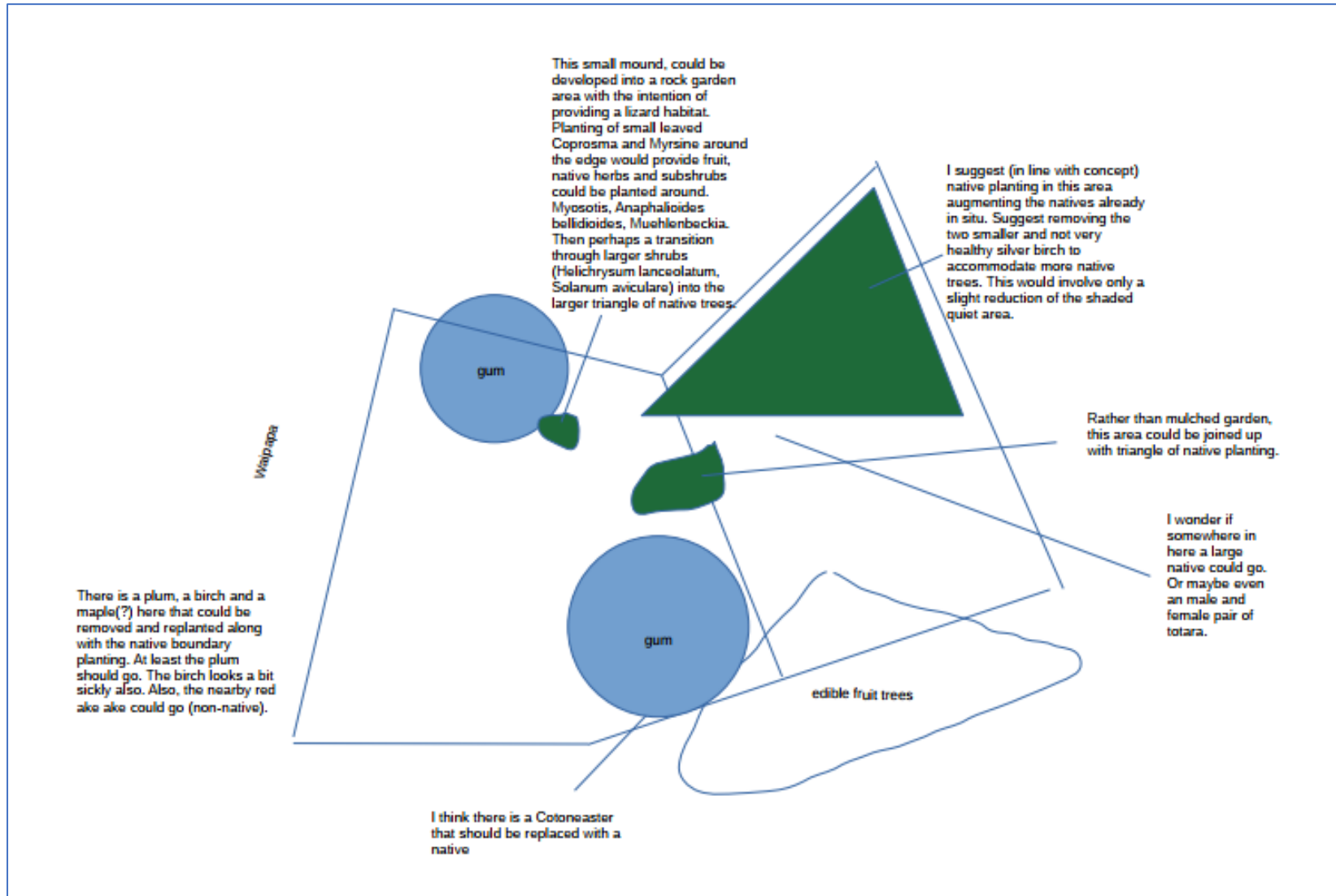


Figure 1: Plan recommendations by Meurk et al (2019) including proposed rock garden area

Response No:  
2

Contribution ID: 40429

Date Submitted: Dec 04, 2025, 06:48 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Andrew Nugent

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text Open Public land is in very short supply. It should not be monopolised by a small group of individuals. How about renting a plot from a private landowner?

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Yes leave the tree. It's been there a long time. It looks lovely and the kererū love it. Why does this group insist on trying to take away community resources for their own ends? I've put my name and address to this post, how about the group do the same?

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
3

Contribution ID: 40421

Date Submitted: Dec 04, 2025, 12:53 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Annette Brixton

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I think it's a great idea. While it will not only provide food but a sense of community. Getting to gether for working bees as well as a place to enjoy meeting socially for a picnic. It's a lovely green space to enjoy.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Removing the large gum tree is ok by me. There are lots of lovely trees and bushes still in the reserve.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
4

Contribution ID: 40307

Date Submitted: Dec 02, 2025, 02:27 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Ariel Waldron

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Avonhead

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Gum trees are not native to NZ and can pose a fire hazard, so removing this tree to make space for other planting and garden development sounds ok.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
5

Contribution ID: 40439

Date Submitted: Dec 05, 2025, 01:24 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Bede Fahey

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I'd like to see the garden proceed as part of our community.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text The gum tree is not a native and appears to be impacting not only this site but adjacent residential sections. Remove it and replace with natives.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
6

Contribution ID: 40238

Date Submitted: Nov 29, 2025, 10:53 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Bronwyn Graham

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text It Would be wonderful to have a community garden and there seems to be the required number of enthusiastic people to get it going so it would be great to give them this space.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I think it is wise to remove the gum tree. As we have seen in other areas around Diamond Harbour, these large non-native trees do lose branches in high winds and thus can be dangerous. It would be nice if the park had some more sun and less gum nuts that are a trip hazard as well.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Carol Halstead

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Dallington

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I strongly object to the removal of the eucalyptus tree , as proposed for the Community Garden. I have no objections to the garden itself but it should be established within the environment that already exists. This tree is important for many birds - native and introduced. Bellbirds and Kereru love it. Replanting with a "native" would take years and defeat the purpose of removing the established tree.  
Garden plots in raised beds work under gum trees and wind protection is important. shading for part of the day is normal for most plants and especially with increasing heat conditions. For a comparison the Waverley Community Garden in Sydney( Bondi Junction) is surrounded by big gum trees and thrives. ( photos supplied if requested)  
finally Community Gardens are transient - dependent on the interests of a few people at the time. Large well established trees are far more enduring and a joy to all.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text See above

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
8

Contribution ID: 40488

Date Submitted: Dec 07, 2025, 10:59 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Carolyn Meynell

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text As we look out to the proposed spot for the raised vegetable beds I prefer to look out to the park outlook and green space which it currently is now. This is a great open space of the park for peoples activities, children playing and picnic spot. As an alternative to the proposed spot the raised beds could be located further down in the park in the eastern end (further down Te Ra and away from Waipapa end) To provide more light this end for the raised beds some of the silver birches can be removed as these also cause allergies. For security reasons it would be better to have the sheds further down and out of view from Waipapa Ave and the main entrance to the park.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I support the removal of the gum tree as there is another gum tree which is bigger very close to this one. Another reason and main issue is safety concerns to the neighbouring house 36 Waipapa Ave with this big gum tree and branches towering over this house which can cause damage especially in strong winds. Branches have fallen off in strong winds and could fall onto the neighbouring house or people in the park causing damage to either. This tree will only continue to get bigger.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Cobi Taylor

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I support the general proposal.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I do not support the proposal to remove the tree. The tree does not cast shade over the proposed garden bed site. It is an established tree that supports the biodiversity of the area and should not be needlessly culled.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Cushla Mahoney

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Church Bay

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text

I wholeheartedly support this proposal. Community Gardens are more than just a place to grow food. They are about ...Growing, learning, social connection and community involvement and this project will support all those honourable intents.

It is also entirely consistent with and will bring to life the CCC's published vision for food resilience i.e "A food-resilient Christchurch with thriving social, economic and physical environments providing healthy, affordable and locally grown food for all people."

It will also bring to life the CCC's Food Resilience Network Action Plan of 20-10-2014 with its stated vision of "A patchwork of food growing at local hotspots, linked together like a ribbon and woven into the fabric of our communities"

It will further the stated aims of this plan as below:

1. Cultivate Relationships, Foster partnerships, coordinate activities and provide governance on food resilience.
2. Grow understanding, skills and celebrate local food. Communicate, educate and inspire people to grow and enjoy local food.
3. Propagate and Support Edible Gardens. Support new and existing edible gardens in homes, schools, and communities.
4. Strengthen Our Local Food Economy. Encourage more localised food production, distribution and access to healthy food.

I find it really surprising and quite extraordinary that a community as diverse as Diamond Harbour does not already have a Community Garden and totally commend this proposal to bring one to life for the community.

I implore the council and community board to support this worthwhile and important community initiative

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text

As to the removal of the tree, whilst no one wishes to see a large tree removed I understand compensatory planting of natives will be made and therefore totally support the removal of this tree.

Along with it being very dangerous and intrusive for the very close neighbour I understand that extensive analysis has been done of the sun and shading impact of the tree. Via the NIWA Solar View tool And the findings are that none of the garden would be shaded in summer, Half would be shaded in spring and autumn and all of it in winter. This, along with the danger to the neighbour in household and the roots intrusion and sucking of moisture legitimises the trees removal and replanting with suitable natives which will enable the Community Garden to be viable.

If the tree is not removed the garden will not be able to successfully grow anything in winter without sun

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Daniela Kellner

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I think a community garden could be a great asset if it's run well. We were part of a community garden in Charteris bay which in the end had to be abandoned so it will be interesting to see how this is going to work out. I would be in favour of the community garden if there will still be enough space to roam in the rest of the park, and if the gum tree stays and is still accessible.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I am absolutely against the removal of this tree. It is a beauty and I find the whole charm of te ra park exists because of that tree. DH is so sunny and on a hot day it's actually rather hard to find nice shade sometimes. This tree has given me and my boy a lot of joy and we're using the swing too. Photo evidence attached :) I've looked at the proposed veggie garden and believe it gets plenty of sunshine despite the tree.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload [https://letstalk.ccc.govt.nz/download\\_file/7713](https://letstalk.ccc.govt.nz/download_file/7713)



Response No:  
12

Contribution ID: 40594

Date Submitted: Dec 15, 2025, 09:35 AM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text David Dickson

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I support the community garden going in and would like to be a part of the group and volunteer in the gardens.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I am not against the tree being removed if it means a community garden can be established.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text David Rice

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I am in favour of this initiative because it encourages community activity. This provides benefits to the individuals and to the Community as a whole. I have every faith that they will keep the garden tidy and well maintained.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text This is a magnificent tree and I would be saddened to see it removed. However, it appears to overhang a residential property and if that was my property, I would be concerned about the danger from falling limbs. This type of tree is well known for shedding branches and is known by some as the "Widow Maker". Trimming or removing the tree for the safety of others seems like a good move. Simply removing it to enhance the garden does not.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Dawn Sutton

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Church Bay

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text Yes: The Community garden proposal is a great community initiative. Community gardens not only provide food to those involved but they also contribute to the community wellbeing. This is through community gardens being a social centre, that produces food and promote self-sufficiency. They bring people together and breaking down social isolation. They give individuals a focus - rather than staying at home isolated they encourage people to join in group activities - and you don't have to be able bodied to do so. Actual physical work is not always required. Older people who just want to pop in and chat - share their knowledge on gardening and how to process produce, how to cook it and preserve it etc. They are also valuable educational resources - people can learn from each other regarding how to garden. Individuals who have never gardened can learn about it - community gardens are a place for people to build confidence and develop life skills.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Yes - the gum tree is lovely but it is huge. It will significantly shade the propose raised bed areas esp over winter. Diamond Harbour area is lucky not to have a lot of frosts over winter - this allows growing all year round. But you need a minimum of 6hrs of sun for winter veggie growth. The tree is in a position that it significantly affects this. In addition, the root structure will tap into the water and nutrients of the raised beds and probably invade the raised beds with its root structure to obtain the water and nutrients there. There are other large trees in the park that are not an issue - so removing one tree is a relatively small impact. It is also not a native, and the area is predominantly native plants. As part of the community garden further native plantings including tress will be undertaken.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
15

Contribution ID: 40596

Date Submitted: Dec 15, 2025, 10:00 AM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Deborah Jane Boyd

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I fully support the proposed community garden as it will be beneficial to the community.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I support the removal of the gum tree.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Donald McKellar

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I support the proposal for the community garden at Te Ra community park.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I support the proposal to remove the gum tree. This will give a more balanced sun/shade mix in the community park. There is no shortage of large trees in Diamond Harbour, and many more trees are being planted in appropriate areas. However this large tree is too close to housing and the proposed community garden.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
17

Contribution ID: 40195

Date Submitted: Nov 28, 2025, 05:23 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Donna Currey

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text No, a community garden is a good idea.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I believe the tree should stay where it is. The community gardeners can plan a garden around this tree . This tree will enhance the garden not detract from it. It has provided shade a place for the birds to perch and sing in as well as a thing of beauty to reflect on for many years and I feel it would be doing the community a disservice and cause unnecessary heartache to see it chopped down.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
18

Contribution ID: 40186

Date Submitted: Nov 28, 2025, 03:32 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Eliza Waszczak

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text More play and picnic areas

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Leave the tree as is. Or replace with many more native trees.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
19

Contribution ID: 40200

Date Submitted: Nov 28, 2025, 05:53 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Emma Kinnings

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text There is plenty of space to plant Community gardens at the CCC land behind the school which was previously discussed with a community garden group. No need to remove a tree to benefit a few people.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text The gum tree is known to have nesting kererū and being mature it would have an abundance of biodiversity not always visible like fungi and invertebrates depending on it. This tree should not be removed to please a few people when there is land available elsewhere for their project.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Freddie Heaton-Caffin

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text No

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Living at Number 41 we get a great view of the reserve and the gumtree(s), the removal of the gum tree would greatly impact the view and make the space look empty and sad. There is no need for the removal of it, destroying the environment just so we can grow vegetables? What happened to putting the environment first? Its a waste of resources and there is more harm done by removing it.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Gaye Campbell

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I am in favour of the Community Garden. With the now well established community park, I think a community garden on the site will further enhance the community connection that has been established. The working bees that I have participated in have provided a valuable way to engage with the local people in our area. While we have fruit and nut trees in the park, to make more productive use of the area I think is a worthwhile endeavour. I therefore support the variation to the current lease to allow this initiative to proceed.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text If the removal of the gum tree is required to ensure the success of the community garden then I support its removal. As with other locals, I am aware of the fact that the tree is too close to the property next to it and could in future be a risk to the family living there. In an ideal world, it would be useful to wait a year after the garden is established, to monitor the impact the tree has on the garden beds, but this would potentially mean a waste of resources, if it impedes the growth of the plants.  
The gum tree in question is one of two in the park. The main tree is a central focus in the park and provides a swing for children to play on, and is a haven for local birds, particularly the bellbirds and kereru. The second tree is on the boundary and appears to be of less importance to the local bird life.  
I am in favour of the gum tree being removed to allow a more productive use of the community park space.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
22

Contribution ID: 40430

Date Submitted: Dec 04, 2025, 07:31 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Graeme Fraser

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I'm quite in favour of the proposed community garden in Te Ra Park.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I object strongly to the proposal to remove the gum tree. I don't think the proposers have provided enough evidence to support their argument that the community garden can't proceed unless this tree is removed. It would also be a stain on the community spirit in that area of Diamond Harbour, creating a lot of ill feeling against the community garden.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
23

Contribution ID: 40226

Date Submitted: Nov 29, 2025, 09:44 AM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Guillaume Clin

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I'm supportive of a community garden but not at the cost of nature. Community garden serve a few and should not involve use of pesticide or chemical, kids and pets are using this area and the value of our community is the Connect to nature and native bush and bird

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Absolutely don't! Trees take decades to grow and guarantee the well-being of the community, a community garden will benefit only a few and might fail in a few years!  
We are taking so much time to bring back nature in our gully's so it would be against our values!  
Move the community garden somewhere else if the site is not fit for purpose but again: Do Not Cut The Tree!

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
24

Contribution ID: 40196

Date Submitted: Nov 28, 2025, 05:29 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Hannah Rice

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Aranui

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text While I like the idea of community gardens, I don't like the idea of cutting down a massive tree that's been growing for so long, in order to do it.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text It's a bad idea.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
25

Contribution ID: 40515

Date Submitted: Dec 09, 2025, 11:08 AM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice

As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text

Heba Mashhour

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box

Charteris Bay

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text

I support the proposed community garden at Te Ra Community Park. A well run garden can strengthen social connections by bringing the community together to grow and share food. It can also support local food security by giving people the chance to grow fresh produce close to home. I appreciate the intention to work alongside the Friends of Te Ra so the garden aligns with the wider vision for the park. With thoughtful design, the raised beds and composting area can enhance the space, encourage learning, and add to the biodiversity of the park without disturbing its natural character.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text

I support the proposal to remove the gum tree. It is an exotic tree that has grown too large for its location and now creates significant shade over the proposed garden site. A tree of this size also draws a great deal of water and nutrients which makes it difficult for vegetables and other plantings to thrive. Large gums can also drop branches which creates a safety concern in a community park. Removing it will allow the garden to succeed and will create space for plantings that are better suited to the site and to local biodiversity.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
26

Contribution ID: 40412

Date Submitted: Dec 03, 2025, 10:07 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Helen Alpe

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Church Bay

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I think this is a really good spot for a community garden, easy access, protected from the strong winds, visible for the community, plenty of growing space. Diamond Harbour deserves to finally get a community garden, there are plenty of keen locals just waiting for the land. It would become a great little hub, to share ideas, come together and build resilience and future proof our community.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Gum trees do tend to drop large limbs and this one is particularly big so will need to be dealt with in some way at some stage. It really does shade out and suck dry the best growing spots around it. For a community garden to happen that tree does need to go. Thankfully it is not native, and will get replaced by many other trees, some fruit bearing I'm sure, but also native species that will add to the existing ecosystem in a positive way.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
27

Contribution ID: 40220

Date Submitted: Nov 29, 2025, 07:11 AM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Helen Holyoak

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Lyttelton

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text

I think the public amenity and feel of having mature trees with local memories is important to maintain and that the needs of community garden can be well met with the tree in place. More families with you young kids likely to help if there's shade.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
28

Contribution ID: 40464

Date Submitted: Dec 06, 2025, 10:19 AM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Helen Townsend

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I support the proposed community garden as long as it is herbicide and pesticide free.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I support the removal of the gum tree.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Herbie Mues

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text Yes, as a member of the Friends of Te Ra Park I am happy for the Community Garden Group to use it.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Yes, I am shocked that people who are into gardening and treasure Mother Gaia's offerings can even consider to fell such a beautiful tree. How can one think just of oneself?? The Park belongs to the whole community!!!  
I totally object to cutting down this beautiful tree !!!  
I believe the Park offers enough open space for at least six garden beds.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
30

Contribution ID: 40595

Date Submitted: Dec 15, 2025, 09:52 AM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Ian William Boyd

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text We live close to Te Ra Park & are very keen to retain this park. I fully support the proposed community garden as it will be of benefit to local families.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I support the removal of the gum tree because it will be beneficial to the community garden.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Janette West

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I support the community garden project wholeheartedly, what a great way to feed our community and local organisations, bring the already connected community closer and have a hub in our area.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I do love that tree but the other gum is staying and there will be further native planting to enhance the space. I am part of the Friends of Te Rā Group who have the lease on the park and through the aging population and busy younger members the group needs to engage more supporters. This will happen with a community garden. If the tree needs to go then I support that. It's not native but is beautiful.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Jason Nolan

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text Yes I want it.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Remove both of them.  
They're not native and a wind/fire hazard

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Jim Pollard

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text People will give it up whereas the tree has been there for years.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Yes keep it. There's plenty of room at that location or other locations in Diamond Harbour.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text John grater

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I am in favour of the proposed garden. Having both a park for people to use and the growing of vegetables, creates a community gathering place.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I am in favour of the tree being removed. I understand that 2 trees more appropriate will be planted. It is a magnificent tree and it will be supporting a whole ecosystem, however it's a huge tree in the wrong place. In chatting with the immediate neighbour, it poses a security threat to his household.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Joy McLeod

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I support the community garden. It is good to grow food as locally as possible for reasons of Sustainability  
Economics  
Social cohesion  
The large gum tree on the north is a beautiful specimen. But these trees are known to lose branches etc. If it can be successfully reduced in size I would support that. Otherwise if it is removed native trees need to be planted in suitable places to keep tree cover in Diamond Harbour.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text See above

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Karen Colyer

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I support community gardens in general but am not sure Diamond Harbour would have enough people sufficiently interested to make it work long term.  
Most people have their own gardens. I realise the idea may be to help some in the community who could benefit from a group activity. But once again, is this realistic? Or, just a nice idea.  
Overall, on a practical day to day level, I think it won't work long term.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I talked to one of the ex members of the Te Ra group last week to try to get a "bigger picture" about the tree. It is a large, open tree beloved by birds. There is another large tree nearby also.  
I love this area just as it is and have always wanted to belong to it, but am over committed with community work already. I applaud the hard work that went into saving the green space.  
My main issue about the tree is that it is one of the probably thousands of trees required to provide a corridor for native birds - in particular the Tui. When tuis were released at Akaroa some years ago, it was hoped they would find their way to the Lyttelton Harbour area. They are sited from time to time, one only a couple of weeks ago.  
I would therefore probably not agree to the tree being removed.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
37

Contribution ID: 40230

Date Submitted: Nov 29, 2025, 10:37 AM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Kate Carran

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I am fully supportive of a community garden, so long as it remains an open, inclusive space and is managed by a group that fosters a welcoming environment without unnecessary oversight.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text The reserve was preserved for the benefit of the community, and removing trees to create a community garden is not appropriate. It is often those who come and go who seek to make changes that undermine the very qualities that make our town such a beautiful place to live. Please do not remove the tree.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
38

Contribution ID: 40572

Date Submitted: Dec 13, 2025, 09:29 AM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Katie Bishop

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I have no objections to the garden as long as the surrounding residents are okay with it, the garden is maintained and kept tidy, rodents and composting smells are controlled, and there is a plan in place to ensure that happens.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I agree that the tree should be removed. It is too large, too dangerous and too close to houses and community space. Though it is a beautiful tree, it is inappropriately positioned and the wrong type of tree for a residential environment.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
39

Contribution ID: 40245

Date Submitted: Nov 30, 2025, 12:45 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text KIRSTEN ANNE MACKAY

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I support the community gardens and would become involved if they were in this location

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text The gum tree is on my boundary and I would prefer it removed and replaced with diverse ecosourced natives that feed birds. It has adverse effects on my property. There is an ongoing cost of keeping branches from overhanging my house, as the tree grows this will increase for council and myself.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Lawrie Ferrie

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Church Bay

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I sincerely think that a community garden will be beneficial to the diverse Diamond Harbour community and add The community garden is not just about food its about social connection That as it currently stands the Friends of Te Ra are looking to wind up their activity and let the lease lapse unless the Te Ahu Patiki Community garden group join with them to help with the activities of the committee. If the lease lapses, then the park will go back to CCC care – and if as previously indicated by CCC prior to the development of The Friends of Te Ra, there is a possibility that the land will be sold for development. If that happens and it goes into private ownership, then all the trees including the gum will be gone and will be replaced by houses. Of course, prior to any sale of the land CCC will have to do community consultation.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text The gum tree does need to be significantly removed or reduced not only for the garden but also for nearby residents who are very much affected by its massive structure and damage caused by the root system

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Lorraine Heaton-Caffin

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I think it's a great idea but only if the gum tree is staying

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Yes. Do not remove it. Its does not shade the area that much. Maybe early morning. It is not necessary to fell a beautiful tree for this project. I love that gum tree. Its the reason why we bought this house. The beautiful outlook from ours to the harbour including the gum tree.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload [https://letstalk.ccc.govt.nz/download\\_file/7711](https://letstalk.ccc.govt.nz/download_file/7711)



Response No:  
42

Contribution ID: 40210

Date Submitted: Nov 28, 2025, 08:58 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Maike Fichtner-Hammer

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text Wonderful-fully endorse thsi project.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Please leave it. Do not cut it down

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Mark Watson

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I am totally in favour of having a community garden in the Diamond Harbour. I am aware of the difficulties that the gardening group have had finding a suitable place, and was saddened that the Laurenson park option was stymied... I find it hard to believe that there can't be space for community gardening as well as other activities (including rescue helicopter landing and dog walking) there.  
The proposed Te Ra site is quite physically restricted, but if the gardening group believe it is big enough for their intended activities, I am in favour of the proposal to use it as a community garden.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I oppose removal of an established tree to improve the site for gardening.  
I appreciate that it is probably cheaper to chop down the tree than to reduce its size and/or its density (and maintain this over time). However, I believe that would be a much better solution / compromise, and one with less environmental impact. Given the tree as it stands currently would shade none of the garden in summer, and only half of the garden in spring and autumn, I am hopeful that careful thinning and re-shaping could significantly reduce the spring and autumn shading. As a gardener myself I don't see a problem with a garden being winter-shaded: winter sun is a luxury in these latitudes. Regarding robbing of soil moisture and nutrients by the tree, I would have expected that like many community gardens, growing beds would be raised, and filled with quality growing media. Where beds are intended near the root zone of the tree, they could be lined with weed mat to stop root ingress.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Meegan Heart

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I love the idea of the community garden.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text This gum tree is an iconic part of many, many people's views. It has a history that means it is well loved by hundreds of people. Equally importantly, Kereru are spotted in it daily along with other bird life. Given how sparse the branches are, and the minimal foliage, it does not cast much shade. The benefits of keeping it outweigh the benefits of killing it.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload [https://letstalk.ccc.govt.nz/download\\_file/7712](https://letstalk.ccc.govt.nz/download_file/7712)



Response No:  
45

Contribution ID: 40426

Date Submitted: Dec 04, 2025, 03:50 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Michael Coultas

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I live directly across from the park and I do not support the proposed community garden. I am concerned about the rodents it will attract and what will happen to the area when the key people/groups supporting the gardens loose enthusiasm and or members. I enjoy the park as it is and think it should remain a park.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I support the removal of the gum tree because I see it is a hazard over Pete's house. I fear that the tree will fall in strong winds.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
46

Contribution ID: 40428

Date Submitted: Dec 04, 2025, 06:26 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Michele Ann Cherry

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text Community Gardens have proven to be a positive presence in any community as a community/social resource and a food resource. This community space can only be enhanced by the presence of people who care for the land and soil and living beings who dwell in this space. I sense in these times of potential climate crisis that such areas will take on major significance.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Regardless of whether the community garden goes ahead or not, I feel the tree, magnificent as it is, needs to be felled due to safety concerns for the residents who live under its shadow on Waipapa Ave.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Michele Kiely

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text It will be a wonderful asset to the community. Helps with food and social requirements.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text If the land is sold by CCC, it would be removed anyway, so I don't have an issue with the tree being removed.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
48

Contribution ID: 40427

Date Submitted: Dec 04, 2025, 04:28 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Mischke scheepers

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Lyttelton

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text Yeah. It is a great initiative. They should look into alternative, nature compatible ways to growing food though.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Yes. Trees will far outlive a community garden . We need to learn to work with them. The tree has clearly been there for decades. We may not live in Diamond Harbour now, but we love the area and plan to buy there. Trees should be cherished when they are that old already.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Monica Bernadette REEVE

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I am fully in support of the granting of the variation to the lease to start a community garden at Te Ra community Park in Diamond Harbour with the building of raised beds, small storage shed and composting area. My only reservation is perhaps revisiting the proposed siting of the raised beds to ensure that these are positioned in an area of the park where they will benefit from the best possible growing conditions. I have attended several meetings of the combined group since the idea was first mooted and have been most impressed with the leadership, background research and utilisation of different skills to bring the proposal to this point. I look forward to seeing how the planned amenities can further build on the dedication and hard work already accomplished over the past years to provide opportunities for community building, making the neighbourhood safer and connected as well as providing food security for families and the more vulnerable.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I fully support the request to have the large gum tree removed not only because it shades the proposed community garden site but from a Health and Safety perspective. I hope to be able to provide a snap shot of the tree to support concerns regarding the tree, the branches of which extend well out towards the road and are susceptible to the frequent turbulent buffeting brought about by the strong easterly winds which we are exposed to particularly in this area of Diamond Harbour. It is not unknown for quite sizeable tree branches deemed 'safe' and 'healthy' by arborists to unexpectedly break with the potential to cause injury or loss of life. This is particularly pertinent in the case of the branches of this tree as pedestrians (including children) enter the park at that corner to connect with the track or to visit the Book Exchange. I have also only recently become aware of the issue of structural interference in the case of the house which is situated along the border with the park (and was there before the tree was) having suffered damage from the root system which has pushed through and cracked an area of the house structure. This is totally unacceptable and hardly the situation when the aesthetic value "I like the tree" (and not a native) can not justifiably take precedence over a family being able to live without fear in their own home. A family, I might add who work tirelessly planting and maintaining the gullies and walking tracks in our area.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice

As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text

Murray James Campbell

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box

Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text

I live at 7 Te Ra Crescent overlooking the part of Te Ra Community Park where the Mt Herbert Gardening group wishes to install raised garden beds. I have lived here since 2019 and witnessed the transformation of an unkempt former water reservoir site into a safe, pleasant spot where the elderly and youngsters can relax, play and enjoy themselves. The Friends of Te Ra Park have done a great job and put in countless hours: planting native trees, shrubs and providing CCC water for the plants and for visitors to drink.

I join the local residents at working bees to keep the plants healthy and we share each other's wisdom about staying healthy and fit. I attended the official opening of the Park by the Deputy Mayor who planted a Totara to mark the occasion in 2021. I felt proud to have been a part of this.

I felt sympathy for our neighbour Pete Ozich who resides on the boundary of the Park and who lived there before the Gum tree was planted and continues to reside there despite his efforts to have it removed. The tree shades the area where it is proposed to locate the upraised gardens and would inhibit successful gardening.

I have noticed that the native birds congregate in the other large gum tree that does not shade this area. This tree is on a bird flight path and the birds fly over our residence after feeding at this gum tree as they head to the native forested areas off Waipapa Avenue and Rawhiti Street. I do not see birds feeding in the targeted tree.

In conversations with other local residents at our working bees we find we all struggle to weed and feed the plants and bushes at ground level. The raised gardens would allow us to get our exercise without worrying about the the effects on our aging backs and limbs. I wish to remain active and continue to connect with our neighbours in the park and learn how to grow and propagate, preserve our harvest , build a healthy soil , save seeds, and attend workshops at the Park about mushroom growing and foraging wild edible species.

I would like to see us use the expertise of the gardening group to follow the the food resilience policy adopted by the CCC in November 2014.. In particular I laud the outcomes of that policy to develop a self-reliant and close-knit community, a thriving food economy, and celebrate our garden city heritage.

These outcomes are achievable with raised gardens at the Te Ra Community Park.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Naomi Cassrels

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I'm new to Diamond Harbour and would love to see and be involved in a community garden. I've not a lot of land for a garden at my home and would benefit from the shared experience and community connection of this project and produce.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Trees are an integral part of a community providing shade and home to birds and insects. I understand that gum trees can be dangerous in high winds etc. However could it not be trimmed back safely so the tree can continue to thrive and minimise danger.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Nicholas Dickinson

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text Demand for a community garden is highly questionable. Most homes have gardens in DH, but only a limited number of residents take time to grow fruit and vegetables. It is unlikely there would be sufficient volunteers for this proposed venture. Gardening at the Village Hall only attracts a small handful of volunteers. I think a community garden would become neglected and very untidy.

Can be actioned without tree felling in my view

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I understand the case for trimming a few branches but not to fell the large gum tree. It is a splendid tree.

Gum tree should be protected, not felled. It is spectacular

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
53

Contribution ID: 40067

Date Submitted: Nov 24, 2025, 05:46 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Nicholas Heaton-Caffin

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I don't want it removed. My living room window looks out to it and with it removed, spoils my outlook.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Nicholas Ian Boyd

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text It's a brilliant idea that will be very popular among the local population. There are a number of keen gardeners, local produce swaps and seedling swaps that go on in the harbour and most people are keen on self sufficient living and knowing what goes on their food. Also as there are a number of older residents it is a great opportunity for socialising which is good for mental health. There is ample room for the community garden to be accommodated at Te Rā Community Park, and there are no other community gardens in Diamond Harbour or surrounds.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I don't mind either way. There are other big gum trees in the park, and they are not a native species. I know the resident who lives right next door to the park has been concerned about the potential danger of the tree for some time. His house is right next to it and large branches hang over his house that have potential to fall. It was mostly gum trees that fell during the earthquakes due to their relatively shallow root systems. If it were to remain its safety should be evaluated. I like the tree but I can see how a lot more light would come into the park if it were removed. I don't think it would significantly alter the parks atmosphere.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
55

Contribution ID: 40567

Date Submitted: Dec 12, 2025, 03:59 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Nicola Green

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text Welcome the garden to this area.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Support the removal of this tree.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Pat Pritchett

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Church Bay

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I think it is a good place for their garden as friends of the space will ensure its upkeep which otherwise could be doubtful over the long term. I base this on 2 previous community gardens which failed after a couple of years due to lack of interest. In this district most people have plenty of space for their own garden.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I strongly reject cutting down any trees unless they are a danger to people or properties. Birdlife is dependant on trees. As our climate warms, we need more shade. My vege garden needs shade if I don't want to water every day. Mature trees are a valuable community resource. The newer areas of this district who are waiting for trees and Bush to develop say they have no birdsong yet.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice

As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text

Paul McNally

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box

Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text

I have lived across from this park for 6 years .

I have included a map which Sharyn Worrill has cut and pasted as a close representation as possible of the positioning of the proposed planter-box, composting area and the changes I support her recommendations are: To remove the tree bordering and encroaching upon # 36 Waipapa Avenue  
-the removal of 7 Silver Birch Trees. As you may well be aware, people are being tested for allergies in the environment. Silver Birch is well known to be a trigger for asthma. I know this personally so I would urge you to consider the removal of all 7 Silver Birch trees as it is a health issue to the wider community. This would allow the natives growing near them to flourish in keeping with the regeneration of natives which is upheld locally.  
- I suggest that a more suitable position for the proposed table/seating area would be to situate it where the planter boxes have been suggested. The reason for this being that it would attract walking groups who often use this route and offer a resting place to partake of refreshments and take the opportunity to peruse books from the two Book Exchanges or provide a seated area from which families could supervise children at play.

In addition, I was very perturbed when I spoke to the homeowner closest to the gum tree who showed me his house where a large root from the tree to his house has cracked his wall and window sill. I was hoping that a very heavy trim i.e. coming down in height and the removal of the long boughs that will eventually further encroach not only onto his property but also out onto the road. I believe the trimming undertaken on behalf of the Council was not nearly enough.

You can view very heavily pruned gums outside a house at the bottom end of Waipapa Avenue.

This appears to present more questions than answers for all of us under Health and Safety with the possibility of preventing damage to people's property or in the worst case, injury to human life.  
Would this cause you concern if 36 Waipapa Avenue was your home?

I feel that long-term this Park should remain as an open space and I would like to see the Council formally make it a Park with their responsibility being the mowing inside and outside of the verge.  
If in the worst case scenario of the Council not making it a Park then it would potentially be subdivided with all trees being removed without any discretionary input from the Community as none of them are protected trees.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Pete Ozich

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text We support the community garden plan. It is a good use for this land.  
As the neighbour most effected by this proposal, we would like some minor mitigation work done to maintain privacy.  
We are also concerned that rodent numbers might increase if excess food is not handled carefully.  
I'm sure the gardening group can work with us to mitigate these concerns.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text We fully support the removal of the gum tree.  
That tree's roots have cracked the foundation wall of our house. It covers our section with leaves, branches and gum nuts and continually clogs our gutters. It makes it difficult to grow anything without adding huge amounts of water as the roots extend into our vegie garden and lawns.  
I am concerned about the safety of the tree in a strong southerly.  
The council trimmed the canopy back to the boundary a few years ago, but it has now regrown so it over hangs our house.  
We would be very happy to see that tree go.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
59

Contribution ID: 40487

Date Submitted: Dec 07, 2025, 09:39 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Robert Meynell

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text Yes would like to see the sheds build further down the hillside.  
Let's see how long it lasts.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Yes I support the removal of the tree as there is another gum close which is bigger.  
On safety concerns as it is very close to the boundary of the house next door I would hate to see it drop a branch on the house and its roots are causing damage.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Robin David Smissen

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text The proposed community garden will provide benefits to the community through food security, knowledge transfer, waste reduction (composting) and community engagement. The proposed community garden will add this significant value to the current park operation without unduly compromising the existing recreational and biodiversity values supported by the park. It will engage a new community of gardeners with the park and help secure its future by bringing new talent into the group managing the park.  
I commend the proposal and the demonstrated commitment of its instigators.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text The CCC biodiversity strategy rightly focuses on native species and ecosystems, and those of importance to Tangata Whenua. As an exotic species, the removal of the gum tree (Eucalyptus sp.) and its replacement with site-appropriate native tree species planted so as to be more sympathetic to the proposed community garden could better support native fauna such as birds and invertebrates. In the long term, replacement of an exotic tree with natives can only be viewed as a win for biodiversity.  
While I am sympathetic to hesitations voiced by others in the community about the removal of the gum tree and loss of its amenity value, it is inconsistent with aspirations to restore native ecosystems and the sooner it is replaced the better.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Ruben Hull

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I think having a community garden space is great and a good way to utilise the land. Bringing community together and a good way to share produce, socialise etc.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I don't think the gum tree needs to be removed immediately. I think it's better to get the garden up and running first and actually find out whether it is a problem to the garden. With raised garden beds the roots won't be a problem. If the garden is a success and more land needed, yes let's revisit the trees removal. My concern is that the garden doesn't go ahead or disbands after a year or two and the tree was cut down for nothing. I am a qualified arborist and don't see this as a dangerous tree, there is no sign of any historical large branch failures.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text S. R. Worrill

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text

To consider the long term use of this park.

I have lived across from this park for 38 years and it has never been so welcoming and in such good presentation as it does at present. This is in no small way achieved without the dedicated local neighbour support group.

I have included a map which i have cut and pasted as a close representation as possible of the positioning of the proposed planter-box, composting area and the changes I am recommending are:

-heavily pruning the tree bordering and encroaching upon # 36 Waipapa Avenue

-the removal of 7 Silver Birch Trees. As you may well be aware, people are being tested for allergies in the environment. Silver Birch is well known to be a trigger for asthma. I know this personally so I would urge you to consider the removal of all 7 Silver Birch trees as it is a health issue to the wider community. This would allow the natives growing near them to flourish in keeping with the regeneration of natives which is upheld locally.

- I suggest that a more suitable position for the proposed table/seating area would be to situate it where the planter boxes have been suggested. The reason for this being that it would attract walking groups who often use this route and offer a resting place to partake of refreshments and take the opportunity to peruse books from the two Book Exchanges or provide a seated area from which families could supervise children at play.

In addition, I was very perturbed when I spoke to the homeowner closest to the gum tree who showed me his house where a large root from the tree to his house has cracked his wall and window sill. I was hoping that a very heavy trim i.e. coming down in height and the removal of the long boughs that will eventually further encroach not only onto his property but also out onto the road. I believe the trimming undertaken on behalf of the Council was not nearly enough.

You can view very heavily pruned gums outside a house at the bottom end of Waipapa Avenue.

This appears to present more questions than answers for all of us under Health and Safety with the possibility of preventing damage to people's property or in the worst case, injury to human life.

Would this cause you concern if 36 Waipapa Avenue was your home?

I feel that long-term this Park should remain as an open space and I would like to see the Council formally make it a Park with their responsibility being the mowing inside and outside of the verge.

If in the worst case scenario of the Council not making it a Park then it would potentially be subdivided with all trees being removed without any discretionary input from the Community as none of them are protected trees.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text

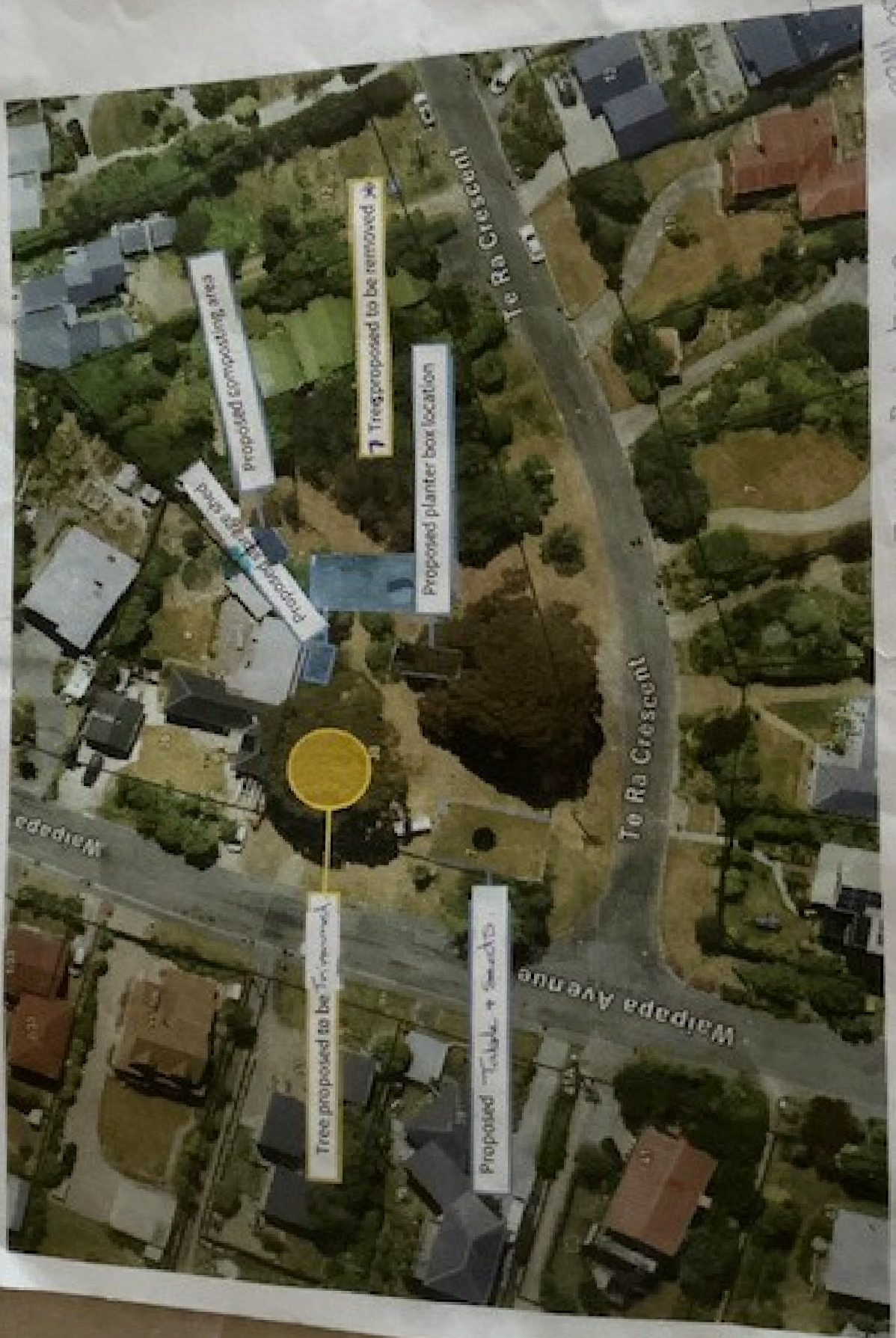
See above

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

[https://letstalk.ccc.govt.nz/download\\_file/7827](https://letstalk.ccc.govt.nz/download_file/7827)

# The Friends of Te Ra Proposed Community Garden



7 slides Bush trees

DRIVING TO Te Ra Crescent

Response No:  
63

Contribution ID: 40212

Date Submitted: Nov 28, 2025, 09:30 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Simonette Spencer

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I'm very supportive of a community garden. It will be a support to feed those who cannot maintain a veggie garden. Also a great place to meet like minded local people.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I am strongly opposed to removing the gum tree. We would be killing a living being that is decades old. The idea is that us human work with nature. Not bend nature to our will. We can enjoy the tree shade during gardening. Some plants beef partial shade.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
64

Contribution ID: 39964

Date Submitted: Nov 21, 2025, 04:31 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Sonia Bell

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Upper Riccarton

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text Too far away from me to have an impact.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text Gum tree is not a native so happy for it to be removed

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Stefan Schiebe

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text I support the idea of the community garden.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I don't support the removal of the gum tree. This tree forms the Centre of the park and makes it to what it is. The shaded area under the tree offers a calm spot to rest or play with my kids on the swing. Maybe the placement of the garden beds can be adjusted to the west where plenty of sun is available

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Steve Kinnings

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text The community garden group have historically requested to use Laurenson Park in Diamond Harbour as a community garden which was opposed by many locals as it is one of the only dog accepted parks in the area. The garden group were, advised at the time , that the local school has a garden group that they could support and this continues to be a more suitable option then again trying to occupy another public space in Diamond Harbour which is already limited. The group has also been advised that CCC owns a large expanse of land behind the school which a small pert could be utilized for the group.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I don't think that the established tree needs to be removed as the proposed space can accommodate the needs of a community garden with it remaining in site.  
The tree will be providing a multiple habitat for many birds, insects and other wildlife which will be destroyed if removed.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice

As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text

Thomas Proctor

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box

Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text

Great idea, fully support community engagement.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text

Totally wrong thing to do. Established trees should not be cut down but rather seen as enhancement of a natural environment. It's a huge plus to the te Ra area. It creates a perfect boundary to the park. If cut down the view is the roof of a house- yuk.  
Community gardens tend to have short life spans- max 10 years, tend to be curated by older retired people who pass on, while the gum has been there for multiple decades and most likely to outlive the gardens. If shade is a concern, there is plenty of growing space closer to Te Ra Rd that would be less affected . In hot summer the tree will provide shade for the community workers, that many neighbourhoods long for. If the concern is that it's an exotic, non native, then one must be agree that all the historical 100yr old gums ( with memorial plaques on them ) in the mt Herbert walkway valley could be removed as well.  
It should not be cut down.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

Response No:  
68

Contribution ID: 40079

Date Submitted: Nov 25, 2025, 04:58 PM

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Wilhelmina Koman

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text GREAT IDEA

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text I do understand as otherwise the community garden would not get enough light to flourish.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text William Skelton

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text For several years now Te Ra Crescent residents have maintained this small corner park. Most of the group proposing the changes described in their plan are not Te Ra residents and their vision requires substantial changes with little regard for the parks immediate neighbors. Most of Te Ra residents have large sections and are able to grow their own veggies, etc. if they are so inclined.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text The gum tree the new group would like to remove is a mature tree and, in my opinion, would be a real loss to the park. While I understand Mr. Ozich, whose house is the closest building to the tree, is concerned about potential damage should a branch break off on his side of the tree I believe the odds are slim. He's lived with the risk for years with no negative consequences that I am aware of.

While it would be nice to have additional volunteers to assist in the regular maintenance of the park as it is now, I do not support those who do not live in the immediate vicinity and who want to make substantial changes to the park.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload

**Q1 Are you responding:**

Multi Choice As an individual

**Q2 Name of organisation/business**

Short Text

**Q3 Your role**

Short Text

**Q4 Full name**

Short Text Yolanda de Ruiter

**Q7 Suburb**

Select Box Diamond Harbour

**Q8 Do you have any comments about the proposed community garden?**

Long Text Overall support the proposed community garden but NOT the removal of the gum tree.

**Q9 Do you have any comments on the proposal to remove the gum tree?**

Long Text My husband and I object to the tree (number 38) being removed. It is a significant tree, its healthy and provides shelter and a haven for bird life. This tree does not shade any of the houses that are directly next to the tree. We strongly object to its removal.

**Q10 Supporting information**

File Upload