

Community & Services Committee

2 April 2024

Report for Agenda Item | Rīpoata moto e Rāraki take [2]

Department: Community Services

Title | Taitara: New Seat and Memorial Plaque Request in honour of Jim Ryan at the Arrowtown Library

Purpose of the Report | Te Take mō te Pūroko

The purpose of this report is to consider approving the installation of a new seat (to replace an existing seat) located outside the Arrowtown Library, followed by placement of a memorial plaque on the seat for Jim Ryan.

Recommendation | Kā Tūtohuka

That Community & Services Committee:

1. **Note** the contents of this report and;
2. **Approve** the seat and memorial plaque installation for Jim Ryan. The seat is located outside the Arrowtown Library under the veranda along the northern/Buckingham Street side of the building (Attachment A).

Prepared by:



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Title: Parks Officer – Cemeteries & Heritage
15 March 2024

Reviewed and Authorised by:



Name: Kenneth Bailey
Title: General Manager, Community Services
18 March 2024

Context | Horopaki

1. Council received an application for a memorial seat and plaque on 14 March 2024 from the Arrowtown Charitable Trust and Lakes District Museum to honour Jim Ryan. As per the summary provided on the submitted application, “Jim Ryan had been an influential Arrowtown resident supporting the protection and preservation of our historic town. He was a trustee on our Trust for 8 years supporting and spearheading projects that benefitted Arrowtown including the Lighting Project in Arrowtown. He has now past and [the Arrowtown Charitable Trust and Lakes District Museum] would like to honour his memory by this bench and plaque in the historic zone of Arrowtown.”
2. The Arrowtown Charitable Trust indicated that they would prefer a memorial seat be located in front of the Arrowtown Library, adjacent to the pétanque court. The Arrowtown Library and Lakes District Museum teams have identified a seat along the northern/Buckingham Street side of the library building in need of replacement. The existing seat is older and not the same model as those that are currently installed throughout the rest of the Arrowtown Heritage Precinct. While the seat model proposed for installation represents a deviation from the new seats typically installed when a memorial is requested, the Parks Team supports the installation of this alternative seat style (Attachment C) in keeping with the aesthetic and historic nature of the Arrowtown Heritage Precinct. Both the Arrowtown Charitable Trust and Lakes District Museum are in support and will provide this alternative seat design, which was reviewed and approved by the Arrowtown Village Association as well.
3. Parks Manager Dave Winterburn supports this approach, which allows for the Arrowtown Charitable Trust and Lakes District Museum to contribute to community asset improvement while memorialising this prominent member of the Arrowtown Community. This also provides the option for the cost-effective renewal of an existing Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) asset.
4. In consideration of the QLDC Plaques, Memorials and Monuments Policy assessment guidelines, the Parks team supports this request based on the following criteria: “2.5 – Subjects for Category 4, personalised memorial plaques on a seat, bench or picnic table will be considered by the Council on a case by case basis... Subjects will be limited to: Individuals who have lived in or have a special association with the District.” The contributions made to the Arrowtown community by Jim Ryan, as well as the support of the request shown by the Arrowtown Charitable Trust, Lakes District Museum, and Arrowtown Library, were all taken into consideration.
5. The proposed plaque will read:

*“In loving memory of Jim Ryan
who worked hard to make sure Arrowtown
kept its historic, charming character.”*

Analysis and Advice | Tatāritaka me kā Tohutohu

6. This report identifies and assesses the following reasonably practicable options for assessing the matter as required by section 77 of the Local Government Act 2002.
7. The Arrowtown Library has been considered and the proposed replacement of the existing seat at this location, which is situated adjacent to the pétanque court and underneath the library's veranda, will enhance the reserve and improve this asset for the community to enjoy.
8. Option 1 Approve the new memorial plaque and seat replacement at the Arrowtown Library for Jim Ryan.

Advantages:

- Provides economical and efficient continued use, but also improvement to furniture in the reserve, which can be enjoyed by all.
- Commemorates individuals that are closely connected to Arrowtown.

Disadvantages:

- None, as the existing seat structure is already in place upon the reserve.

9. Option 2 Decline the request.

Advantages:

- None, as there is already a structure in place upon the reserve.

Disadvantages:

- Asset replacement costs would be at the expense of Council, and the memorial requestor would not be afforded the opportunity to positively contribute to the improvement of the Arrowtown community.

10. This report recommends Option 1 for addressing the matter because this will provide improvements to an existing seat asset, and which will also honour the life of Jim Ryan while increasing the utilisation and enjoyment of the reserve by the community.

Consultation Process | Hātepe Matapaki

Significance and Engagement | Te Whakamahi I kā Whakaaro Hiraka

11. This matter is of low significance, as determined by reference to the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy because the land it relates to is not identified as a significant asset, and the proposal of a new seat will support community wellbeing.

12. The persons who are affected by or interested in this matter are the residents/ratepayers of the Queenstown Lakes District Community and the Arrowtown Community.

13. The Council has noted that the Parks Manager is in support of this proposed approach (i.e., existing seat replacement followed by plaque installation).

Risk and Mitigations | Kā Raru Tūpono me kā Whakamaurutaka

14. This matter relates to the Community & Wellbeing risk category. It is associated with RISK10005 Ineffective planning for community services or facilities within the QLDC Risk Register. This risk has been assessed as having a high residual risk rating.

15. The approval of the recommended option will allow Council to retain the risk at its current level. This will be achieved by improving assets for community wellbeing within the reserve.

Financial Implications | Kā Riteka ā-Pūtea

16. There are no financial implications, all costs will be met by the applicant.

Council Effects and Views | Kā Whakaaweawe me kā Tirohaka a te Kaunihera

17. The following Council policies, strategies and bylaws were considered:

- Plaques, Memorials and Monuments Policy 2010;
- Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2021; and
- Proposal is in alignment with the principles of the Vision Beyond 2050.

18. The recommended option is consistent with the principles set out in the named policies.

19. This matter is not included in the Long Term Plan/Annual Plan and will not have any impact on it.

Local Government Act 2002 Purpose Provisions | Te Whakatureture 2002 o te Kāwanataka ā-Kiaka

20. Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 states the purpose of local government is (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and (b) to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future. As such, the recommendation in this report is appropriate and within the ambit of Section 10 of the Act as it 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 providing support for a community activity;

21. The recommended option:

- Can be implemented through current funding under the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan;
- Is consistent with the Council's plans and policies; and
- Would not significantly alter the intended level of service provision for any significant activity undertaken by or on behalf of the Council or transfer the ownership or control of a strategic asset to or from the Council.

Attachments | Kā Tāpirihaka

A	Map of Arrowtown Library Location
B	Photo of seat to be replaced
C	Example of style of seat to be installed (seat will be in new condition)