

Representatives of the Te Atatu Pony Club (TAPC) have read the Board's draft reports to the best of our ability and wish to make the following comments:

1. The Club accepts SO.8 as an appropriate method of compensating for the cost of feed arising from the loss of suitable pasture. Forage value of the land to the north will need to be investigated if it becomes available.
2. SO.9 Monies lost. TAPC has undertaken a programme of paddock reseeding over the past 2 growing seasons to provide a better quality forage. Due to this we have been unable to host any fundraising events in the 2010/ 2011 season and this will in turn affect our average.
3. SO.10 is largely acceptable except the raceway needs to be surfaced with free draining material suitable for horse bridle path and vehicle access.'

TAPC agrees that the existing raceway is largely surfaced with grass, but becomes unpassable during wet winter months. Currently we are able to utilise alternative paddocks for safe passage (away from grazing horses). The presence of Construction Yard 1 will eliminate this ability.

We strongly feel that a free draining surface is important. The pony club is willing to source funds elsewhere to provide materials needed to surface the raceway, or use monies expected from SO.9, and NZTA could perhaps include the construction as part of the levelling of the land as per SO.11

4. TAPC requires the retention of Condition SO.11. The additional land which may be made available by the Council does not provide the quality of level land being absorbed by the construction yard. The Club cannot function without an arena / flatwork area, which is the purpose of Condition SO.11. The levelling of this land will entail a cut being made, and careful drainage to ensure ride-ability in wet weather. Timing will be critical to allow for good grass growth.
5. SO.12 (b) Relocation of jumps, trees and troughs from within the Construction Yard 1 area.. This should also include jumps etc on the land being taken permanently for motorway widening, particularly in the power pylon area, such as the Staircase jump. The existing water jump will not be able to be used in its current configuration due to the proximity of the Construction Yard. The additional Council land, if made available to the Club on a short term basis (Areas A & B), could be used for a practise / training cross-country course. TAPC consider it would be fair and reasonable to have a condition inserted which requires NZTA to assist in the relocation of the cross country course by shifting and relocating the jumps once the area is available. This would require a suitably experienced course designer to supervise the relocation.
6. All weather surfaced arena. We are aware of the current decision and reasons for this. Suitable riding land is necessary for the pony club to continue operating and meeting the needs of members, grazing horses, ponies and also the greater operation of a pony club. Our inability to achieve this with a loss of land has been made clear with the reseeding of the paddocks over the last season. A number of our members horses/ponies had to be relocated due to lack of grass and this

affected the operation of the club. As it was a temporary measure, the members have made do, but it has caused hardship, both financial and to the unity of the club. The insistence of NZTA that it (provision of a surfaced arena) should rely on a longer lease is mitigated by the long term plan for the park that includes an equestrian facility. The Henderson Massey Local Board is also considering the tenure of our lease to give a 5 + 5yr. The ideal is our proposed 100m x 80m all weather fenced arena, however we would consider a smaller facility and look to applying for grants to help cover some of the costs.

7. If additional land is granted on Council land to the north, it will require fencing of a type and design agreeable to both the pony club and the council, suitable for containing horses whilst allowing public access.
8. TAPC has previously received a letter from NZTA (21 March) where they agreed to undertake further measures to address the effects of the yard including suitable sound proof fencing of the yard and development of a Construction Yard Plan to manage effects such as noise, lighting, timing of activities. A community Liaison person was to be allocated. We can not identify reference to some of these points in the current available literature.

Further relevant notes:

- a. The Te Atatu Pony Club has applied to the Henderson Massey Local Board for two extensions of lease:
 - i. One for an increase in the length of term of the lease
 - ii. Also an extension of amount of land leased to replace the area being used by Construction Yard 1.
- b. The Land adjacent to the north of the Pony Club does **not** contain a flat level piece of land suitable for dressage and regular rally and instructional riding. It would be suitable as part of a cross country track, possibly showjumping if it had some levelling, and for general 'hacking'. We hope that it will be suitable for grazing but it may need spraying and grass reseeding as much of it is kikuya.
- c. Board Draft report Volume 1 page 260 12.2.2 [1017] This does not mention the fact that this urban pony club is generally used for riding 7 days a week, not just on rally nights and events.
- d. Preparation of our grounds will need to start soon to enable it to be ready for when the construction yard begins – i.e flat grass area to the seaward side will involve a cut being made, drainage to ensure run off doesn't affect it, and grass reseeding as soon as possible to allow for spring growth. We would appreciate direct contact to the supervisor being allocated to this job.
- e. To give the grazing paddocks the best chance to survive as changes occur, we need to allocate a riding space for wet weather. The pony club is investigating laying a Geo Textile fabric (such as Cosio brand) and then a layer of sand on the small paddock directly behind clubhouse. It will need to be contained. If this method is successful, it may be able to be cost effectively utilised elsewhere.

- f. We reseeded 2 of our paddocks at the beginning of autumn and hope that by letting them grow and thicken over winter and possibly roll/compact them in spring that we will have 2 good grazing paddocks moving in to summer. Drainage of the paddocks affected by previous roadworks / pathways will also help although there seems to be a hold-up over this.

Will there be someone that we can go to if situations arise that we have not yet comprehended?

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact:

Berni McBride [REDACTED]

Or Andrea Kendall [REDACTED]

15 June 2011