



ARGYLE PARK

Management Plan

2011

*Major
Reserves*



RESERVES ACT 1977


Section 41


The Management Plan for Argyle Park was approved by the Invercargill City Council by resolution passed at its meeting held on 18 October 2011. All submissions, objections and suggestions relating to the Management Plan had been disposed of and suggestions allowed.

The Management Plan shall come into operation from 1 November 2011 and shall remain operative for a period of ten years.

Dated at INVERCARGILL this 19th day of December 2011.




.....
Mayor of the City of Invercargill


.....
Chief Executive Officer

MANAGEMENT PLAN

ARGYLE PARK

October 2011 – October 2021

PREFACE

The Argyle Park Management Plan has been prepared in compliance with Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977.

The purpose of this Management Plan is to provide for and ensure the use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection and preservation as the case may require, and to the extent that the administering body's resources permit, the development, as appropriate for the reserve for the purpose for which they are classified, and shall incorporate and ensure compliance with the principles set out in the relative sections of the Act.

This plan shall be held under regular review to ensure that it remains relevant to changing circumstances.

RJ Pagan
PARKS MANAGER
31 October 2011

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Aerial of Argyle Park (flown 2011).

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Argyle Park is an important reserve for active recreational activities and for its use as a public camping ground. Covering over one hectare of land, the reserve contributes to the open green space of the Bluff township. The park contains play equipment and is also used by residents for casual sport.

Argyle Park has been classified as a Major Park within the Invercargill City Council Park categories. Major Parks provide both passive and active recreational opportunities, can include large open-spaced areas, sports fields and community clubrooms and are often highly modified. Other major parks around Bluff include Foyle Street Reserve and Ocean Beach Reserve.

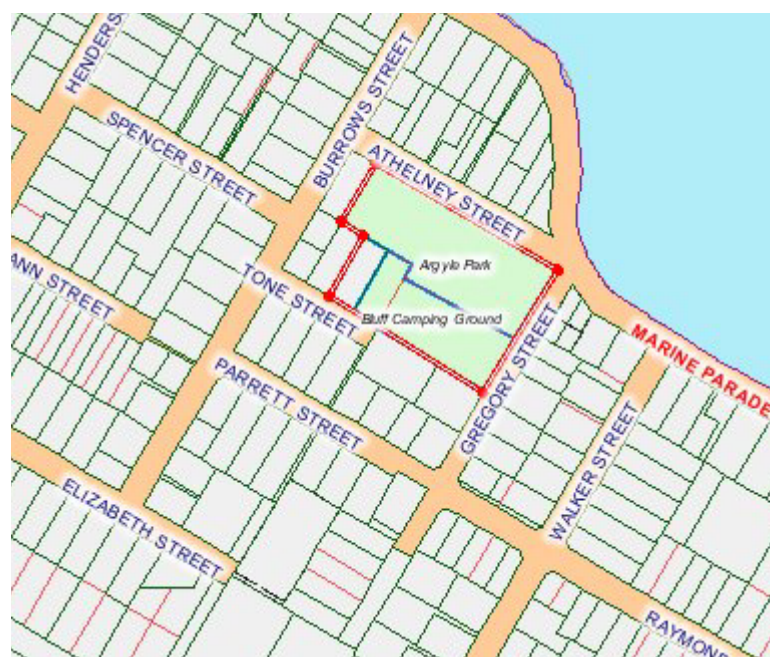
Parks are categorised according to their dominant characteristics and these assist Council with setting management objectives and assessing funding requirements for each reserve.

This Management Plan is a full review of the Argyle Park Management Plan which was prepared in 1992. While much of the Plan remains the same, parts of it have been updated with current information about the park. Management policies in this Management Plan have been included to reflect the needs of current and future users and to be consistent with current 'best practice' management procedures.

1.1 LOCATION

Argyle Park is located in the east end of the Bluff township and is bounded by the residential properties of Athelney Street, Gregory Street, Burrows Street and Tone Street.

Argyle Park has a northern aspect and almost fronts the Bluff Harbour.



Location of Argyle Park

1.2 ACCESS

Pedestrian access is gained from all sides of Argyle Park.

The roads surrounding Argyle Park provide adequate parking for vehicles using the reserve. Parking is provided for camping ground users.

1.3 ADJOINING LAND USE

The park is situated in a predominantly residential area, with housing along the majority of the park's perimeter.

The Bluff Community Medical Trust adjoins part of Argyle Park's southern boundary.

1.4 HISTORY

The source of Argyle Park's name came from the hometown in Scotland of the owner of Bluff's first hotel on part of the original larger land holding. Alexander McDonald Sinclair built the Argyle Hotel on part of the three acres of land owned by Tiger McGibbon. This area is now known as Argyle Park.

Argyle Park has been subjected to a considerable amount of change, in terms of land acquisition and utilisation, since its original title was prepared in 1926.

A portion of the park was converted to a Camping Ground, with access from Gregory Street. This ground has been utilised for several years by people of many different nationalities.

In 1973 the Bluff Borough Council issued its first District Scheme, under the guidelines set down in the 1953 Town and Country Planning Act. Within that scheme, it was decided that Argyle Park should be extended, with the acquisition of the adjoining properties as they became available, or reached the end of their useful life.

Originally, the proposed extended area of the park was to include all the area west of the park, bounded by Athelney, Burrows and Tone Streets. Some years later, Council revised their decision and decreased the size of the proposed area by the three sections of the western extremity fronting Burrows Street.

By July 1979, the Council had acquired four parcels of land (Lots 3, 4 and 6 DP 204, and Lot 1 DP 2644).

In July 1986, many of the original titles were cancelled and placed under two new titles, enabling the Camping Ground to have a separate title. This title (CT 7D/943) includes the area described as part Section 5, now known as Lot 1 DP 11290. The other new title (7D/944) encompasses Lots 1 and 2 DP 2644, and Lots 3 and 4 DP 204. It is now identified as Lot 2 DP 11290.

By March 1989, all desired pieces of land had been acquired. Lots 5 and 7 were owned by the Bluff Borough Council.

In September 1989, the Bluff Borough Council removed the "Proposed Recreation Areas and Open Spaces" designation from Lot 7 DP 204 in order to lease the property to the Bluff R.S.A., which had built pensioner housing units on the site.

In August 1990, the Council approved an application for consent to construct the above housing units. It also resolved that the proposed off street parking and manoeuvring areas may be developed, to the satisfaction of the Director of Works and Development, with subsequent landscaping being undertaken.

The site of the parking and access area is Lot 6 Block II, DP 204. This was reclassified from a Recreation Reserve to a Local Purpose (parking and access for elderly persons' housing) Reserve in July 1991.

1.5 CLASSIFICATION AND TENURE

Reserves are classified under the Reserves Act 1977 according to their dominant characteristics, use and current and future values. Reserves are classified to ensure their control, management, development, use and preservation is for the appropriate purposes.

1.5.1 Classification

Argyle Park is classified as follows:

- Recreation Reserve pursuant to Section 17 of the Reserves Act 1977; and
- Local Purpose Reserve pursuant to Section 23 of the Reserves Act 1977.

It shall be managed in accordance with these classifications.

1.5.2 Tenure and Area

The total area of Argyle Park is 1.4617 hectares. The tenure is as follows:

Certificate of Title: SL7D/944
Legal Description: Lot 2 DP 11920
Area: 0.8606 ha
Classification: Recreation Reserve

Certificate of Title: SL8B/402
Legal Description: Lot 5 Block II DP 204
Area: 0.1012 ha
Classification: Recreation Reserve

Certificate of Title: SL7D/943
Legal Description: Lot 1 DP 11920
Area: 0.3987 ha
Classification: Recreation Reserve

Certificate of Title: SL63/33
Legal Description: Lot 6 Block II DP 204
Area: 0.1012 ha
Classification: Local Purpose Reserve (access and parking for elder person's housing).

1.6 AMENITY VALUE

Argyle Park provides an open expanse which offers visual relief for the properties that border onto the park, for those visiting the park or passing through it.

1.7 GENERAL PARK USE

Argyle Park is used as a public park for active outdoor sport and recreation.

Visitors to the park use the camping ground for accommodation while holidaying in Bluff.

The grassed area of the reserve becomes an open space for public use, enjoyment and recreation at any time.

The playground is located along the Gregory Street frontage next to the camping ground. Play equipment includes a double seesaw, a double swing and an early childhood swing.

1.8 PRESENT MANAGEMENT

Argyle Park is under the control and management of the Invercargill City Council Parks Division. The Parks Division is responsible for the development, maintenance and general management of the park.

2.0 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

In setting the management objectives for Argyle Park, consideration must be given to the classification of the land under the Reserves Act 1977.

Recreation Reserves are protected for their open space and recreational values, which contribute to the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public.

Local Purpose Reserves are protected areas suitable for a specific local community purpose. These are generally small modified areas.

The overall management objectives for Argyle Park are:

- 2.1 To manage Argyle Park in perpetuity for the purpose of protecting the reserve's open space values for recreation and play; and for protecting the natural environmental and scenic values.
- 2.2 To develop and maintain Argyle Park by providing recreational facilities and amenities for both active and passive recreation to allow for appropriate public use and enjoyment.
- 2.3 To enhance and encourage public access into and through all areas of Argyle Park.
- 2.4 To allow for the provision and operation of a camping ground to service the Bluff area.

3.0 POLICIES

Note: Where the policies in this Management Plan refer to the term "Council" this means the Parks Manager and/or the Parks Division as the nominated representative of the Invercargill City Council, unless otherwise stated.

3.1 GENERAL USE

Reserves are a major source of open space in the City and are provided for the benefit, enjoyment and use of the public. "Use" policies guide the response of Council to applications to use the reserves. The scope of "uses" that may be proposed is wide and includes: sport, passive recreation, art and cultural events, commercial promotions and festival activities.

Council reserves the right to decline a proposal for use of a reserve, or take action as it sees fit against a user, or stop a use, if the use is likely to cause any adverse effects to the reserve, reserve users or reserve neighbours.

Council occasionally receives applications for the use of reserves for temporary or long-term commercial activities. Commercial activities are an acceptable part of the range of activities within the reserves of the City provided they are consistent with the primary purpose of the reserves as classified under the Reserves Act 1977. The activities should not adversely impact on the reserve, reserve values, reserve users or reserve neighbours.

Long-term non-commercial use of a reserve occurs predominantly through lease arrangements and generally relates to non-commercial activities carried out from sports fields, clubhouses, halls and other indoor facilities and community group buildings. This generally means long-term enclosure of reserve space for the use by a particular group that then obtains a greater benefit than that received by the general public.

Objective:

- *To allow and encourage public use that is compatible with the purpose of the park.*

Policies:

- 3.1.1 The utilisation of Argyle Park shall be in compliance with its classification as a Recreation and Local Purpose Reserve and the policies set out in this Management Plan.
- 3.1.2 Access to Argyle Park will be free of charge to the general public except as provided for in Policy 3.1.4 or where exclusive use has been granted.
- 3.1.3 All events in Argyle Park must be booked in advance with the Parks Division and users must comply with the "Terms and Conditions" for use

of the Park. These terms and conditions are reviewed and updated from time to time.

- 3.1.4 Council may charge a fee for use of Argyle Park where the user gains a special benefit that is not available to other reserve users, or where there are costs associated with the activity or event such as camping ground fees and charges.
- 3.1.5 Argyle Park facility and park fees and charges are adopted by Council annually and are identified in Council's Annual Plan.
- 3.1.6 Where necessary, Council will consider temporary closure of the park, or part of the park, in conjunction with statutory requirements for the protection and well-being of Argyle Park and for the protection and control of the public using it.
- 3.1.7 Council may grant a permit for commercial activities to temporarily occupy part of Argyle Park for a period of up to six consecutive days (Section 54(1) (d) and Section 56(1) (b) Reserves Act 1977), if it is necessary to enable the public to obtain the benefit and enjoyment of the park or for the convenience of those using the park.
- 3.1.8 Council may grant a long-term lease or licence for a recreation or commercial activity to occupy part of Argyle Park where the activity complies with the Reserves Act 1977.
- 3.1.9 Any user of Argyle Park shall be responsible for ensuring that any adverse effects on the reserve and reserve values, reserve users or reserve neighbours can be avoided, remedied or mitigated, except as otherwise authorised by Council and includes compliance with Council bylaws.

3.2 ACCESS INTO AND THROUGH RESERVES

The level and standard of access provided into Argyle Park needs to be appropriate to the reserve classification, reserve values and the anticipated level of public utilisation of the reserve.

At various times Council may close the reserve or parts of the reserve for issues of safety, maintenance, development and wildlife protection. Some events may also require temporary closure of all or part of the park. Some occupation agreements may allow restricted access by the general public into areas of the park by the use of fences and/or forms of barriers.

Motorised and non-motorised vehicles on reserves can be a source of danger to other reserve users and may have the potential to cause damage to reserves. Tracks and footpaths are often integral to the ease of use and enjoyment of a reserve by users, providing recreational opportunities and links between areas.

Council is committed to working towards the removal of barriers to the participation of the elderly or people with limited mobility in leisure and recreational activities on reserves. Improved access to parks and reserves can increase the use of a park by enhancing comfort and convenience for a range of users and provide significant safety benefits.

It will not always be feasible or desirable to make all facilities fully accessible. Different degrees of accessibility will be achievable at different sites.

Wherever possible, the design or upgrade of a facility shall incorporate features that allow easy access for the elderly or people with limited mobility. For features to be recognised as fully accessible they need to comply with national standards.

Objectives:

- *To ensure the public has freedom of entry, access and use of the reserve subject to any necessary conditions, restrictions, or limitations of use from time to time.*
- *To ensure pedestrian safety by restricting vehicle access on the reserve.*
- *To allow tracks, cycleways and footpaths over the reserve.*
- *To improve access to the reserve where practical and feasible to ensure everyone is able to enjoy it.*

Policies:

- 3.2.1 Argyle Park will be open for public access except where restrictions and limitations are necessary for the reserve's protection and management, exclusive activities or public safety.
- 3.2.2 Existing car parking shall be maintained to a level which is compatible with the nature of the reserve in a style that does not detract from its aesthetic qualities or recreational use
- 3.2.3 All motorised vehicles must keep to the designated car parks. Only those vehicles for emergency or authorised by Council are allowed within the reserve.
- 3.2.4 Where car parking areas are provided for clubs or organisations, all costs relating to the formation and maintenance of the car park shall be borne by the club or organisation concerned.
- 3.2.5 Temporary vehicle access for special events may be granted for specific purposes and then terminated at the completion of the event.
- 3.2.6 Non-motorised vehicles such as skateboards, rollerblades, bicycles and any other form of non-motorised vehicles shall be permitted on reserve tracks unless specifically signposted as prohibited, provided they do not endanger other reserve users, cause damage to the reserve in any way, or make undue noise. Pedestrians have right of way over non-motorised vehicles.
- 3.2.7 Council shall use current New Zealand Standards as a guide to developing and maintaining walking tracks on the reserve. All walking tracks on Argyle Park shall be developed and maintained to the "path" standard where resources permit.

- 3.2.8 Where practicable, paths and tracks on Argyle Park shall be maintained at a standard that allows unrestricted use by pushchairs, wheelchairs and mobility scooters.
- 3.2.9 Argyle Park facilities and landscaping will be designed and upgraded, where practical and feasible, to meet the current national standard and design criteria for access for people with disabilities.

3.3 BOUNDARIES AND FENCES

Council reserves adjoin a variety of land uses in settings from urban to rural with a range of fencing styles. Argyle Park is bounded by residential housing. While Council aims to meet its Fencing Act 1978 obligations, it is important that ratepayers are not burdened with paying for boundary fencing that exceeds the standard of fence beyond that which is considered a minimum requirement.

Council sets a maximum contribution towards half the materials based on a cost per lineal metre for an appropriate standard fence style which is reviewed annually. If a boundary fence is considered necessary, a contribution from Council may be made subject to an application being received in writing. Once it is determined that a new fence is required or the current fence should be replaced, the applicant is advised.

All applications for a fence will be assessed on its design in terms of visual permeability and its contribution to the attractiveness of the reserve.

Fences and barriers may be required within reserves to prevent vehicular access to sports grounds and, where it is desirable, to enclose service areas or the premises of exclusive sporting users.

Objectives:

- *To meet boundary/fencing obligations under the Fencing Act 1978 where required.*
- *To limit the number of fences or barriers on reserves to those which will protect reserve values, reduce the adverse effects on reserve neighbours, or which ensure the reserve can be used safely.*
- *To protect reserve values and encourage freedom of public movement into and through reserves.*

Policies:

- 3.3.1 Council will assess requests for contribution towards construction of Argyle Park boundary fences only when it is deemed necessary and where it is to be established on the correct legal boundary.
- 3.3.2 Council will meet its boundary fencing obligations under the Fencing Act 1978 where there is a justifiable need. Council shall contribute on a per metre basis up to a maximum amount based on the current rate at the time of application as approved by Council resolution annually. Council

shall in each case assess the type of fence appropriate to the character, use and environs of the reserve.

- 3.3.3 Where an Argyle Park occupier requests the enclosure of its facilities, the cost of erecting and maintaining appropriate fences to the satisfaction of Council shall be borne by the reserve occupier and requires written approval from the Parks Manager for colour and design prior to construction.
- 3.3.4 Enclosure of an activity or feature within Argyle Park with a fence or barrier will only be permitted if there is a justifiable need, e.g. protecting other reserve users from the effects of the activity and protecting reserve values.
- 3.3.5 Boundary fences shall be kept clear of any invasive weeds.

3.4 TREES AND VEGETATION

Trees and vegetation contribute to the reserve's amenity, historical, environmental, cultural and landscape values.

It is important to actively manage and maintain vegetation on reserves where possible. However, from time to time vegetation can become a nuisance or danger to reserve users and reserve neighbours and can affect the use or enjoyment of the reserve or adjoining properties. Council will consider remedial action where appropriate to resolve these problems.

Objectives:

- *To display a variety of trees and shrubs in Argyle Park.*
- *To develop and maintain the vegetation on Argyle Park as a significant function contributing to the reserve's attractiveness and popularity.*
- *To maximise the benefits of vegetation on reserves while avoiding, minimising or mitigating the adverse effects on reserve neighbours..*
- *To control the unauthorised removal of vegetation from reserves.*
- *To ensure the integrity of shelter is maintained into the future.*

Policies:

- 3.4.1 Planting and maintenance of vegetation in Argyle Park shall be planned strategically and designed to enhance and protect the reserve's scenic and horticultural qualities and natural character.
- 3.4.2 Planting and management of vegetation in Argyle Park will take into account:
- (a) Management objectives and policies for the park.
 - (b) Any landscape plans for the park.

- (c) The effect the vegetation will have on adjacent properties at the time of planting and in the future.
 - (d) The effect the vegetation will have on underground and network utility infrastructure.
 - (e) Horticultural, landscape and ecological considerations.
- 3.4.3 Maintenance, adding or removal of vegetation will only be undertaken by Council, or Council approved contractors, unless written approval from Council has been received.
- 3.4.4 Before making any decision on complaints received about trees on reserves, Council will firstly consider and assess the effect of the alleged nuisance by:
- (a) Discussing the issue(s) with the affected party(s').
 - (b) Considering the potential danger to life and property.
 - (c) Considering the interests of the public and park users.
 - (d) Considering the value and protection of the tree.
 - (e) Considering the purpose and classification of the park.

3.5 BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

Reserves are created principally for the provision of open space and natural areas. Some buildings and structures such as changing rooms, toilets and clubrooms are considered necessary for the enjoyment and full utilisation of the parks and reserves and are allowed for in the Reserves Act 1977.

Objectives:

- *To provide and maintain well designed and appropriately located buildings and structures on the reserve to improve utilisation and add to the enjoyment of the reserve by its users.*
- *To ensure that all reserve facilities are maintained to an appropriate standard that enhances amenity values of the reserve.*

Policies:

- 3.5.1 Any proposal to develop a building or structure on Argyle Park will be dependent on the availability of resources.
- 3.5.2 Applications for new buildings or changes to existing buildings on Argyle Park require Council approval and shall meet the Objectives and Policies of 3.24.1 - Requests for Development on Reserves with particular emphasis on Policy 3.24.1.9 which identifies the requirements of any development plan.
- 3.5.3 The design of any building or structure on Argyle Park shall be subject to Council approval and shall be in keeping with the surroundings to enhance and complement the landscape.
- 3.5.4 Buildings and structures on Argyle Park shall be designed to a high standard and where practical, be designed to limit the opportunity for vandalism.

- 3.5.5 Buildings and structures on Argyle Park will be designed or upgraded, where practical and feasible, to meet the current national standard and design criteria for access for people with limited mobility.
- 3.5.6 Applications for extensions to existing buildings shall only be granted where the extension is seen as enhancing the enjoyment and full utilisation of the reserve.
- 3.5.7 Exterior colour schemes of buildings and structures on Argyle Park shall be approved by Council. The painting and creation of murals (not advertising) on buildings and structures may be considered on submission of a copy of the design and proposed colour scheme to Council.
- 3.5.8 The number of buildings and structures on Argyle Park will be limited to a level which facilitates the safe and appropriate use of the reserve.
- 3.5.9 The open space and natural amenity values of Argyle Park will be protected and managed by only allowing those buildings and structures which complement the park.
- 3.5.10 Where appropriate, buildings on Argyle Park shall be shared with other recreation users of the reserve and when not required for events or gatherings, made available for other non commercial community use.
- 3.5.11 Clubs and associations shall be responsible for maintenance of their buildings and facilities on Argyle Park to an appropriate standard as determined by Council
- 3.5.12 Clubs and associations shall be responsible for the full cost of removal of any building and associated facilities when no longer required.
- 3.5.13 Any tenanted buildings are to be maintained to a presentable standard of high quality for visitors to see.

3.6 OCCUPATION AGREEMENTS

The term 'occupation agreement' refers to any lease, license, easement or other agreement granted between Council and a person, organisation or company that is occupying part of a reserve.

Council's power to grant an occupation agreement over reserves varies depending on the status of the reserve concerned and the rights transferred from the Crown. Any application will require Council approval and be subject to the objectives and policies of this plan.

Objectives:

- *To permit the occupation of reserves for approved individuals, groups, uses or facilities by the granting of occupation agreements.*
- *To balance the retention of open space with appropriate use and occupation of reserves.*
- *To ensure public accountability of reserve management.*

- *To ensure adequate remedy or mitigation of any adverse effects on reserve values caused by leases, licences, easements or other occupation agreements.*
- *To ensure that all costs associated with the development and implementation of occupation agreements are the responsibility of the applicant.*
- *To allow for future leasing of Bluff Camping Ground sited on Argyle Park.*

Policies:

- 3.6.1 All organisations with buildings, facilities or easements on Argyle Park shall be required to hold an occupation agreement as provided for by the Reserves Act 1977.
- 3.6.2 Application for any new occupation agreement on Argyle Park will be in writing providing detailed information about the type of occupation. Applications for occupation agreements shall meet the Objectives and Policies of 3. 24.1 – Requests for Development on Reserves with particular emphasis on policy 3.24.1.9 which identifies the requirements of any development plan. Information provided will allow Council to assess all applications in an equitable and consistent manner.
- 3.6.3 Council shall draw up leases and licences subject to the provisions contained in the First Schedule, and the Sections of the Reserves Act 1977 relevant to the reserve classification and purpose of the lease or licence.
- 3.6.4 Occupation agreements shall include clear steps to be taken in the event of a reserve facility or building being no longer required by an occupier, lessor or owner before the end of any occupation agreement.
- 3.6.5 The approved occupier of any area in Argyle Park shall not sublet, assign, transfer, mortgage or part with possession of any part of the land or building without the prior consent of the Council.
- 3.6.6 Easements shall be subject to Sections 48 and 48A of the Reserves Act 1977.
- 3.6.7 All costs associated with occupation agreements shall be the responsibility of the applicant.

3.7 OUTDOOR FURNITURE

Providing outdoor furniture on reserves that are appropriately designed and blend in with the surrounding landscape can add to the user's enjoyment of a reserve.

Objective:

- *To provide outdoor furniture that enhances the experience of the reserve user.*

Policies:

- 3.7.1 Outdoor furniture on Argyle Park shall be designed to a high standard.
- 3.7.2 Outdoor furniture shall be provided in Argyle Park where an identified need has been established and where resources permit. The number, design and placement of outdoor furniture shall be in keeping with the purpose and levels of use of the park and appropriate to the setting.

3.8 NETWORK UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE

Utility infrastructure can impact on reserve values, neighbours and users by restricting the current use of a reserve and the potential development of the reserve for future enjoyment. It is not desirable to have network utility infrastructure on reserves and reserves should not be regarded as infrastructure corridors.

Objectives:

- *To allow network utility operators conditional access to the reserve for the purpose of inspection, maintenance, ongoing operation and upgrading of existing utility infrastructure.*
- *To ensure adverse effects of network utility infrastructure on the reserve values, users and neighbours are able to be avoided, remedied, compensated or mitigated.*
- *To permit network utility infrastructure only where it is deemed essential for the reserve.*

Policies:

- 3.8.1 No new network utility infrastructure will be permitted on Argyle Park unless a definite benefit to Argyle Park can be established. Any new network utility infrastructure deemed essential for a reserve shall be laid underground.
- 3.8.2 Council will permit network utility operators conditional access to reserve land to inspect, maintain, operate or upgrade existing works, subject to the provisions of the relevant empowering Acts, the Reserves Act 1977 and conditions of Council.
- 3.8.3 The utility provider is responsible for all costs associated with temporary closures of the reserve and the costs of reinstatement in the event of damage to the reserve from the network utility infrastructure.
- 3.8.4 Network utility operators must supply a useable and up-to-date "as built" infrastructure plan in a form and detail agreed with Council officers, including information regarding their location on the reserve as a condition of any occupation agreement.

3.9 SIGNS

Signs inform the public of their responsibilities as users of the reserve and advise users of the management and maintenance responsibilities of the reserve and its facilities.

Signs are also used as a way of educating and informing the public on features of parks and reserves and should make it easier for users to find their way around parks and reserves and locate areas of interest.

The implementation of the policies on signs on reserves is subject to the appropriate provisions of Council Bylaws, District plan rules and the requirements of the Reserves Act 1977.

Objectives:

- *To provide signs that assist in user orientation and park legibility.*
- *To minimise the adverse visual effects of signs while maximising useful information to reserve users.*
- *To ensure consistent sign information, styles and types on the reserve.*

Policies:

- 3.9.1 Council shall use current New Zealand Standards as a guide when providing and maintaining signs on Argyle Park.
- 3.9.2 Signs on the reserve shall be for the purpose of proper management, administration and control of the reserve.
- 3.9.3 The number of signs shall be kept to the minimum number required to meet the needs of users.
- 3.9.4 Permanent advertising signs are not permitted on Argyle Park. Permanent signs for trade advertising may be permitted with the approval of Council only when the sign is to be located within an enclosed sports area and only where the sign will not be visible from outside the sports area.
- 3.9.5 Temporary advertising intended to alert or inform the public about a forthcoming event or attractions on the reserve may be permitted at the discretion of Council. The position of all temporary advertising shall be approved by Council. All costs shall be the responsibility of the applicant and temporary signs shall remain in place for a maximum of 14 days.
- 3.9.6 Reserve occupiers must apply to Council to place signage on their buildings. The size, style and scale of signage will be taken into consideration and in particular, the effect or visual impact the sign will have on reserve users and reserve neighbours. All signs on buildings shall be limited to the name of the club or organisation and shall be within the dimensions of 3m long by 1.2m deep and to a maximum area of 1.5m². Any requests for signage outside these dimensions must be approved by way of Council resolution.

- 3.9.7 Reserve occupiers will be responsible for meeting the costs of producing, erecting, maintaining, removing and replacing signs relating to their activity to be located on or adjacent to their buildings.

3.10 LIGHTING

Council recognises that some reserve user groups wish to operate at night and some members of the public wish to walk through the park at night. Sufficient lighting in high use areas is important so that people can see and be seen. The aim with lighting is to enhance the real and perceived safety of the environment.

While lighting can be considered an essential component of night use in a reserve area, it is appropriate that the cost should fall to those who attract users of the facility at night. It is also important that the effects of lighting on reserve neighbours are taken into consideration.

Objectives:

- *To allow car park, playground and access way lighting where appropriate.*
- *To enhance the real and perceived safety of the reserve through the provision of lighting along key pedestrian paths.*

Policies:

- 3.10.1 Council will only consider the provision of lighting on Argyle Park where there is a clear public benefit or for amenity, security and safety reasons.
- 3.10.2 The Argyle Park occupier is responsible for provision and maintenance of lighting associated with their activity, with the approval of Council.
- 3.10.3 Council shall consider current best practise and lighting engineering standards, energy efficiency and appropriate design for the location when establishing new lighting fixtures on Argyle Park.
- 3.10.4 The light spill generated from any activity on Argyle Park shall not exceed 5 lux at any residential boundary between the hours of sunset and sunrise.
- 3.10.5 Where an identifiable beneficiary from Council's lighting of car parks and access ways exists, the full operation, maintenance and replacement costs will be passed onto this beneficiary.

3.11 DISPOSAL OF RUBBISH

Council is committed to reducing the amount of rubbish that is deposited on Council land. The dumping of rubbish on reserves or the inappropriate use of existing rubbish disposal facilities can detract from the reserve values and the proper functioning of reserves.

Council is also concerned about the impact garden escapees can have on areas of environmental importance. Garden escapees, or weeds,

often come from garden waste being dumped onto neighbouring reserve land. While Argyle Park is not an environmental reserve, there is still a cost in cleaning up and removing dumped garden waste.

Objectives:

- *To preserve reserve values through appropriate disposal and collection of rubbish and garden waste.*
- *To encourage reserve users to act responsibly by requiring them to take home their rubbish.*

Policies:

- 3.11.1 No person shall deposit any domestic refuse, trade waste, garden refuse, rubble or other debris on Argyle Park without approval of Council.
- 3.11.2 Reserve user groups are responsible for ensuring the area of their responsibility is kept clear of rubbish.
- 3.11.3 Event organisers are responsible for collection and disposal of rubbish when the reserve is booked for events.

3.12 FIRES ON RESERVES

Fires on reserves have the potential to cause significant damage to habitat, buildings and structures on reserves and to adjacent property.

Objective:

- *To protect natural habitat, buildings and structures on the reserve from damage and destruction of uncontrolled fires.*

Policy:

- 3.12.1 The lighting of fires on Argyle Park outside of a contained gas barbeque is not permitted without the prior written authorisation from Council.

3.13 FIREWORKS DISPLAYS

Groups occasionally wish to use reserves for fireworks displays. These displays are controlled by legislation other than the Reserves Act 1977 but require permission from Council when the activity is to occur on a reserve.

Objective:

- *To allow fireworks displays on the reserve if adverse effects on reserve values, reserve users and reserve neighbours can be avoided, remedied or mitigated.*

Policies:

- 3.13.1 Fireworks displays by organised groups may be allowed on Argyle Park with prior written authorisation from Council.
- 3.13.2 Applicants wishing to use Argyle Park for fireworks displays must provide evidence they have met the requirements of relevant legislation, regulations, codes and permits and provide an acceptable Risk Management Plan before final permission will be granted.
- 3.13.3 Proof of adequate public liability insurance is required for permission to be granted for fireworks displays on Argyle Park.

3.14 LIQUOR CONSUMPTION AND SALE

The selling of liquor is seen as one means of reserve occupiers raising funds for their activity. Reserve users can also request consent for special or one off events where liquor is sold or supplied incidental to the principal purpose of the occasion or event being held.

Objective:

- *To allow the consumption and sale of liquor on the reserve where the effects on the reserve, reserve values, reserve users and reserve neighbours can be avoided, remedied or mitigated and the relevant statutory and Bylaw requirements are met.*

Policy:

- 3.14.1 Council will not oppose the granting of liquor licences for premises located on Argyle Park or special licenses in defined areas for one off types of events where:
- (a) The granting of permission is consistent with the purpose of the reserve.
 - (b) The effects on the reserve, reserve values, reserve users and reserve neighbours can be avoided, remedied or mitigated.
 - (c) Applicants can provide evidence they have met the requirements of relevant legislation, regulations, codes and permits.

3.15 PEST PLANTS AND ANIMALS

Pest plants and animals are a threat to the health of the environment. Some pest species contribute significant detrimental effects on native plants, animals and ecological processes, or impose an adverse visual impact on the landscape.

Effective control of weeds and animals is undertaken to comply with the Regional Pest Management Strategy for Southland.

Objective:

- *To minimise the impact of pest plants and animals on reserve values, reserve users and reserve neighbours.*

Policies:

- 3.15.1 Pest plants and animals on Argyle Park shall be controlled in accordance with the "Regional Pest Management Strategy - May 2007" or any subsequent reviews of this Strategy.
- 3.15.2 Council will endeavour to remove invasive weed and pest animal species from Argyle Park by approved control methods.
- 3.15.3 Animals and birds deliberately abandoned in Argyle Park may be considered a pest and destroyed.
- 3.15.4 Council will liaise, support, assist and cooperate with Regional Council and other interest groups to provide for the detection and control of pest plants and animals in Argyle Park.

3.16 CAMPING

Camping is only permitted on reserves administered under the Reserves Act 1977 in the Invercargill District in camping grounds specific to that purpose. Potential problems resulting from campers on reserves include toilet waste disposal, rubbish and damage to parks.

Registered camping grounds on reserves in Bluff Argyle Park and at Sandy Point, in conjunction with other private facilities, provide adequate camping grounds for visitors to the City.

Objectives:

- *To conserve the public health, well being and safety of the public while on the reserve.*
- *To ensure the public have equity of use over reserves under the Council's control.*
- *To prohibit camping in the reserve except for the area designated as a registered camping ground.*

Policy:

- 3.16.1 In special circumstances, camping on Argyle Park for one off events may be approved by Council resolution.

3.17 DOGS ON RESERVES

Council adopted the Dog Control Policy for Parks and Reserves in May 2005. This policy refers only to dogs on the parks, reserves and open spaces managed and controlled by the Parks Division.

Dog faeces can carry disease which can affect humans and other dogs. When a dog fouls in public, the person controlling the dog is responsible for the immediate removal of the faeces.

Objectives:

- *To provide environments within the city's parks and reserves where dogs and people can happily co-exist.*
- *To allow dogs and their owners reasonable access to the city's parks and reserves, at the same time protecting the safety and comfort for all users.*
- *To make available areas of open space in the city's parks and reserves, which provide reasonable exercise and recreational opportunities for dogs and their owners.*
- *To minimise danger and/or nuisance caused by dogs to the public or to wildlife and natural habitats on the city's parks and reserves.*
- *To provide appropriate signage and public notification to dog owners (or those people exercising their dogs) informing them of their responsibilities while using the city's parks and reserves.*

Policies:

- 3.17.1 Access
Appropriate levels of access to parks and reserves for dogs and their owners shall be made available.
- 3.17.2 Safety and Conflict
Dog access to parks and reserves shall be restricted or, in some cases, prohibited where the likelihood of conflict exists between dogs, the public or the environment.
- 3.17.3 Exercise Areas
Dog exercise areas shall be made available to provide sufficient opportunities for the needs of dogs in the city's parks and reserves.
- 3.17.4 Signage and Education
A review of the dog control signage on parks and reserves in the city shall be carried out with a goal of standardising and simplifying this. Opportunities for informing the public on dog control policies on parks and reserves, such as newsletters, media releases and advertising shall also be considered. Appropriate signage will be erected at various locations to assist dog owners in complying with this policy.
- 3.17.5 Dog Fouling
Every person, whose dog defecates on any city park or reserve, is required to remove the deposited faeces from the reserve area immediately or dispose of the material in a suitable receptacle.
- 3.17.6 Responsibilities
It is the responsibility of the person exercising the dog on the city's parks and reserves to ensure the dog is fully registered and that it complies with any other Council dog control bylaw.

3.17.7 Enforcement

Parks Division officers shall convey the agreed policies to dog owners when observing any offence. Enforcement will be via Council's dog control officers and, if necessary, by provision of the Reserves Act 1977, parks rangers and the introduction of bylaws.

Definitions

Dogs-on-a-Leash Areas

Areas where dogs are required to be leashed at all times are –

- All parks and reserves in the Invercargill City Council area, with the exception of areas classified as –
 - Dog-prohibited areas.
 - designated dog-exercise areas.

Dogs-on-a-leash areas include all walking tracks on parks "short walks" and all cemeteries and crematoria areas. A list of walking tracks is located in the Parks office.

Dog-Prohibited Areas

Areas where dogs are prohibited are –

- Anywhere within ten metres of any children's play equipment, including skateboard ramps and paddling pools.
- The designated playing areas of all marked sports fields.
- The areas around the Sandy Point ponds and lagoons specifically designated as wildlife habitats [*refer to Sandy Point Management Plan*].
- The area around and in the Donovan Park pond where there is risk of disturbing wildlife [*refer to Donovan Park Management Plan*].
- Areas that from time to time the Council will notify by way of signage and advertising that there is a temporary dog prohibition in place because of wildlife, stock or other issue.

Designated Dog-Exercise Areas

These are areas designated for dog exercise where dogs are permitted to be at large while under continuous surveillance and effective control. Maps showing these areas are located in the Parks office.

- Sandy Point Domain, excluding playgrounds, marked sports fields and the ponds and lagoons designated as wildlife habitats. Dogs must be on a lead while on all formed walking tracks.
- Donovan Park, excluding marked sports fields and the Donovan Park pond where there is a risk of disturbing wildlife.

- Elizabeth Park, excluding playgrounds. Dogs must be on a lead while on all formed walking tracks.
- Turnbull Thomson Park, excluding playgrounds and marked sports fields. Dogs must be on a lead while on all formed walking tracks.

Notes

- *The person exercising the dog must be able to control it as if it was on a leash. If the person exercising the dog cannot stop or retrieve the dog immediately with a whistle or call, then the person cannot exercise their dog with its leash off.*
- *The person exercising the dog must carry a leash at all times.*
- *The person exercising the dog must be capable of restraining the dog.*
- *The person exercising the dog is responsible for removing any deposited faeces from the dog exercising area.*

3.18 DOMESTIC ANIMAL CONTROL

Uncontrolled domestic animals can cause damage to plants and soil structure of reserves and may endanger other reserve users.

Objective:

- *To protect the vegetation and soil structure of the reserve and to provide a safe and attractive reserve for all users.*

Policy:

- 3.18.1 Uncontrolled animals are not permitted on Argyle Park unless otherwise provided with written permission from Council.

3.19 PLAYGROUNDS AND PLAY EQUIPMENT

The provision of a variety of well-maintained and safe play equipment throughout the District is important for the development of children. Play equipment complements the areas of open space available to children for informal play.

A neighbourhood playground is located along the Gregory Street frontage next to the camping ground.

Objectives:

- *To develop and maintain areas of reserves for children's play.*
- *To ensure an acceptable level of health and safety is provided for playground users.*

- *To create playgrounds that are creative, stimulating and fun, and to encourage children to engage in social interaction and physical activity.*

Policies:

- 3.19.1 Argyle Park play equipment shall be maintained and upgraded as required to provide quality play equipment and high play value.
- 3.19.2 All new or upgraded playgrounds and play equipment constructed on Argyle Park shall comply with the relevant New Zealand Safety Standard for playgrounds - NZS: 5828:2004 or any subsequent review of this standard.
- 3.19.3 All playgrounds and play equipment on Argyle Park shall be given a monthly maintenance inspection and a six monthly safety inspection to ensure all pieces of equipment are maintained to a safe standard and meet the current New Zealand Safety Standard for Playgrounds.

3.20 HEALTHY AND ACTIVE PARKS

Council has a role to play in providing public spaces that offer healthy and active opportunities for the public.

One of the key outcomes of the "Our Way Invercargill"¹ strategy plan is "Health and Wellbeing - We are healthy people". This aligns with the "Healthy Eating - Healthy Action (HEHA)" strategy developed by the Ministry of Health as an approach to improving nutrition, increasing physical activity and achieving healthy weight for all New Zealanders.

In addition to this, "Push Play" is a nationwide Sport and Recreation New Zealand (SPARC) campaign to get more New Zealanders more active, more often.

Some of the ways Council can contribute to the "Health and Wellbeing" outcome is through providing opportunities in our parks which include:

- Encouraging Healthy Lifestyles:
 - promoting a 'smoke free' environment.
 - promoting healthy eating.
- Encouraging Active Lifestyles:
 - providing activity friendly environments.
 - promoting active use of the Park.
 - providing equity of provision in terms of culture and ability.

Objective:

- *To encourage healthy and active lifestyles for residents of the Invercargill district through the use of the reserve.*

¹ 'Our Way Invercargill' Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) 2006 – 2016, Invercargill City Council

Policies:

- 3.20.1 Groups booking events in Argyle Park will be encouraged to provide healthy food alternatives at their event.
- 3.20.2 Council will consider the cultural needs and physical abilities of potential users when designing environments in Argyle Park to ensure the reserve is welcoming and functional for all.

3.21 SMOKE FREE PARKS AND RESERVES

Objectives:

- *To encourage healthy and active lifestyles for residents of the Invercargill district through the use of parks and reserves as Smoke Free areas.*
- *That this be promoted in all Invercargill City Council Parks and in particular, within 20 metres of play equipment.*
- *That the public be encouraged through signage and publicity to maintain a clean, healthy environment in these areas.*
- *That this become a policy in each of the Reserve Management Plans upon their drafting or review.*

Policies:

- 3.21.1 By designating and promoting Argyle Park playground as a Smoke free area.
- 3.21.2 That this be promoted in all Council Parks and in particular within 20 metres of play equipment.
- 3.21.3 That the public be encouraged through signage and publicity to maintain a clean, healthy environment in these areas.
- 3.21.4 That groups booking events on Invercargill City Council Parks will be encouraged to actively promote their event as Smoke Free.

3.22 ADMINISTRATION

Argyle Park is a reserve vested in Council for Local Purpose and Recreation Reserve Purposes

Objective:

- *To comply with the Reserves Act 1977 requirements for administration and management.*

Policy:

- 3.22.1 The Invercargill City Council, through the Parks Manager, shall carry out the day to day administration and management of Argyle Park, using Parks Division Assets and Operations Unit staff and contractors.

3.23 PLAN AMENDMENT AND REVIEW

The Reserves Act 1977 sets out clear requirements for the preparation, amendment and review of Reserve Management Plans.

Objective:

- *To ensure the Argyle Park Management Plan is kept under review to reflect the needs of current and future users and to be consistent with current best practice management procedures.*

Policies:

- 3.23.1 Any change or amendment, not involving a comprehensive review of the Argyle Park Management Plan, shall be made by adopting the procedures specified in Section 41(9) of the Reserves Act 1977.
- 3.23.2 The Argyle Park Management Plan shall be kept under continuous review as laid down in Section 41(4) of the Reserves Act 1977 and shall be operative from the date of signing for a period of ten years, at which time it will be completely reviewed.

3.24 DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGE

3.24.1 Requests for Development on Reserves

Reserves are created principally for the provision and preservation of open space and natural areas. Some buildings and structures such as changing rooms, toilets, clubrooms, car parks and fences are considered necessary for the enjoyment and full utilisation of reserves and are allowed for in the Reserves Act 1977.

The landscape character of a reserve contributes to and enhances the City's environment and impacts on reserve users, reserve neighbours and people passing by. While certain activities and buildings are permitted on reserves it is important to ensure that the effects of any structure or use does not impact negatively on reserve values, reserve users and reserve neighbours.

When considering an application to develop or change part of a reserve, Council will take into account the existing character of the reserve, including:

- The existing and potential use of the reserve.
- The natural and built environment.
- The surrounding landscape and the use of neighbouring land.

- The purpose and classification of the reserve under the Reserves Act 1977 and the management objectives stated in the current Reserve Management Plan.

Objectives:

- *To protect and enhance the open space, landscape and historical values of the reserve while providing adequate facilities for recreation and play.*
- *To ensure that development is appropriate to the reserve and that new developments complement and enhance the existing character of the reserve.*
- *To provide and maintain well designed and appropriately located buildings and structures in the reserve to improve utilisation and add to the enjoyment of the reserve by its users.*
- *To ensure that all reserve facilities are provided and maintained to an appropriate standard that meets public health and safety requirements and contributes to the attractiveness of the reserve.*
- *To ensure the costs associated with any development by/for a specific user group are met by that group.*

Policies:

- 3.24.1.1 The number of buildings and structures on Argyle Park will be limited to a level which facilitates the safe and appropriate use, protects the open space and natural amenity values, while being compatible with the purpose and classification of the reserve.
- 3.24.1.2 Public safety, public benefit and the character of the environment should be taken into account when planning the development of buildings, structures and associated landscaping.
- 3.24.1.3 The construction of any new buildings or extensions to existing buildings is not permitted unless anticipated in the current Argyle Park Management Plan and may be subject to a review or amendment to the Management Plan.
- 3.24.1.4 The design of the proposal shall be subject to Council approval and shall be in keeping with and complement the surroundings. Buildings and structures shall be placed with regard to reserve values, views and proximity to access points.
- 3.24.1.5 Exterior colour schemes of buildings and structures shall be approved by Council. The painting and creation of murals (not advertising) on buildings and structures may be considered on submission of a copy of the design and proposed colour scheme to Council.
- 3.24.1.6 The development shall be designed in a way that limits the opportunity for vandalism.

- 3.24.1.7 The development will be designed, where practical and feasible, to meet the current national standard and design criteria for access for people with disabilities.
- 3.24.1.8 The lease or licence to occupy agreement will define the obligations of the building owners on reserve land when the building is no longer required or the club has disbanded. These include removal or disposal of the building and facilities, or on-selling of the building to an approved recreational activity. Any outcome of this will be to the approval of Council.
- 3.24.1.9 Development plans are required for all development proposals for structures, facilities or buildings on Argyle Park (including alterations and extensions to existing buildings) and will include an assessment of effects. In particular the proposal should address how adverse effects on the values of the reserve will be avoided, remedied or mitigated. The development plan shall include:
- (a) The location and design of proposed buildings, structures and landscaping including any car parking, lighting, fences and signage and the extent of the area required.
 - (b) Details of the size, scale, visual impact and relationship of the proposal to the surroundings.
 - (c) Any new building requirements as part of the development, or the changed use of existing buildings. Indicate any alterations required for existing buildings.
 - (d) Details of any known or potential liabilities associated with any existing building or structure being added to or modified.
 - (e) Any likely effects (adverse or otherwise) of the proposal on the landscape, environment and reserve users or reserve neighbours including visibility into and through the reserve and public safety.
 - (f) Details of any change or removal of any existing trees or vegetation.
 - (g) Details of any drainage and earthworks required and disruption to drainage patterns. Full restoration of disturbed landform during construction and landscaping and compliance with relevant legislation is the responsibility of the applicant.
 - (h) Details of any change or disruption to network utility infrastructure and details of infrastructure required as part of the development.
 - (i) Details of any specific landscaping requirements - species, screening or shelter.
 - (j) Consideration of existing users (both formal and informal) and the impact of this proposal on them. Any issues of public access, thoroughfare and egress on reserves and into any buildings and the loss of any open space including during construction phase.
 - (k) Details of any discussions with existing user groups.
 - (l) Anticipated user numbers and the times of use.
 - (m) Details of anticipated life of the structure and future maintenance requirements.
 - (n) Details as to who will be responsible for all future maintenance and insurance for the buildings and structures. Acknowledgement of the club or group's responsibility if or when the building is no longer required or if the club disbands.
 - (o) Details of the anticipated completion date and any plans to stage the development.
 - (p) Any other matters arising as determined by Council.

4.0 FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

A Reserve Management Plan is developed to reflect current reserve use and reserve values. A Management Plan should also highlight anticipated future development or change to the reserve and the likely impact a development will have on reserve users, reserve values and reserve neighbours. Any development not anticipated in, or meeting the policies of the current Reserve Management Plan, will require an amendment to the Management Plan.

Any future development at Argyle Park shall only be to the extent which is in accordance with the overall management objectives and policies and subject to meeting the requirements defined in 3.24.1 - Requests for Development on Reserves. Before any development is implemented, it must be established that there is a need for such development and that what is proposed will be of benefit to Argyle Park and to those using it.

Additional buildings may be required to meet the increase of camping ground usage in the future.