

**QLDC Council  
26 May 2016**

**Report for Agenda Item: 5**

**Department: Property and Infrastructure**

**Bequest to provide a memorial and enhance a Queenstown Reserve**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider reserve options for enhancement and a memorial to Dr William A Anderson, Mayor of Queenstown Borough Council from 1939 to 1950, through the Bequest of the Estate of his daughter, Joan Mary Anderson.

**Recommendation**

That Council:

1. **Note** the contents of this report;
2. **Approve** the reserve between Manchester Place, Edinburgh Drive and Windsor Place to be enhanced, and that a memorial to Dr William A Anderson be installed, subject to Council and Trustees of the Estate approving the final design;
3. **Delegate** to Councillors Gazzard and Ferguson the authority to approve the final design; and
4. **Approve** that up to \$10,000 from the \$112,461 budget created by the bequest go towards the design of the reserve enhancements and memorial, and that the remaining budget go towards the implementation of the approved design; and
5. **Approve** the reserve between Manchester Place, Edinburgh Drive and Windsor Place be named Bill Anderson Park, subject to iwi consultation.

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Reviewed and Authorised by:



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6/05/2016

## Background

- 1 The estate of Joan Mary Anderson (12 May 1932 - 28 August 2015) bequeathed \$112,461 to the Queenstown Lakes District Council for the purposes of creating or enhancing a Queenstown Park or Reserve provided that an appropriate memorial, to her father, Dr William A Anderson, is established by the Council, as approved by the Trustees of the Will.
- 2 Dr William Anderson O.B.E, J.P, MB, ChB arrived in Queenstown in 1920 and he remained the sole medical practitioner and superintendent of the Wakatipu Hospital from 1923 until his retirement in 1950. Dr Anderson provided exemplary services for the Wakatipu, responding to requests for his services in all parts of the region.
- 3 Dr Anderson earned the deep respect of the community. He spent 27 years as an elected member of the Queenstown Borough Council including 15 years as Mayor of the town. His memoir *Doctor in the Mountains* details difficult journeys to injured or sick patients, with limited medical and surgical resources. On the back cover of the autobiography, he wrote "*My Philosophy of life is this: that true happiness lies....in trying to accumulate goodwill, love and respect from being trusted and needed, in sickness and in health, by those around us.*" He achieved this goal as a notable medical practitioner in the Wakatipu over the years.
- 4 His daughter, Professor Joan Anderson, was a New Zealand scientist who worked in Canberra, Australia, distinguished by her investigation of photosynthesis. Born in Queenstown, she became one of the most internationally recognised plant scientists.

## Comment

- 5 Two reserve locations in central Queenstown have been selected for consideration for improvements and a memorial - Cecil Road Reserve and the reserve between Manchester Place, Edinburgh Drive and Windsor Place (Attachment A).
- 6 The bequest would be used to add enhancements to a reserve and create a memorial for Dr Anderson. The memorial could be in the form of a monument which would meet the requirements under the Queenstown Lakes District Council's Plaques, Memorials and Monuments Policy, September 2010.
- 7 A design of the memorial and park enhancements would be undertaken for the approval of the Trustees of the Estate and Council.
- 8 This report recommends the reserve between Manchester Place, Edinburgh Drive and Windsor Place for improvements and a memorial for reasons considered in the Options section of this report. Given that this reserve currently has no name, it is considered appropriate to name the reserve after Dr Anderson. The Council's Naming of Parks and Reserves Policy determines that Council shall first determine the significance of the reserve to iwi. The Council approval for naming the reserve after Dr Anderson will be subject to iwi consultation.

## Options

### 9 Option 1 Cecil Road Reserve, accessed from Frankton Road and Frankton Trail

#### *Advantages:*

- 10 The park offers panoramic views of Lake Wakatipu and Kevin Heights Peninsula.
- 11 The location is close to the lakefront and central Queenstown. The reserve is used to access the Frankton Trail.
- 12 The reserve has no established trees or planting and therefore has the potential to be enhanced. The reserve is currently maintained by mechanical trimming. Planting the reserve could reduce ongoing maintenance costs.

#### *Disadvantages:*

- 13 This reserve is not particularly accessible for elderly, prams or wheelchairs, as it has a steep gradient.
- 14 Option 2 Reserve between Manchester Place, Edinburgh Drive and Windsor Place

#### *Advantages:*

- 15 This reserve has panoramic views. It is located close to central Queenstown.
- 16 The reserve is accessible to elderly, prams and wheelchairs, with parking on street.
- 17 Existing walkways require upgrading and there is scope for further reserve enhancements.

#### *Disadvantages:*

- 18 There are no known disadvantages.

### 19 Option 3 An alternative reserve

#### *Advantages:*

- 20 An alternative reserve may be better suited for a memorial and enhancements.

#### *Disadvantages:*

- 21 An alternative reserve may be less suited for a memorial and enhancements.

- 22 This report recommends **Option 2** for addressing the matter because the reserve has great views suitable for a monument, is centrally located to Queenstown, is accessible to all users and there is scope to enhance the reserve.

## **Significance and Engagement**

- 23 This matter is of low significance, as determined by reference to the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy because due to the extent that the matters being considered impact on the environment of the Queenstown Lakes District and the extent to which organisations in the community are affected by the decision.

## **Risk**

- 24 This matter related to the operational risk OR002 and OR010b. OR002 relates to an increase in expenditure and OR010b relates to damage or loss to third party asset or property as documented in the Council's risk register. The risk is classed as moderate.
- 25 This matter relates to this risk because enhancing the reserve may increase Council's expenditure on maintenance after the initial bequest has been spent, depending on what is planted, or how the reserve is enhanced.
- 26 The OR010b risk is due to the fact that a memorial as a Council asset will need to have its condition inspected due to exposure to environmental factors.

## **Financial Implications**

- 27 Enhancements to the reserve will require increased maintenance budget to be factored into Council budgets. These costs will be better known when the design has been developed.

## **Council Policies, Strategies and Bylaws**

- 28 The following Council policies, strategies and bylaws were considered:
- Queenstown Lakes District Council Plaques, Memorials and Monuments Policy, 2010 – the recommendation is in accordance with the policy.
  - Significance and Engagement Policy – this decision is considered of low significance.
  - Parks Strategy 2002 – the enhancements will contribute to an improvement in the reserve, thereby contributing to the vision expressed in the Strategy.

## **Local Government Act 2002 Purpose Provisions**

- 29 The recommended option:
- Will help meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses by enhancing a reserve area and providing history on a notable historic Local who provided service to the community.
  - Is consistent with the Council's plans and policies.

### **Consultation: Community Views and Preferences**

30 The persons who are most affected by or interested in this matter are the Trustees of the Estate. It is a requirement of the bequest to obtain approval of the memorial design from the Trustees of the Estate.

31 Iwi will be consulted in regard to the naming of the reserve.

### **Attachments**

A Locations considered for Reserve enhancements and Dr Anderson memorial



## Attachment A Proposed Locations for Dr Anderson Memorial

### 1. Cecil Road Reserve



Figure 1: Cecil Road Reserve Queenstown, potential location for the Dr William A. Anderson memorial.





## 2. Reserve between Manchester Place, Windsor Place and Edinburgh Drive



Figure 2: Manchester place, Queenstown Hill, potential location for the Dr William A. Anderson memorial.

