

# DONOVAN PARK

## Management Plan

2012

*Major  
Reserves*





# RESERVES ACT 1977


## Section 41


The Management Plan for Donovan Park was approved by the Invercargill City Council by resolution passed at its meeting held on 4 September 2012. All submissions, objections and suggestions relating to the Management Plan had been disposed of and suggestions allowed.

The Management Plan shall come into operation from 28 September 2012 and shall remain operative for a period of ten years.

Dated at INVERCARGILL this 17th day of September 2012.



  
.....  
Mayor of the City of Invercargill

  
.....  
Chief Executive Officer



## **MANAGEMENT PLAN**

# **Donovan Park**

**September 2012 – September 2022**

## **PREFACE**

Donovan Park Management Plan has been prepared in compliance with Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977.

The purpose of this Management Plan is to provide for and ensure the use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection and preservation as the case may require and, to the extent that the administering body's resources permit, the development of the reserve for the purposes for which it is classified; and shall incorporate and ensure compliance with the principles set out in the appropriate section of the Act.

This plan shall be held under regular review to ensure that it remains relevant to changing circumstances and demands.

R J Pagan

**PARKS MANAGER**

28 September 2012



# CONTENTS

<b>1.0</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	LOCATION	1
1.2	ACCESS	2
1.3	ADJOINING LAND USE	2
1.4	HISTORY	2
1.5	CLASSIFICATION AND TENURE	6
	1.5.1 <i>Classification</i>	6
	1.5.2 <i>Tenure and Area</i>	6
	1.5.3 <i>Leases</i>	7
1.6	AMENITY VALUE	7
1.7	GENERAL PARK USE	8
1.8	FLORA	9
1.9	FAUNA	9
1.10	PRESENT MANAGEMENT	10
<b>2.0</b>	<b>MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>POLICIES</b>	<b>13</b>
3.1	GENERAL USE	13
3.2	ACCESS INTO AND THROUGH RESERVES	14
3.3	OCCUPATION AGREEMENTS	16
3.4	BOUNDARIES AND FENCES	17
3.5	TREES AND VEGETATION	18
3.6	BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES	20
3.7	OUTDOOR FURNITURE	22
3.8	MONUMENTS, ART WORK AND SCULPTURE DISPLAYS	22
3.9	ANIMAL DISPLAYS	23
3.10	EDUCATION	23
3.11	SIGNS	23
3.12	LIGHTING	25
3.13	NETWORK UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE	25
3.14	DISPOSAL OF RUBBISH	26
3.15	FIRES ON RESERVES	27
3.16	FIREWORKS DISPLAYS	27
3.17	LIQUOR CONSUMPTION AND SALE	28
3.18	PEST PLANTS AND ANIMALS	28
3.19	CAMPING	29
3.20	DOGS ON RESERVES	29
3.21	DOMESTIC ANIMAL CONTROL	32
3.22	PLAYGROUNDS AND PLAY EQUIPMENT	32
3.23	HEALTHY AND ACTIVE PARKS	33
3.24	SMOKE FREE PARKS AND RESERVES	34
3.25	NOISE LEVELS	34
3.26	RESERVE WATERS	35
3.27	ADMINISTRATION	35
3.28	PLAN AMENDMENT AND REVIEW	35
3.29	DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGE	36
<b>4.0</b>	<b>FUTURE DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>39</b>







Aerial of Donovan Park

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

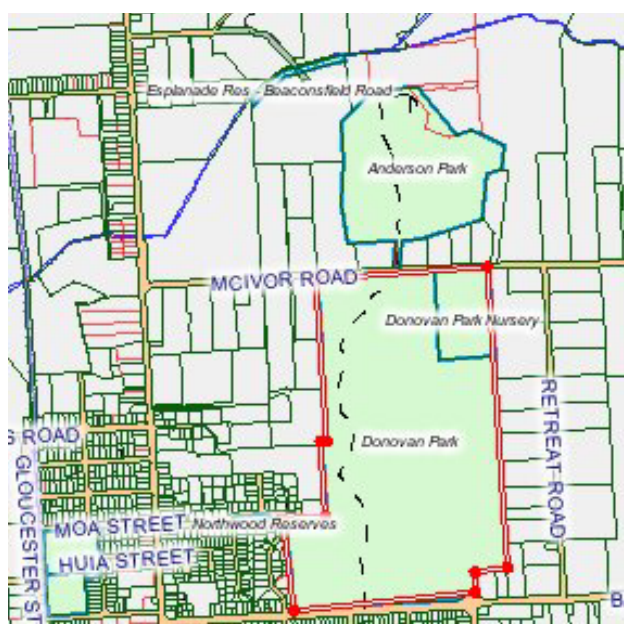
Donovan Park is an important link in the City's parks systems. Covering over 79 hectares of land, the reserve contributes significantly to the open green space of the City. Visitors to the reserve can experience its unique rural characteristics. It is used formally by sports and recreation clubs and informally by City residents for walking, running, cycling and casual sport and recreation.

Donovan Park has been classified as a Major Park within the Invercargill City Council Park categories. Major Parks provide both passive and active recreational opportunities, can include large open-spaced areas, sports fields and community clubrooms and are often highly modified. Other Major Parks around the city include Surrey Park, Elizabeth Park and Waverley Park. Parks are categorised according to their dominant characteristics and these assist Council with setting management objectives and assessing funding requirements for each reserve.

This Management Plan is a full review of the Donovan Park Management Plan which was prepared in 2001. While much of the Plan remains the same, parts of it have been updated with current information about the park. Management policies in the Plan have been revised to reflect the needs of current and future users and to be consistent with current 'best practice' management procedures.

### 1.1 LOCATION

Donovan Park (including the Mclvor Road Municipal Nursery) is situated in north Invercargill. It extends from Bainfield Road to Mclvor Road and lies between North Road (to the west) and Retreat Road (to the east). To the north of Donovan Park is the entrance to Anderson Park, another reserve managed and maintained by Council's Parks Division.



Location of Donovan Park.



## 1.2 ACCESS

Public access to Donovan Park can be gained from Bainfield and Mclvor Roads. Access to the Municipal Nursery can be gained off Mclvor Road via State Highway 6. Both the nursery and parts of the reserve have general public access restrictions.

The internal Donovan Park Road provides a link between Bainfield and Mclvor Roads during daylight hours for visitors who are cycling, walking and driving through the park.

The Waikiwi sports grounds can be accessed by vehicle to the car park off Bainfield Road and there is additional pedestrian access from Northwood Avenue.

The gates are locked from dusk until dawn for security purposes.

## 1.3 ADJOINING LAND USE

Donovan Park is situated in a predominantly semi-rural area. Land surrounding the park is used for farming and lifestyle blocks.

Residential housing begins to the south and south west of the park.

## 1.4 HISTORY

The history of Donovan Park is relatively modest but interesting. It was purchased from the Donovan family, or more specifically from Rachel Donovan (a Waikiwi spinster), in 1964.

The purchase price was £60,000 and the Invercargill City Council obtained a loan in order to provide the money.

The acquisition of the land was at the instigation of Councillor O J Henderson, the Chairman of the Recreation Committee at the time. The land was purchased from the Donovan family and so the Council decided to commemorate their family name by calling the reserve Donovan Park.

The land could have dissipated under the suburban spread of Invercargill through this change of ownership. However, Parks Division management of the park has retained its rural character. Although there have been many proposed landscape developments and modifications, some of which were partially adopted, most were rejected to preserve the open parkland environment.

The P H Vickery Trust made one such proposal in 1965. It involved an application to purchase ten acres of Donovan Park for the purpose of developing a home for the care of elderly persons. This application was declined.

At the time of purchase, the Southland County Council voiced concerns on the grounds that productive farmland was being alienated and that the County Council was loath to see further expansion of the City's boundaries. However,

the County Council eventually assented that not more than a maximum of 12.5 hectares would immediately be developed as parkland and the balance be retained in farming until at least 1980.

Accordingly, in 1968, part of the land fronting Bainfield Road was developed for sports fields and the balance of the area was leased for farming. Shelterbelt trees were planted along the western boundary in the same year.

In 1967, the Southland Branch of the New Zealand Institute of Architects offered to participate in planning the development of Donovan Park, at their own expense. The Council at the time did not see this as necessary and did not accept the offer.

In the same year, the Council was considering subdivision and roading development, involving Donovan Park land. These concepts were rejected.

The Board of Education approached the City Council in August 1970 regarding the possible purchase of a portion of Donovan Park for the purpose of establishing an intermediate or secondary school for north Invercargill. It was felt that it would fit in well with the proposed extension of the City boundary. However, as a large amount of Donovan Park was within the Southland County Council boundary, that Council stipulated conditions that prevented the utilisation of the area for uses other than sport and farming until at least 1980. As a loan was raised for the purchase of this property as a recreation area, the proposal was declined.

In 1971, Section 64 Block IV Invercargill Hundred, known as Donovan Park, was declared a Public Reserve for Recreation Purposes. Since then it has evolved as a reserve that has been and continues to be of benefit to the public in many ways.

In 1971, the City Council requested the Landscape Consulting Service of Lincoln College to prepare a development plan for Donovan Park. The plan was presented to the City Council in 1972 and, although the Council had approved the draft plan, the final plan was not formally adopted. It entailed the development of areas such as playing fields, a motor camp, zoological garden, nine-hole golf course and a formal rose garden. The plan was presented to the City Council in 1978 and was adopted in very broad principle.

In 1974 the City Council required a five meter strip of land for street widening purposes along Bainfield Road fronting Donovan Park. The separation of this land was carried out in 1982, leaving the reserve with 79.4163 hectares of land.

On 27 October 1964, before Donovan Park was purchased by the City Council, an easement for the first Branxholme water pipeline was registered against the Donovan family. In August 1976 a further easement was granted to the City Engineers Department for the purpose of laying the duplication of the Branxholme water pipeline to the City. The first easement is located more or less centrally through the park. The second easement follows the western boundary from McIvor Road. The second line was laid in 1979.

The proposal to develop a propagating department and nursery within Donovan Park emerged in 1978, and in 1981 an area of 6.4669 hectares was surveyed off in the north-east corner of the reserve for the development of a nursery.

In 1978, Mr William Bengyfield submitted a proposal for the development of a golf course at Donovan Park. This proposal, like most of the developments suggested by Lincoln College, was not adopted.

In 1983 Donovan Park was re-gazetted as Sections 68 and 69 - Section 68 being classified as a Local Purpose Reserve (Municipal Nursery), and Section 69 as a Public Reserve for Recreation Purposes.

During the mid 1980s subsidised labour schemes such as Workskills Projects, PEP, TAPS, and ACCESS were co-ordinated by the City Council and based at Donovan Park. Young unemployed people gained practical skills in planting and other landscaping work through assisting with the construction of the lake, bridges and access ways, as well as fencing within the farmland, and the burning and clearing of gorse hedges. The work carried out and the overall development achieved enhanced the parkland significantly.

The proposed conversion of the original Donovan family home to a restaurant was presented in 1981. A C and R A Neilson proposed to convert the run-down building into a restaurant with the capacity to seat 55 people at one time. The proposal was accepted in 1982 and a lease signed to include the original family home, outbuildings and grounds measuring 2,648m<sup>2</sup>, for a period of 14 years.

Renovation of the building and grounds was carried out, and in 1984 the restaurant became a licensed premises.

During the 1980s several more developments to Donovan Park were proposed. One suggestion was the construction and development of a fun-park, or *Leisureland*. Another was the formation of a campervan park. Both of these were declined as they were not deemed to be in demand or necessary to Invercargill. However, the concept of developing an arboretum throughout the park was partially accepted, but was basically a continuation of the landscape developments suggested by Lincoln College.

In the 1980s the nursery was shifted from Queens Park to Donovan Park.

In the mid to late 1990s Crops for Southland approached the Invercargill City Council regarding the possibility of modifying and utilising a portion of the Donovan Park farm for crop research.

In 1997 a lease agreement was signed, bonding Crops for Southland to a five year lease with the Parks Division, and development of the new Crops Centre to the west of the Municipal Nursery began.

Research and work at the Crops Centre was carried out in the interest of benefiting the economy and general public of Invercargill and Southland. After months of little active use for crops purposes and with the closure of the lease, the Parks Division has since reoccupied the site.

In 1996, the Southland Fish and Game Council proposed the release of rainbow trout into Donovan Park's waters for the promotion of fishing activities for young people. The Parks Manager accepted and supported the release - however, the concept and promotion has not been continued.

During 1997, the YMCA approached the Parks Division with a proposal to utilise part of the park for their Learning Experiences outside the Classroom (LEOTC)

programme. They requested the use of the shearing shed and surrounding yard, the authenticity being very appealing, and the prefab for the operation of '*Classroom in the Paddock*' that was part of the LEOTC programme. The buildings and yard were used to teach school pupils about farming activities but in 2000 the programme was discontinued due to a reduction in funding.

In May 2000, the Parks Division was approached by the Otatara Community Church Mental Health Outreach group regarding the use of a section of the park for growing vegetables as part of its client rehabilitation programme. This section was named Bainfield Garden.

The Parks Manager granted permission for the group to use this section of farmland for a trial period of twelve months at which stage the use of the area would be assessed and, if desirable, a more permanent agreement entered into.

In 2002 a lease was signed between Council and the Otatara Community Church. In 2007 the Otatara Community Church Outreach gifted Bainfield Garden to the Christian Centre Charitable Trust to carry on with the client rehabilitation programme. That same year a lease was signed between Council and the Christian Centre Charitable Trust.

The development of a Rare Breeds and Heritage Farm section within Donovan Park was also proposed. This never eventuated.

Auckland Island Pigs were relocated to Donovan Park for quarantine in 2001 and were removed in 2009.

In November 2002 crowds of people flocked to Donovan Park for its first Rural Heritage Day to celebrate Southland's rural traditions. The day had been aimed at giving the public an idea of what life was like in rural Southland during the 1920s and 1930s.

Rural Heritage Day has featured all manner of displays relating to the province's heritage, including teams of working horses, sheep shearing, vintage machinery in action, traditional games, rural craft and domestic activities, and heirloom breed displays. This event continued on through to 2009.

2005 was the grand opening of the Donovan Park Junior Golf Training Area. Steve Williams, former caddy of Tiger Woods, was present to officially open the facility. The Steve Williams Foundation contributed \$3,000 towards the Donovan Park project, while the ILT Sports Foundation contributed \$15,000 and Community Trust of Southland gave \$6,600. The Invercargill City Council made the ground available. The area, located beside the Waikiwi rugby grounds, includes a big undulating putting green, four tee areas and five target greens.

Council received a business grant towards a reciprocating grate boiler for the Nursery as part of the Wood Energy Grant Scheme from the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority in 2010. Achieving the grant enabled local manufacturer Fogarty Industries to develop and construct a boiler that could burn the wide range of wood fuels that Council produces.

This project has achieved its two objectives:

- Decreasing the use of fossil fuels, thereby reducing the Council's carbon footprint as well as reducing other emissions to the atmosphere.

- Reducing costs by burning lower-cost fuels.

In 2011 the Parks Division received an environmental innovator award for this project.

Since 2010, Donovan Park has been the club base for Lorneville-Makarewa Pony Club and their riding activities.

In 2011 was the establishment of the Oak Quercus/Arboretum.

Donovan Park currently remains as rural parkland, as it was intended when purchased by the City. The farm is still in operation, the parkland and sports grounds are provided for the benefit and enjoyment of the public, and all other activities undertaken within its confines are in compliance with the Reserves Act 1977 and this management plan.

## 1.5 CLASSIFICATION AND TENURE

Reserves are classified under the Reserves Act 1977 according to their dominant characteristics, use and current and future values. Reserves are classified to ensure their control, management, development, use and preservation is for the appropriate purposes.

### 1.5.1 *Classification*

Donovan Park is classified as follows:

- Recreation Reserve pursuant to Section 17 of the Reserves Act 1977; and
- Local Purpose Reserve (Municipal Nursery) pursuant to Section 23 of the Reserves Act 1977;

and shall be managed in accordance with these classifications.

### 1.5.2 *Tenure and Area*

The total area of Donovan Park is 79.4163 hectares. The tenure is made up of two parcels of land as follows:

- Certificate of Title: 534709  
Legal Description: Section 69, Block IV, Invercargill Hundred  
Area: 72.9494 ha  
Classification: Recreation Reserve  
Subject to: Right (in gross) to water rights created by transfer 201174  
Lease 8312615.1 of Lot 1 DP 422069 contained in CT 484591
- Certificate of Title: 534710  
Legal Description: Section 68, Block IV, Invercargill Hundred  
Area: 6.4669 ha  
Classification: Local Purpose (Municipal Nursery) Reserve

### 1.5.3 **Leases**

#### 1.5.3.1 *Bainfield Organic Garden*

A portion of Donovan Park Recreation Reserve has been leased to the Christian Centre Charitable Trust for assisting mental health clients with gardening activities as part of its client rehabilitation programme.

#### 1.5.3.2 *Donovan Restaurant*

The building and grounds that were once the Donovan family residence were restored and modified in the early 1980s and since then have been leased for use as a restaurant. The conditions of the lease are compatible with the Reserves Act 1977 and this Management Plan.



#### 1.5.3.3 *Waikiwi Sports Grounds*

A portion of the recreation reserve is set aside for the purpose of providing space for active and organised recreation. This area is located in the southwest corner of the reserve and comprises sports fields and clubrooms that are leased by the Waikiwi Rugby Football Club.

The area located beside the rugby grounds is leased by Golf Southland.

#### 1.5.3.4 *Lorneville-Makarewa Pony Club*

A portion at the north end of Donovan Park Recreation Reserve (2.75ha) has been leased to Lorneville-Makarewa Pony Club for pony club activities.

## 1.6 **AMENITY VALUE**

Donovan Park plays a very important part in the open space pattern of Invercargill. It forms part of the north-south pattern of open space that was originally determined by J T Thomson when he first laid out the City.

It provides a link between Queens Park and Thomsons Bush to the south and Anderson Park immediately to the North.

The size of Donovan Park provides a strong presence of open space parkland and is enhanced by the continuation of the vista, with Anderson Park and the backdrop of the mountains and hills of Southland to the north.

On first impression Donovan Park is basically flat, but in actuality it is pleasantly contoured, undulating country. Of all the parks within Invercargill, Donovan Park's rolling character still offers the greatest scope for landscaping.

It is a valued expanse of land that fills the transition from the organised cityscape to the informal rural aspect outside the city boundary. In this respect it helps to soften the adjoining suburban area.



Shelterbelts and other plantings give the landscape a mature, rural quality. Within its plantings and undulations private parkland settings can be found.

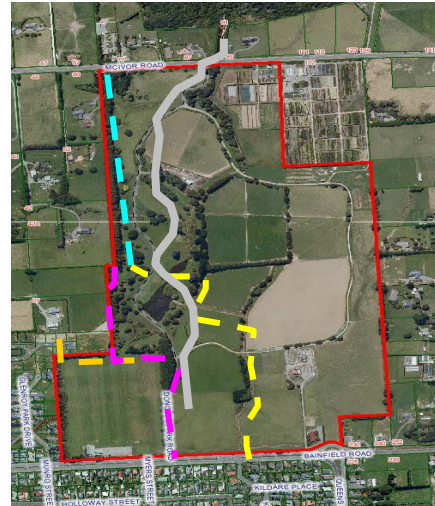
Picnic areas are easily accessible to the public and the farm can also be openly observed.

## 1.7 GENERAL PARK USE

The primary purpose of Donovan Park is to provide the public with areas for active and passive recreation. The Waikiwi sports grounds and the open spaces of the parkland area currently fulfil these functions.

Visitors can follow informal grass trails through a combination of parkland and farmland and see a variety of animals grazing in the paddocks.

Informal use of Donovan Park by visitors includes casual walking, running and cycling.



Invercargill schools and clubs occasionally use Donovan Park for cross country events.

The summer months are popular for organised family activities, Christmas parties and work functions in the park. The park has also been used as a venue for organised events such as equestrian and grass cart events, the small farm expo (2003) and Rural Heritage Day (2002-2009). A concert called 'Cherrystock' was popular there in past years.

### 1.7.1 *Municipal Nursery*

The Municipal Nursery has been set aside for the purpose of propagating and growing-on plants for the enhancement of parks and reserves throughout Invercargill to be enjoyed by the general public, and for the preservation of parkland environs.



### 1.7.2 *Donovan Park Farm*

Currently a significant area of land within Donovan Park is used for farming operations including sheep and deer, and the housing of rare breeds livestock. Two areas within the park are also used for storage.



### 1.7.3 *Bainfield Garden*

A portion of land within the Donovan Park farm area is used by arrangement with the Parks Division, by the Christian Centre Charitable Trust, for the purpose of growing vegetables as part of their client rehabilitation programme. The area of land is located just to the south of the nursery.

### 1.7.4 *Waikiwi Sports Grounds*

The sports grounds are currently leased throughout the year by the Southland Golf Club and the Waikiwi Rugby Football Club.

### 1.7.5 *Lorneville-Makarewa Pony Club*

The Club uses a section of land for pony club activities and events.



## 1.8 FLORA

Donovan Park has been intensely farmed for many years and consequently no trace of any indigenous vegetation remains.

The entire area has been cultivated and sown with pasture plants so that these, together with the normal flora of farmlands, comprise the dominant vegetative cover.

In addition, some landscape planting has been carried out within the parkland areas for the purpose of reducing maintenance and to extend the habitat area of fauna found within the park, and to encourage greater fauna numbers. Group planting of trees has also been carried out to enhance the parkland environment.

## 1.9 FAUNA

The area of Donovan Park does provide a habitat for a number of species of birds, and in its state of development they form a dominant feature of the parkland. This wildlife has been encouraged into the park with the development of the artificial lake and its connecting waterways and ditches, which provide a reasonably extensive habitat for waterfowl in particular.

Ducks, pied stilts, black-back gulls, and the black-billed seagull are just some of the birds that can be viewed here. As the park is developed further, every effort should be made to retain existing and potential bird habitats and, where possible, to extend them or develop new ones.

Bird Species Observed in Donovan Park:

Mallard x Grey Duck	Spur – winged Plover
Black - back Gull	Silver Eye/Wax Eye
Black – billed Gull	Gold Finch
Skylark	House Sparrow
Song Thrush	Starling

Blackbird	Pied Stilt
Black Swan	Wood Pigeon/Kereru
Geese	

Inevitably there are many species of invertebrates and a few feral animals within the park. However, a list of species is absent as no detailed studies or surveys have been carried out to determine the variety and location of fauna for Donovan Park. If it is seen to be a necessary step, in the interest of good conservation and environmental management, research could be carried out to determine this.

## **1.10 PRESENT MANAGEMENT**

Donovan Park is under the control and management of the Invercargill City Council Parks Division. The Parks Division is responsible for the development, maintenance and general management of the reserve.

Clubs which own facilities and/or use fields or grounds on Donovan Park have their responsibilities defined within their lease documents and are fully responsible for maintenance of their buildings and, in some cases, grounds.

## **2.0 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1 To manage Donovan Park in perpetuity for the purpose of protecting the reserve's open space values for recreation and play; and for protecting the natural environmental and scenic values.
- 2.2 To provide recreational facilities and amenities for both active and passive recreation to allow for appropriate public use and enjoyment.
- 2.3 To enhance and encourage public access into and through all public areas of Donovan Park.
- 2.4 To allow areas of Donovan Park to be leased to approved clubs or organisations which contribute to and enhance the recreational values of the park.
- 2.5 To continue with the featuring of displays of animals and rural heritage activities which contribute to the educational value and enjoyment of Donovan Park.
- 2.6 The Mclvor Road Municipal Nursery shall be maintained for the benefit of the public by providing products and services for the development and care of parks and reserves within Invercargill.
- 2.7 The rural qualities of Donovan Park will be protected and maintained for the benefit and enjoyment of the public.
- 2.8 To continue to use grazing as a management tool where it does not cause inappropriate adverse effects.



## 3.0 POLICIES

Note: Where the policies in this Management Plan refer to the term "Council" this means the Parks Manager and/or the Parks Division as the nominated representative of the Invercargill City Council, unless otherwise stated.

### 3.1 GENERAL USE

Reserves are a major source of open space in the City and are provided for the benefit, enjoyment and use of the public. "Use" policies guide the response of Council to applications to use the reserves. The scope of "uses" that may be proposed is wide and includes: sport, passive recreation, art and cultural events, commercial promotions and festival activities.

Council reserves the right to decline a proposal for use of a reserve, or take action as it sees fit against a user, or stop a use, if the use is likely to cause any adverse effects to the reserve, reserve users or reserve neighbours.

Council occasionally receives applications for the use of reserves for temporary or long-term commercial activities. Commercial activities are an acceptable part of the range of activities within the reserves of the City provided they are consistent with the primary purpose of the reserves as classified under the Reserves Act 1977. The activities should not adversely impact on the reserve, reserve values, reserve users or reserve neighbours.

Long-term non-commercial use of a reserve occurs predominantly through lease arrangements and generally relates to non-commercial activities carried out from sports fields, clubhouses, halls and other indoor facilities and community group buildings. This generally means long-term enclosure of reserve space for the use by a particular group that then obtains a greater benefit than that received by the general public.

#### Objective:

- *To allow and encourage public use that is compatible with the purpose of the reserve.*

#### Policies:

- 3.1.1 The utilisation of the park shall be in compliance with its classification as a Recreation and Local Purpose Reserve and the policies set out in this Management Plan.
- 3.1.2 Access to the park will be free of charge to the general public except as provided for in Policy 3.1.4 or where exclusive use has been granted.
- 3.1.3 All events in parks and reserves must be booked in advance with the Parks Division and users must comply with the "Terms and Conditions" for use of the Park. These terms and conditions are reviewed and updated from time to time.

- 3.1.4 Council may charge a fee for use of the park where the user gains a special benefit that is not available to other reserve users, or where there are costs associated with the activity or event. The rate of fee set will be charged:
- (a) To ensure a reserve or part of a reserve has been booked for an event or activity.
  - (b) To provide temporary or long term exclusive use of a reserve or part of a reserve.
  - (c) To cover a booking service and administrative costs.
  - (d) To cover additional costs resulting from the activity or event i.e. staff coverage, opening gates, power, water, rubbish collection etc.
  - (e) Where the activity or event is of a commercial nature.

Park and reserve sports field, and facility fees and charges are adopted by Council annually and are identified in Council's Annual Plan.

- 3.1.5 Where necessary, Council will consider temporary closure of a reserve, or part of a reserve, in conjunction with statutory requirements for the protection and wellbeing of the reserve and for the protection and control of the public using it.

- 3.1.6 Council may grant a permit for commercial activities to temporarily occupy part of the reserve for a period of up to six consecutive days (Section 54(1) (d) and Section 56(1) (b) Reserves Act 1977), if it is necessary to enable the public to obtain the benefit and enjoyment of the reserve or for the convenience of those using the reserve.

- 3.1.7 Council may grant a long-term lease or licence for a recreation or commercial activity to occupy part of the reserve where the activity complies with the Reserves Act 1977.

- 3.1.8 Any user of the reserve shall be responsible for ensuring that any adverse effects on the reserve and reserve values, reserve users or reserve neighbours can be avoided, remedied or mitigated, except as otherwise authorised by Council and includes compliance with Council bylaws.

## **3.2 ACCESS INTO AND THROUGH RESERVES**

The level and standard of access provided into the reserve needs to be appropriate to the reserve values and the anticipated level of public utilisation of the reserve.

At various times Council may close the park or parts of the park for issues of safety, maintenance, development and wildlife protection. Some events may also require temporary closure of part of a reserve. Some occupation agreements may allow restricted access by the general public into areas of the reserve by the use of fences and/or forms of barriers.

Motorised and non-motorised vehicles on reserves can be a source of danger to other reserve users and may have the potential to cause damage to reserves. Tracks and footpaths are often integral to the ease of use and enjoyment of a reserve by users, providing recreational opportunities and links between areas.

Council is committed to working towards the removal of barriers to the participation of the elderly or people with limited mobility in leisure and recreational activities on reserves

Improved access to parks and reserves can increase the use of a park by enhancing comfort and convenience for a range of users and provide significant safety benefits.

It will not always be feasible or desirable to make all facilities fully accessible. Different degrees of accessibility will be achievable at different sites. Many existing facilities are not accessible and it may not be practical to modify them. The cost of constructing accessible facilities may be prohibitive and outweigh the usefulness or suitability of such a facility.

Wherever possible, the design or upgrade of a facility shall incorporate features that allow easy access for the elderly or people with limited mobility. For features to be recognised as fully accessible they need to comply with national standards.

Objectives:

- *To ensure the public has freedom of entry, access and use of the reserve subject to any necessary conditions, restrictions, or limitations of use from time to time.*
- *To ensure pedestrian safety by restricting motorised and non-motorised vehicle access on the reserve.*
- *To allow tracks and footpaths over the reserve.*
- *To improve access to the reserve where practical and feasible to ensure everyone is able to enjoy it.*
- *To allow limited motorised vehicle access on designated car parks and roadways.*

Policies:

- 3.2.1 The reserve will be open for public access except where restrictions and limitations are necessary for the reserve's protection and management, exclusive activities or public safety.
- 3.2.2 Access may be closed to some trails during lambing or fawning.
- 3.2.3 All motorised vehicles (except emergency and authorised maintenance vehicles) must keep to designated roads and car parks in the reserve.
- 3.2.4 To establish and maintain speed restrictions, as may be necessary, on all public access roads for public safety and to preserve the tranquillity of the parkland environment.
- 3.2.5 Existing car parking shall be maintained to a level which is compatible with the nature of the reserve in a style that does not detract from its aesthetic qualities or recreational use of the park.



- 3.2.6 Vehicle access for special events may be granted for specific finite purposes and then terminated at the completion of the purpose.
- 3.2.7 Council shall use current New Zealand Standards as a guide to developing and maintaining walking tracks on the park. Tracks will undergo audits every six months.
- 3.2.8 Non-motorised vehicles such as skateboards, roller-blades, bicycles and any other form of non-motorised vehicle shall be permitted on reserve tracks unless specifically signposted as prohibited, provided they do not endanger other reserve users, cause damage to the reserve in any way, or make undue noise. Pedestrians have right of way over non-motorised vehicles.
- 3.2.9 Where car parking areas are provided for clubs and organisations, all costs relating to the formation and maintenance shall be borne by the club or organisation concerned.
- 3.2.10 Reserves, associated facilities and landscaping will be designed or upgraded, where practical and feasible, to meet the current national standard and design criteria for access for people with disabilities.
- 3.2.11 Park paths will be designed and upgraded, where practical and feasible, to meet the current national standard.

### 3.3 OCCUPATION AGREEMENTS

The term "occupation agreement" refers to any lease, license, easement or other agreement granted between Council and a person, organisation or company that is occupying part of a reserve.

Council's power to grant an occupation agreement over reserves varies depending on the status of the reserve concerned and the rights transferred from the Crown.

#### Objectives:

- *To permit the occupation of the reserve for approved individuals, groups, users or facilities by the granting of occupation agreements.*
- *To balance the retention of open space with appropriate use and occupation of the reserve.*
- *To ensure public accountability of reserve management.*
- *To ensure adequate remedy or mitigation of any adverse effects on reserve values caused by leases, licences, easements or other occupation agreements.*
- *To ensure that all costs associated with the development and implementation of occupation agreements are the responsibility of the applicant.*

Policies:

- 3.3.1 All organisations with buildings or facilities on the reserve shall be required to hold an occupation agreement as provided for by the Reserves Act 1977.
- 3.3.2 Application for any new occupation agreement in the reserve will be in writing providing detailed information about the type of occupation. Applications for occupation agreements shall meet the Objectives and Policies of 3.29.1 - Requests for Development on Reserves with particular emphasis on Policy 3.29.1.9, which identifies the requirements of any development plan.
- 3.3.3 The approved occupier of any area of the reserve shall not sublet, assign, transfer, mortgage or part with possession of any part of the land or building without the prior written consent of Council.
- 3.3.4 Easements shall be subject to Sections 48 and 48A of the Reserves Act 1977.
- 3.3.5 All costs associated with occupation agreements shall be the responsibility of the applicant.
- 3.3.6 Occupation agreements shall include provision for the removal of facilities or buildings no longer required by an occupier, lessor or owner before the end of any occupation agreement.
- 3.3.7 Council shall draw up leases and licences subject to the provisions contained in the First Schedule and the sections of the Reserves Act 1977 relevant to the reserve classification and purpose of the lease or licence.

### **3.4 BOUNDARIES AND FENCES**

Council reserves adjoin a variety of land uses in settings from urban to rural with a range of fencing styles. While Council will meet its Fencing Act 1978 obligations, it is important that ratepayers are not burdened with paying for boundary fencing that exceeds the standard of fence beyond that which is considered a minimum requirement.

Council sets a maximum contribution towards half the materials based on a cost per lineal metre for an appropriate standard fence style which is reviewed annually. If a boundary fence is considered necessary, a contribution from Council may be made subject to an application being received in writing. Once it is determined that a new fence is required or the current fence should be replaced, the applicant is advised.

All applications for a fence will be assessed on its design in terms of visual permeability and its contribution to the attractiveness of the reserve.

Fences and barriers may be required within reserves to prevent vehicular access to the grounds and, where it is desirable, to enclose service areas or the premises of exclusive sporting users.

Objectives:

- *To meet boundary/fencing obligations under the Fencing Act 1978 where required.*
- *To limit the number of fences or barriers on reserves to those which will protect reserve values, reduce the adverse effects on reserve neighbours, or which ensure the reserve can be used safely.*
- *To protect reserve values and encourage freedom of public movement into and through reserves.*
- *To stop encroachments on reserve land.*

Policies:

- 3.4.1 Council will assess requests for contribution towards construction of reserve boundary fences only when it is deemed necessary and where it is to be established on the correct legal boundary.
- 3.4.2 Council will meet its boundary fencing obligations under the Fencing Act 1978 where there is a justifiable need. Council shall contribute on a per metre basis up to a maximum amount based on the current rate at the time of application as approved by Council resolution annually. Council shall in each case assess the type of fence appropriate to the character, use and environs of the reserve.
- 3.4.3 Where a reserve occupier requests the enclosure of its facilities, the cost of erecting and maintaining appropriate fences to the satisfaction of Council shall be borne by the reserve occupier and requires written approval from the Parks Manager for colour and design prior to construction.
- 3.4.4 Enclosure of an activity or feature within the reserve with a fence or barrier will only be permitted if there is a justifiable need, e.g. protecting other reserve users from the effects of the activity and protecting reserve values. Council will encourage the use of low, open style fences which allow clear sight lines through the reserve and into the activity.
- 3.4.5 Stock proof boundary fences shall be kept to a high standard so that farm stock cannot gain access to the Park.
- 3.4.6 Boundary fences shall be kept clear of any invasive weeds.
- 3.4.7 Where appropriate, suitable post and wire fences along boundaries shall be maintained. Should future development necessitate, fences will be upgraded according to the requirements of the area. Existing and future fences and barriers will be maintained according to Council policy.
- 3.4.8 Where encroachments onto reserve land have been identified, these need to be addressed through formal agreements or stopped immediately.

### **3.5 TREES AND VEGETATION**

Trees and vegetation contribute to the amenity, historical, environmental, cultural and landscape values of a reserve.

It is important to actively manage and maintain vegetation on reserves where possible. However, from time to time vegetation can become a nuisance or danger to reserve users and reserve neighbours and can affect the use or enjoyment of the reserve or adjoining properties. Council will consider remedial action where appropriate to resolve these problems.

People regularly approach the Parks Division requesting permission to collect firewood, cones and pine needles from fallen or cut trees on reserves. Firewood permits are generally only given to non-profit community groups or individuals for personal use only.

Objectives:

- *To display a variety of trees and shrubs in the reserve.*
- *To develop and maintain the vegetation on the reserve as a significant function contributing to the reserve's attractiveness and popularity.*
- *To maximise the benefits of vegetation on reserves while avoiding, minimising or mitigating the adverse effects on reserve neighbours.*
- *To control the removal of exotic wood from felled or fallen trees for safety, landscape or management purposes.*
- *To control the unauthorised removal of vegetation from reserves.*
- *To ensure the integrity of shelter is maintained into the future.*

Policies:

- 3.5.1 Planting and maintenance of vegetation in reserves shall be planned strategically and designed to enhance and protect the park's scenic and horticultural qualities and natural character.
- 3.5.2 Planting and management of vegetation in reserves will take into account:
- (a) Management objectives and policies for the reserve.
  - (b) Any landscape plans for the reserve.
  - (c) The effect the vegetation will have on adjacent properties at the time of planting and in the future.
  - (d) The effect the vegetation will have on underground and network utility infrastructure.
  - (e) Horticultural, landscape and ecological considerations.
  - (f) Educational and horticultural feature displays.
- 3.5.3 Planting for re-vegetation is to be locally sourced so it is in keeping with the natural and surrounding vegetation most appropriate to the park's vegetation and character of the area.
- 3.5.4 Maintenance or removal of vegetation will only be undertaken by Council, or Council approved contractors unless written approval from Council has been received.

- 3.5.5 Before making any decision on complaints about trees on reserves, Council will:
- (a) Visit and discuss the issues with the affected parties.
  - (b) Assess the effect of the alleged nuisance.
  - (c) Consider the purpose and classification of the reserve.
  - (d) Determine the actual or potential danger to people's life or health or the complainant's property.
  - (e) Consider any undue interference with the reasonable enjoyment of the complainant's land.
  - (f) Consider the interests of the public.
- 3.5.6 Firewood permits may be granted to groups and individuals for a small fee for the removal of wood from felled or fallen trees, or from pruning operations including:
- (a) Members of the public where the wood is for personal use only; and/or
  - (b) Non-profit community groups where the proceeds of the sale are being used for projects approved by Council.
- 3.5.7 All individuals or groups given permission to collect or remove firewood from a reserve shall follow the current Invercargill City Council Parks Division Chainsaw Safety Standard.
- 3.5.8 No live or standing trees or vegetation are to be removed or damaged during firewood removal operations.
- 3.5.9 To plant and maintain shelter trees to protect assets within the park from exposure and potential damage caused by wind and weather.

## 3.6 BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

Reserves are created principally for the provision of open space and natural areas. Some buildings and structures such as changing rooms, toilets and clubrooms are considered necessary for the enjoyment and full utilisation of the Reserves and are allowed for in the Reserves Act 1977.

### Objectives:

- *To provide, maintain and preserve well designed and appropriately located buildings and structures on the reserve to improve utilisation, preserve historical features and add to the enjoyment of the reserve by its users.*
- *To ensure that all reserve facilities are maintained to an appropriate standard that enhances amenity values of the reserve.*

### Policies:

- 3.6.1 The number of buildings and structures on reserves will be limited to a level which facilitates the safe and appropriate use of the park. The following buildings are considered important components of the reserve for enhancing recreational use and historical value or assisting in the day to day management of the park:
- (a) Utility buildings.
  - (b) Farm buildings.
  - (c) Donovan Restaurant.

- 3.6.2 The open space and natural amenity values of the reserve will be protected and managed by only allowing those buildings and structures which complement the Park.
- 3.6.3 Applications for new buildings or changes to existing buildings on the reserve require Council approval and shall meet the Objectives and Policies of 3.29.1 - Requests for Development on Reserves with particular emphasis on Policy 3.29.1.9, which identifies the requirements of any development plan.
- 3.6.4 Buildings and structures on the reserve shall be designed to a high standard and where practical, be designed to limit the opportunity for vandalism.
- 3.6.5 Buildings and structures on the reserve will be designed or upgraded, where practical and feasible, to meet the current national standard and design criteria for access for people with limited mobility.
- 3.6.6 Applications for extensions to existing buildings shall only be granted where the extension is seen as enhancing the enjoyment and full utilisation of the reserve.
- 3.6.7 The design of any building or structure on the reserve shall be subject to Council approval and shall be in keeping with the surroundings to enhance and complement the landscape.
- 3.6.8 Exterior colour schemes of buildings and structures on the reserve shall be approved by Council. The painting and creation of murals (not advertising) on buildings and structures may be considered on submission of a copy of the design and proposed colour scheme to Council.
- 3.6.9 Where appropriate, buildings on the reserve shall be shared with other recreation users of the reserve and when not required for events or gatherings, made available for other non commercial community use. Preference will be given to activities of a recreation nature.
- 3.6.10 The establishment, design and maintenance of public toilets in the reserve shall take into account current New Zealand Standards.
- 3.6.11 The number and location of public toilets on the reserve shall be kept under constant review.
- 3.6.12 Any tenanted buildings are to be maintained to a presentable standard of high quality for visitors to see.
- 3.6.13 No application for extensions will be granted to those buildings on the park that are classified as non-conforming buildings.
- 3.6.14 Clubs and associations shall be responsible for maintenance of their buildings and facilities on the park to an appropriate standard as determined by Council.
- 3.6.15 Clubs and associations shall be responsible for the full cost of removal of any building and associated facilities when no longer required.

### 3.7 OUTDOOR FURNITURE

Providing outdoor furniture on reserves that are appropriately designed and blend in with the surrounding landscape can add to the user's enjoyment of a reserve. Outdoor furniture such as seating, picnic tables, rubbish bins and cycle racks need to be maintained so that they remain an attractive asset to the reserve and do not become a safety hazard.

Objective:

- *To provide outdoor furniture which enhances the experience of the reserve user.*

Policies:

- 3.7.1 Outdoor furniture on parks and reserves shall be designed to a high standard.
- 3.7.2 Outdoor furniture shall be provided in the reserve where an identified need has been established and where resources permit. The number, design and placement of outdoor furniture shall be in keeping with the purpose and levels of use of the Park and appropriate to the setting.

### 3.8 MONUMENTS, ART WORK AND SCULPTURE DISPLAYS

Objective:

- *To provide monuments, art work and sculpture displays to enhance the experience for visitors to the reserve.*

Policies:

- 3.8.1 Monuments, art work and sculpture displays will be considered where appropriate and practical so it is in keeping with the natural and surrounding character of the reserve.
- 3.8.2 Materials and colour schemes of monuments, art work and sculpture displays shall be approved by Council. The creation, materials and colours of monuments, art work and sculpture displays may be considered on submission of a copy of the design and proposed colour scheme to Council.
- 3.8.3 Monuments, art work and sculpture displays will be designed to a high standard and, where practical, be designed to limit the opportunity for vandalism.
- 3.8.4 Permanent monuments, art work and sculpture displays in reserves will need to be robust, weatherproof and long lasting.
- 3.8.5 Maintenance of monuments, art work and sculpture displays in reserves will be undertaken by Council, or Council approved operators.
- 3.8.6 The design of any monuments, art work and sculpture displays shall be subject to Council approval and shall be in keeping with the surrounds to enhance and complement the landscape.

- 3.8.7 Temporary monuments, art work and sculpture displays are allowed on reserves until such time as the purpose for the display is finished and then they will be removed. They will be the responsibility of the organiser of the display(s).
- 3.8.8 Any proposals for monuments, art work and sculptures will be subject to the siting of them not compromising the other values of the park.

### **3.9 ANIMAL DISPLAYS**

Displays help to provide education or recreation opportunities for visitors to the park.

Objective:

- *To provide feature displays to add to the interest and education opportunities to the park.*

Policies:

- 3.9.1 Council will continue to display animals in the park to provide interest and educational opportunities to visitors to the park.
- 3.9.2 Council will consider new opportunities for feature displays in the park where resources permit and where they are compatible with the purpose of the reserve.

### **3.10 EDUCATION**

The reserve has considerable potential as an educational resource for the general public, special interest groups and schools.

Objective:

- *To enhance the educational opportunities on the reserve.*

Policies:

- 3.10.1 Council will continue to distribute and update relevant material to a wide range of users.
- 3.10.2 Council will continue to keep material relevant when providing educational value to Park users.

### **3.11 SIGNS**

Signs inform the public of their responsibilities as users of the park and advise users of the management and maintenance responsibilities of the reserve and its facilities.

Signs are also used as a way of educating and informing the public on features of the park and should make it easier for park users to find their way around the park and locate areas of interest.



The implementation of the policies on signs on reserves is subject to the appropriate provisions of Council Bylaws, District Plan rules and the requirements of the Reserves Act 1977.

Objectives:

- *To provide signs that assist in user orientation and park legibility.*
- *To use signs as a way to enhance educational opportunities in the reserve.*
- *To minimise the adverse visual effects of signs while maximising useful information to reserve users.*
- *To ensure consistent sign information, styles and types on the reserve.*

Policies:

- 3.11.1 Council shall use current New Zealand Standards as a guide when providing and maintaining signs on parks and reserves.
- 3.11.2 Signs on the reserve shall be for the purpose of proper management, administration and control of the reserve. Education and interpretation facilities shall be provided in key areas of the reserve.
- 3.11.3 Permanent advertising signs are not permitted on the reserve. Permanent signs for trade advertising may be permitted with the approval of Council only when the sign is to be located within an enclosed sports area and only where the sign will not be visible from outside the sports area.
- 3.11.4 Temporary advertising intended to alert or inform the public about a forthcoming event or attractions on the reserve may be permitted at the discretion of Council. The position of all temporary advertising shall be approved by Council, all costs shall be the responsibility of the applicant and temporary signs shall remain in place for a maximum of 14 days.
- 3.11.5 Reserve occupiers must apply to Council to place signage on their buildings. The size, style and scale of signage will be taken into consideration and in particular, the effect or visual impact the sign will have on reserve users and the reserve neighbours. All signs on the buildings shall be limited to the name of the club or organisation and shall be within the dimensions of 3m long by 1.2m deep and to a maximum area of 1.5m<sup>2</sup>. Any requests for signage outside these dimensions must be approved by way of Council resolution.
- 3.11.6 Reserve occupiers will be responsible for meeting the costs of producing, erecting, maintaining, removing and replacing signs relating to their activity to be located on or adjacent to their buildings.
- 3.11.7 The number of signs shall be kept to the minimum number required to meet the needs of users.
- 3.11.8 Council will provide standard identification signage at the entrance to each activity.

### 3.12 LIGHTING

Council recognises that some reserve user groups wish to operate at night. Sufficient lighting in high use areas is important so that people can see and be seen.

While lighting can be considered an essential component of night use in a reserve area, it is appropriate that the cost should fall to those who attract users of the facility at night. It is also important that the effects of lighting on reserve neighbours are taken into consideration.

Objectives:

- *To allow sports field, car park and access way lighting where appropriate.*
- *To enhance the real and perceived safety of the Park through the provision of lighting along key pedestrian paths.*

Policies:

- 3.12.1 Council will only consider the provision of lighting on the reserve where there is a clear public benefit or for amenity, security and safety reasons.
- 3.12.2 Council shall consider current best practise and lighting engineering standards, energy efficiency and appropriate design for the location when establishing new lighting fixtures on the reserve.
- 3.12.3 The light spill generated from any activity on the reserve shall not exceed 5 lux at any residential boundary between the hours of sunset and sunrise.
- 3.12.4 Where an identifiable beneficiary from Council's lighting of sports fields, car parks and access ways exists, the full operation, maintenance and replacement costs will be passed onto this beneficiary.
- 3.12.5 The reserve occupier is responsible for the provision and maintenance of lighting associated with their activity, with the approval of Council.

### 3.13 NETWORK UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE

Utility infrastructure can impact on reserve values, neighbours and users by restricting the current use of a reserve and the potential development of the reserve for future enjoyment.

It is not desirable to have network utility infrastructure on reserves and reserves should not be regarded as infrastructure corridors.

Overhead services detract from the appearance of any park and generally place limitations on the placement of trees, overall landscaping and the development of the area.

Objectives:

- *To allow network utility operators conditional access to the reserve for the purpose of inspection, maintenance, ongoing operation and upgrading of existing utility infrastructure.*
- *To ensure adverse effects of network utility infrastructure on the reserve values, users and neighbours are able to be avoided, remedied, compensated or mitigated.*
- *To permit network utility infrastructure only where it is deemed essential for the reserve.*

Policies:

- 3.13.1 No new network utility infrastructure will be permitted on the reserve unless a definite benefit to the reserve can be established. Any new network utility infrastructure deemed essential for a reserve shall be laid underground.
- 3.13.2 Council will permit network utility operators conditional access to reserve land to inspect, maintain, operate or upgrade existing works, subject to the provisions of the relevant empowering Acts, the Reserves Act 1977 and conditions of Council.
- 3.13.3 The utility provider is responsible for all costs associated with temporary closures of the reserve and the costs of reinstatement in the event of damage to the reserve from the network utility infrastructure.
- 3.13.4 Network utility operators must supply a useable and up-to-date "as built" infrastructure plan in a form and detail agreed with Council officers, including information regarding their location on the reserve as a condition of any occupation agreement.

**3.14 DISPOSAL OF RUBBISH**

Council is committed to reducing the amount of rubbish that is deposited on Council land. The dumping of rubbish on reserves or the inappropriate use of existing rubbish disposal facilities can detract from the reserve values and the proper functioning of reserves.

Council's general policy is not to provide rubbish bins on public parks except in high use/high profile areas.

Council is also concerned about the impact garden escapees can have on areas of environmental importance. Garden escapees, or weeds, often come from garden waste being dumped onto neighbouring reserve land. While this reserve is not an environmental reserve, there is still a cost in cleaning up and removing dumped garden waste.

Objectives:

- *To preserve reserve values through appropriate disposal and collection of rubbish and garden waste.*

- *To encourage reserve users to act responsibly by requiring them to take home their rubbish.*

Policies:

- 3.14.1 No person shall deposit any domestic refuse, trade waste, garden refuse, rubble or other debris on the reserve.
- 3.14.2 Reserve user groups are responsible for ensuring the area of their responsibility is kept clear of rubbish.
- 3.14.3 Event organisers are responsible for collection and disposal of rubbish when the reserve is booked for events.

### **3.15 FIRES ON RESERVES**

Fires on reserves have the potential to cause significant damage to habitat, buildings and structures on reserves and to adjacent property.

Objective:

- *To protect natural habitat, buildings and structures on the reserve from damage and destruction of uncontrolled fires.*

Policy:

- 3.15.1 The lighting of fires on the reserve outside of a contained gas barbeque is not permitted without the prior written authorisation from Council.

### **3.16 FIREWORKS DISPLAYS**

Groups occasionally wish to use reserves for fireworks displays. These displays are controlled by legislation other than the Reserves Act 1977 but require permission from Council when the activity is to occur on a reserve.

Objective:

- *To allow fireworks displays on the reserve if adverse effects on reserve values, reserve users and reserve neighbours can be avoided, remedied or mitigated.*

Policies:

- 3.16.1 Fireworks displays by organised groups may be allowed on the reserve with prior written authorisation from Council.
- 3.16.2 Applicants wishing to use the reserve for fireworks displays must provide evidence they have met the requirements of relevant legislation, regulations, codes and permits and provide an acceptable Risk Management Plan before final permission will be granted.
- 3.16.3 Proof of adequate public liability insurance is required for permission to be granted for fireworks displays on the reserve.

### 3.17 LIQUOR CONSUMPTION AND SALE

The sale of liquor is seen as one means of reserve occupiers raising funds for their activity. Reserve users can also request consent for special or one off events where liquor is sold or supplied incidental to the principal purpose of the occasion or event being held.

Objective:

- *To allow the consumption and sale of liquor on the reserve where the effects on the reserve, reserve values, reserve users and reserve neighbours can be avoided, remedied or mitigated and the relevant statutory and Bylaw requirements are met.*

Policy:

- 3.17.1 Council will not oppose the granting of liquor licences for premises located on parks and reserves or special licenses in defined areas for one off types of events where:
- (a) The granting of permission is consistent with the purpose of the reserve.
  - (b) The effects on the reserve, reserve values, reserve users and reserve neighbours can be avoided, remedied or mitigated.
  - (c) Applicants can provide evidence they have met the requirements of relevant legislation, regulations, codes and permits.

### 3.18 PEST PLANTS AND ANIMALS

Pest plants and animals are a threat to the health of the environment. Some pest species contribute significant detrimental effects on native plants, animals and ecological processes, or impose an adverse visual impact on the landscape.

Effective control of weeds and animals is undertaken to comply with the Regional Pest Management Strategy for Southland.

Objective:

- *To minimise the impact of pest plants and animals on reserve values, reserve users and reserve neighbours.*

Policies:

- 3.18.1 Pest plants and animals on parks and reserves shall be controlled in accordance with the "Regional Pest Management Strategy - May 2007" or any subsequent reviews of this Strategy.
- 3.18.2 Council will endeavour to remove invasive weed and pest animal species from the reserve by approved control methods.
- 3.18.3 Animals and birds deliberately abandoned in the reserve may be considered a pest and destroyed.

- 3.18.4 Council will liaise, support, assist and cooperate with Regional Council and other interest groups to provide for the detection and control of pest plants and animals in parks and reserves.

### 3.19 **CAMPING**

Camping is only permitted on reserves administered under the Reserves Act 1977 in the Invercargill District in camping grounds specific to that purpose. Potential problems resulting from campers on reserves include toilet waste disposal, rubbish and damage to parks.

There are registered camping grounds on reserves in Bluff and at Sandy Point, as well as other private facilities, that provide adequate camping grounds for visitors to the City.

#### Objectives:

- *To conserve the public health, well being and safety of the public while on the reserve.*
- *To ensure the public have equity of use over reserves under the Council's control.*
- *To prohibit camping in the reserve.*

#### Policies:

- 3.19.1 Camping is not permitted on the reserve.
- 3.19.2 In special circumstances, camping on the reserve for one off events may be approved by Council resolution.

### 3.20 **DOGS ON RESERVES**

Council adopted the Dog Control Policy for Parks and Reserves in May 2005. This policy refers only to dogs on parks, reserves and open spaces that are managed and controlled by the Parks Division.

Dog faeces can carry diseases which can affect humans and other dogs. When a dog fouls in public, the person controlling the dog is responsible for the immediate removal of the faeces.

#### Objectives:

- *To provide environments within the city's parks and reserves where dogs and people can happily co-exist.*
- *To allow dogs and their owners reasonable access to the city's parks and reserves, at the same time protecting the safety and comfort for all users.*

- *To make available areas of open space in the city's parks and reserves, which provide reasonable exercise and recreational opportunities for dogs and their owners.*
- *To minimise danger and/or nuisance caused by dogs to the public or to wildlife and natural habitats on the city's parks and reserves.*
- *To provide appropriate signage and public notification to dog owners (or those people exercising their dogs) informing them of their responsibilities while using the city's parks and reserves.*

Policies:

3.20.1 Access

Appropriate levels of access to parks and reserves for dogs and their owners shall be made available.

3.20.2 Safety and Conflict

Dog access to parks and reserves shall be restricted or, in some cases, prohibited where the likelihood of conflict exists between dogs, the public or the environment.

3.20.3 Exercise Areas

Dog exercise areas shall be made available to provide sufficient opportunities for the needs of dogs in the city's parks and reserves.

3.20.4 Signage and Education

A review of the dog control signage on parks and reserves in the city shall be carried out with a goal of standardising and simplifying this. Opportunities for informing the public on dog control policies on parks and reserves, such as newsletters, media releases and advertising shall also be considered. Appropriate signage will be erected at various locations to assist dog owners in complying with this policy.

3.20.5 Dog Fouling

Every person, whose dog defecates on any city park or reserve, is required to remove the deposited faeces from the reserve area immediately or dispose of the material in a suitable receptacle.

3.20.6 Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the person exercising the dog on the city's parks and reserves to ensure the dog is fully registered and that it complies with any other Council dog control bylaw.

3.20.7 Enforcement

Parks Division officers shall convey the agreed policies to dog owners when observing any offence. Enforcement will be via Council's dog control officers and,

if necessary, by provision of the Reserves Act 1977, parks rangers and the introduction of bylaws.

### 3.20.8 Definitions

#### *Dogs-on-a-Leash Areas*

Areas where dogs are required to be leashed at all times are –

- All parks and reserves in the Invercargill City Council area, with the exception of areas classified as –
  - Dog-prohibited areas.
  - Designated dog-exercise areas.

Dogs-on-a-leash areas include all walking tracks on parks “short walks” and all cemeteries and crematoria areas. A list of walking tracks is located in the Parks office.

#### *Dog-Prohibited Areas*

Areas where dogs are prohibited are –

- Anywhere within ten metres of any children’s play equipment, including skateboard ramps and paddling pools.
- The designated playing areas of all marked sports fields.
- The areas around the Sandy Point ponds and lagoons specifically designated as wildlife habitats [*refer to Sandy Point Management Plan*].
- The area around and in the Donovan Park pond where there is risk of disturbing wildlife [*refer to Donovan Park Management Plan*].
- Areas that from time to time the Council will notify by way of signage and advertising that there is a temporary dog prohibition in place because of wildlife, stock or other issue.

#### *Designated Dog-Exercise Areas*

These are areas designated for dog exercise where dogs are permitted to be at large while under continuous surveillance and effective control. Maps showing these areas are located in the Parks office.

- Sandy Point Domain, excluding playgrounds, marked sports fields and the ponds and lagoons designated as wildlife habitats. Dogs must be on a lead while on all formed walking tracks.
- Donovan Park, excluding marked sports fields and the Donovan Park pond where there is a risk of disturbing wildlife.
- Elizabeth Park, excluding playgrounds. Dogs must be on a lead while on all formed walking tracks.



- Turnbull Thomson Park, excluding playgrounds and marked sports fields. Dogs must be on a lead while on all formed walking tracks.

#### *Notes*

- *The person exercising the dog must be able to control it as if it was on a leash. If the person exercising the dog cannot stop or retrieve the dog immediately with a whistle or call, then the person cannot exercise their dog with its leash off.*
- *The person exercising the dog must carry a leash at all times.*
- *The person exercising the dog must be capable of restraining the dog.*
- *The person exercising the dog is responsible for removing any deposited faeces from the dog exercising area.*

### **3.21 DOMESTIC ANIMAL CONTROL**

Uncontrolled domestic animals can cause damage to plants and soil structure of reserves and may endanger other reserve users.

#### Objective:

- *To protect the vegetation and soil structure of the reserve and to provide a safe and attractive reserve for all users.*

#### Policy:

- 3.21.1 Uncontrolled animals are not permitted on parks and reserve unless otherwise provided for with an appropriate lease or licence under Section 73 of the Reserves Act 1977 or with written permission from Council.

### **3.22 PLAYGROUNDS AND PLAY EQUIPMENT**

The provision of a variety of well-maintained and safe play equipment is important for the development of children. Play equipment complements the areas of open space available to children for informal play.

#### Objectives:

- *To develop and maintain areas of the reserve for children's play.*
- *To ensure a healthy and safe environment is provided for playground users.*
- *To maintain existing playgrounds that are creative, stimulating and fun, and to encourage children to engage in social interaction and physical activity.*

#### Policies:

- 3.22.1 The playground shall be maintained and upgraded as required to provide quality play equipment, safety surfacing and high play value.

- 3.22.2 All new or upgraded play equipment shall comply with the relevant New Zealand Safety Standards or any subsequent review of this standard.
- 3.22.3 All playgrounds and play equipment shall be given a monthly maintenance inspection and a six monthly safety inspection to ensure all pieces of equipment are maintained to a safe standard and meet the current New Zealand Safety Standard for playgrounds.
- 3.22.4 Informal play opportunities shall be encouraged through the design of open spaces within the reserve using the natural landforms and existing features, to the extent the surrounding vegetation and horticultural qualities are not damaged.

### 3.23 HEALTHY AND ACTIVE PARKS

Council has a role to play in providing public spaces that offer healthy and active opportunities for the public.

One of the key outcomes of the "Our Way Invercargill"<sup>1</sup> strategy plan is "Health and Wellbeing - We are healthy people". This aligns with the "Healthy Eating - Healthy Action (HEHA)" strategy developed by the Ministry of Health as an approach to improving nutrition, increasing physical activity and achieving healthy weight for all New Zealanders.

Some of the ways Council can contribute to the "Health and Wellbeing" outcome is through providing opportunities in our parks which include:

- Encouraging Healthy Lifestyles:
  - promoting a 'smoke free' environment.
  - promoting healthy eating.
- Encouraging Active Lifestyles:
  - providing activity friendly environments.
  - promoting active use of the Park.
  - providing equity of provision in terms of culture and ability.

#### Objective:

- *To encourage healthy and active lifestyles for Invercargill residents through use of the park.*

#### Policies:

- 3.23.1 Groups booking events in the reserve will be encouraged to provide healthy food alternatives at their event.
- 3.23.2 Council will consider the cultural needs and physical abilities of potential users when designing environments in the reserve to ensure the park is welcoming and functional for all.

<sup>1</sup> 'Our Way Invercargill' Long Tern Council Community Plan (LTCCP) 2006 – 2016, Invercargill City Council

### **3.24 SMOKE FREE PARKS AND RESERVES**

Objectives:

- *To encourage healthy and active lifestyles for Invercargill residents through use of parks and reserves as Smoke Free areas.*
- *That this be promoted in all Invercargill City Council Parks and in particular, within 20 meters of play equipment; entrances to the Queens Park Aviary and Queens Park Animal Reserve; and all marked sports fields.*
- *That the public be encouraged through signage and publicity to maintain a clean, healthy environment in these areas.*
- *That this become a policy in each of the Reserve Management Plans upon their drafting or review.*

Policies:

- 3.24.1 By designating and promoting all Invercargill City Council owned children's playgrounds, the Queens Park Aviary, Queens Park Animal Reserve, and areas designated as sports fields as Smoke free areas.
- 3.24.2 That this be promoted in all Council Parks and in particular within 20 meters of play equipment, entrances to the Queens Park Aviary and Queens Park Animal Reserve, and allocated sports fields.
- 3.24.3 That the public be encouraged through signage and publicity to maintain a clean, healthy environment in these areas.
- 3.24.4 That this become a policy in each of the Reserve Management Plans upon their drafting or review.
- 3.24.5 Groups booking events on Invercargill City Council Parks will be encouraged to actively promote their event as Smoke Free.

### **3.25 NOISE LEVELS**

Policy:

- 3.25.1 Recreational and other activities will meet the following noise level standards, measured at the neighbourhood boundary:
- 55 dBA L10 between the hours of 7.00am and 10.00pm
  - 40 dBA L10 between the hours of 10.00pm and 7.00am

Resource consent will be required if these standards cannot be met.

### **3.26 RESERVE WATERS**

Policy:

- 3.26.1 The waters of Donovan Park shall be managed for their wildlife and environmental values, as well as for the benefit of operations within the park.

### **3.27 ADMINISTRATION**

The reserve is vested in Council for Recreation Reserve Purposes – Recreational and Cultural Building and Associated Activities Purpose.

Objective:

- *To comply with the Reserves Act 1977 requirements for administration and management.*

Policy:

- 3.27.1 The Invercargill City Council, through the Parks Manager, shall carry out the day to day administration and management of the reserve, using Parks Division Assets and Operations Unit staff and contractors.

### **3.28 PLAN AMENDMENT AND REVIEW**

The Reserves Act 1977 sets out clear requirements for the preparation, amendment and review of Reserve Management Plans.

Objective:

- *To ensure this Management Plan is kept under review to reflect the needs of current and future users and to be consistent with current best practice management procedures.*

Policies:

- 3.28.1 Any change or amendment, not involving a comprehensive review of the reserve's Management Plan, shall be made by adopting the procedures specified in Section 41(9) of the Reserves Act 1977.
- 3.28.2 The reserve's Management Plan shall be kept under continuous review as laid down in Section 41(4) of the Reserves Act 1977 and shall be operative from the date of signing for a period of ten years, at which time it will be completely reviewed.

### 3.29 DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGE

#### 3.29.1 *Requests for Development on Reserves*

Reserves are created principally for the provision and preservation of open space and natural areas. Some buildings and structures such as changing rooms, toilets, clubrooms, car parks and fences are considered necessary for the enjoyment and full utilisation of reserves and are allowed for in the Reserves Act 1977.

The landscape character of a reserve contributes to and enhances the City's environment and impacts on reserve users, reserve neighbours and people passing by. While certain activities and buildings are permitted on reserves it is important to ensure that the effects of any structure or use does not impact negatively on reserve values, reserve users and reserve neighbours.

When considering an application to develop or change part of a reserve, Council will take into account the existing character of the reserve, including:

- The existing and potential use of the reserve.
- The natural and built environment.
- The surrounding landscape and the use of neighbouring land.
- The purpose and classification of the reserve under the Reserves Act 1977 and the management objectives stated in the current Reserve Management Plan.

#### Objectives:

- *To protect and enhance the open space, landscape and historical values of the reserve while providing adequate facilities for recreation and play.*
- *To ensure that development is appropriate to the reserve and that new developments complement and enhance the existing character of the reserve.*
- *To provide and maintain well designed and appropriately located buildings and structures in the reserve to improve utilisation and add to the enjoyment of the reserve by its users.*
- *To ensure that all reserve facilities are provided and maintained to an appropriate standard that meets public health and safety requirements and contributes to the attractiveness of the reserve.*
- *To ensure the costs associated with any development by/for a specific user group are met by that group.*

#### Policies:

- 3.29.1.1 The number of buildings and structures on the reserve will be limited to a level which facilitates the safe and appropriate use, protects the open space and natural amenity values, while being compatible with the purpose and classification of the reserve.

- 
- 3.29.1.2 Public safety, public benefit and the character of the environment should be taken into account when planning the development of buildings, structures and associated landscaping.
- 3.29.1.3 The construction of any new buildings or extensions to existing buildings is not permitted unless anticipated in the current Management Plan and may be subject to a review or amendment to the Management Plan.
- 3.29.1.4 The design of the proposal shall be subject to Council approval and shall be in keeping with and complement the surroundings. Buildings and structures shall be placed with regard to reserve values, views and proximity to access points.
- 3.29.1.5 Exterior colour schemes of buildings and structures shall be approved by Council. The painting and creation of murals (not advertising) on buildings and structures may be considered on submission of a copy of the design and proposed colour scheme to Council.
- 3.29.1.6 The development shall be designed in a way that limits the opportunity for vandalism.
- 3.29.1.7 The development will be designed, where practical and feasible, to meet the current national standard and design criteria for access for people with disabilities.
- 3.29.1.8 The lease or licence to occupy agreement will define the obligations of the building owners on reserve land when the building is no longer required or the club has disbanded. These include removal or disposal of the building and facilities, or on-selling of the building to an approved recreational activity. Any outcome of this will be to the approval of Council.
- 3.29.1.9 Development plans are required for all development proposals for structures, facilities or buildings on the reserve (including alterations and extensions to existing buildings) and will include an assessment of effects. In particular the proposal should address how adverse effects on the values of the reserve will be avoided, remedied or mitigated. The development plan shall include:
- (a) The location and design of proposed buildings, structures and landscaping including any car parking, lighting, fences and signage and the extent of the area required.
  - (b) Details of the size, scale, visual impact and relationship of the proposal to the surroundings.
  - (c) Any new building requirements as part of the development, or the changed use of existing buildings. Indicate any alterations required for existing buildings.
  - (d) Details of any known or potential liabilities associated with any existing building or structure being added to or modified.
  - (e) Any likely effects (adverse or otherwise) of the proposal on the landscape, environment and reserve users or reserve neighbours including visibility into and through the reserve and public safety.

- (f) Details of any change or removal of any existing trees or vegetation.
- (g) Details of any drainage and earthworks required and disruption to drainage patterns. Full restoration of disturbed landform during construction and landscaping and compliance with relevant legislation is the responsibility of the applicant.
- (h) Details of any change or disruption to network utility infrastructure and details of infrastructure required as part of the development.
- (i) Details of any specific landscaping requirements - species, screening or shelter.
- (j) Consideration of existing users (both formal and informal) and the impact of this proposal on them. Any issues of public access, thoroughfare and egress on reserves and into any buildings and the loss of any open space including during construction phase.
- (k) Details of any discussions with existing user groups.
- (l) Anticipated user numbers and the times of use.
- (m) Details of anticipated life of the structure and future maintenance requirements.
- (n) Details as to who will be responsible for all future maintenance and insurance for the buildings and structures. Acknowledgement of the club or group's responsibility if or when the building is no longer required or if the club disbands.
- (o) Details of the anticipated completion date and any plans to stage the development.
- (p) Any other matters arising as determined by Council.



## 4.0 FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

A Reserve Management Plan is developed to reflect current reserve use and reserve values. A Management Plan should also highlight anticipated future development or change to the reserve and the likely impact a development will have on reserve users, reserve values and reserve neighbours. Any development not anticipated in, or meeting the policies of the current Reserve Management Plan, will require an amendment to the Management Plan.

Any future development at the reserve shall only be to the extent which is in accordance with the overall management objectives and policies and subject to meeting the requirements defined in 3.29.1 - Requests for Development on Reserves.

Before any development is implemented, it must be established that there is a need for such development and that what is proposed will be of benefit to the reserve and to those using it.

### **Proposed Development**

Provision has been made in this plan to allow for the development of buildings, facilities and services for the running of Agricultural and Pastoral shows and associated activities with a requirement that the area also be available for other organisations for recreational activities.

Site Plan showing area used in March 2012 by Southland A & P Association

