

**SHERYL TUKIRI KEREN PAEKAU AND ANGELINE GREENSILL SUBMISSION SPEECH**

**Point Number 188.4**

**Summary of Decision Requested:** Retain Schedule 30.3 Maaori Sites of Significance.

**Decision Reasons:**

The submitter likes how council has started to protect Maori heritage for future generations.

**MIHI**

E nga mana, e nga reo, e nga iwi.

E rau rangatira ma!

Tena kotou, tena kotou, tena tatou katoa

Kia ora hui hui mai tatou katoa

**INTRODUCTION**

Tena koutou katoa

My name is Sheryl Pareoranga Tukiri I reside on Karioi Mountain where my whanau have lived since before the arrival of the Tainui Waka.

The reason I am standing here today is to ensure the destruction of our heritage stops with me for the sake of my mokopuna and our future generations.

**WAIATA**

*"Tenei matou".... e te Iwi*

## SPEECH

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank those present today for allowing Maaori to have a voice and we thank you for truly acknowledging our treaty partnership after 180 years!

Before I address my submission, I feel it is important for those here to understand the story behind it, as I very likely speak on behalf of so many Maaori in New Zealand, simply from the **GENTRIFICATION** and **SUBSEQUENT DEGENERATION** of our whenua we have experienced at the hand of Central and Local Governments lack of support and protection for Maori heritage and sites of significance.

My life on this earth I have witness countless vandalism and destruction of Maaori Sites of significance at the hands of non-Maaori simply to better someone's view, add value to their property or simply from lack of care for our heritage.

Some examples of this which have occurred in my lifetime.

As a young girl living in Whaingaroa (Raglan) a local farmer set fire to a substantial portion of Karioi Maunga to clear way of native bush which existed for thousands of years simply to have more land to graze his cattle.

The trauma of this night for my whanau still exists today, as we have lived on Karioi Maunga for many hundreds of years, which we lost in a single night hundreds of years of our heritage! Gone in a flash! That would be unimaginable today!

Another example which occurred at the hands of Local Government which we now call The Waikato District Council was an act by The Raglan County Council. During the construction of the new Council Office in Raglan a **Tupuna Wi Neera Te Awaitaia who was the**

**Paramount Chief of Ngati Mahanga/Hourua** following his death had been memorialised on what once stood his Marae a Cenotaph remembering his life, was thrown into a pile of rubble destined for the dump In Ngaruawahia. My Cousins so upset by this blatant destruction in the cover of night rescued this cenotaph from the pile of rubble and re-located it to another location where it still stands today at Papahua near the Raglan Holiday Park. ***Maori had not been consulted with and this was only 40 years ago.***

These are only 2 of many examples we can provide you on what will continue to happen if our heritage sites are not protected...

However, this was and, in some cases, continues to be the world of Maaori. We had No power! We had No Control! We had No Acknowledgement! and we certainly had No Voice!

The District Plan should not be the one back stop on the protection of Maaori heritage and sites of significance. Our sites exist in other plans, documents and legislation and if you know about them, they should continue to be protected.

We do not wish to share all of our ancient sites in the plan if we do, they will continue to be desecrated as continues to happen. At the very least a conversation with Mana whenua, ahi kaa and the marae of this area should occur before any further destruction happens.

### **FINAL COMMENTS**

The Growth within the Waikato is occurring so quickly this is why we need to ensure our heritage is protected and the reason we support the retention of Schedule 30.3 Maaori Sites of Significance.

**Te Akinga Nga Taonga toku iho a nga matua tupuna hei oo haakii  
mo nga whakatupuranga o muri mai**

**Protect the treasures of our ancestors so they may be a precious  
inheritance by our future generations – Pohau Ellison**

Tēnā koutou katoa, e tautoko ana nga mihi kua mihi

Ko wai au? I te taha o toku papa, ko karioi te maunga, ko whaingaroa te moana, ko tainui o tainui te iwi, ko paetoka ko ngati hounuku nga hapu, ko poiakena te marae, ko te kopua te whenua. He uri ahau na te whanau Paekau raua ko Kereopa.

I te taha o toku mama, no ngati maniapoto ahau.

Ko Keren Paekau toku nei ingoa

Ataamarie tatou, firstly i want to mihi my aunty and tautoko her korero this morning.

My submission is on behalf of Te Kopua 2B3 incorporation, and I am a board member. Our submission supports the Maori sites and areas of significance and earthworks provisions in the plan.

In the Section 42a report on page 15 there is an error for our submission 505.4 should be Maori areas of significance. The same thing has happened for Mr Edmonds submission 504.4, we support both schedules.

Te Kopua 2B3 inc is a Maori land incorporation, our whenua sits at the mouth of the whaingaroa harbour and at the foot of Karioi. The land is a 21ha block that includes a farm block, 27 subtitled lots and a section of foreshore along Riria Kereopa Memorial Drive. Our primary business is property management, we manage 24 ground leases, 6 rental properties, a airbnb and grazing leases on the farm block.

Our mission statement is "Kia pupuri ai i nga taonga tuku iho, hold fast to the treasures of our ancestors"

The protection and retention of Maori sites of significance is something that we actively practice.

As property developers we recognise that our whenua is a taonga and take seriously the Kaitiaki role we play to protect our cultural heritage and sites. In 2015, we opened the first stage of our papakainga development, through our development we unearthed koiwi when laying infrastructure, we stopped works immediately and with our kaumatua worked through a tikanga process to whakanoa the whenua and move the infrastructure to another site. This was an unknown site for us, but we have fenced it off.

Our whanaunga Rolande Paekau has asked in her submission 152.8 to add this site in the 30.3 schedule. We support her submission and the Section 42a report recommendation to accept this site as a waahi tapu.

We wanted to highlight this because the protection of significance areas and sites is all of our responsibility, as land developers.

Now, any earthworks we do or any of leasees want to do on the whenua require cultural monitoring of earthworks.

We see the move to include Maori sites and areas of significance in the district plan as a positive first step to protecting the cultural heritage in the district, we have concerns about the sites that are not identified in the plan.

The example is Rangatahi, a new subdivision in Raglan which will build up to 500 new homes. Rangatahi has a Pa site on it and numerous other sites, identified in the Cultural Assessment report by Mr Kahotea however it is not identified in this current schedule.

In the Section 42a report on page 65 para 181, the submitter has asked to remove the earthworks rule from Rangatahi, saying that there is not a Maori site of significance on Rangatahi in the schedule and the writer of the report has accepted this.

The question I have for you is how will you protect the sites that are not in the plan but are known to you.

The process to include sites into the schedule is a long planning process and by the time we get this one in the plan this Pa site without the protections of the earthworks rule could be destroyed.

You heard this morning the destruction of the rua (burrow pits) at Pukeiaahua is a very real example of that.

We propose that the Council include a provision in this plan change to protect all identified, known and registered sites whether its in the district plan, registered under Heritage NZ or NZAA, or identified in a mana whenua report such as a iwi/hapu management plan or cultural impact assessment.

At the least that the earthwork rules should apply and consultation with mana whenua be required.

No reira huri noa ki te whare, tena koutou tena koutou tena koutou katoa