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Comments Having been a concerned and regular visitor at Whanarua bay in the last 40 years i should like to relay some of my concerns around the proposed transfer of this reserve to Te Whanau a Apanui.
In particular the transfer of lot 66 which currently provides vehicular access to all of the lower bay for both residents and visitors.
It is proposed that Te Whanau a Apanui would be the sole administering body for the reserves and therefore would control vehicular access to the lower bay.
I have been advised from sources within Te Whanau a Apanui that should this happen they may intend to either
1)
gate this vehicular access ,denying public vehicular access and exorbitantly charging residents of the lower bay a substantial annual access charge (Exactly what members of Te Whanau a Apanui did previously with access to the lower whanarua bay at the stream access ,before there was vehicular access over lot 66)
2)
sell lot 66 back to the residents at lower Whanarua bay, figures that have been suggested in the 2 -3 million dollar range !!!!!

Additionally i should like to draw council and the general publics attention to the conflict of interest of councillor Louis Rapihana in this matter.

Councillor Rapihana himself proclaims to be an official spokesperson of Te Whanau a Apenui on his facebook page and across many other media outlets.

I attended the Reserve Management Plan hearing at ODC on monday 9 aug 2020 along with many other members of the public and councillors including Mr Rapihana.

The first agenda item for the meeting was and i quote from the agenda :

1) Conflicts of interest(members to declare any conflicts, if any)

No conflicts of interest were declared by any members
!!

This was patently not the case and was clearly obvious to me throughout the meeting.

In summary i completely oppose the handing back of Whanarua bay reserves to Te Whanau a Apanui as per the proposed plan without either

a) an legally enshrined public vehicular access through lot 66. OR

b) A change of ownership where - Te Whānau a Apanui owns the reserves but Council retains sole management of the reserves .

Thankyou Clare Wain
