

BEFORE THE PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

In The Matter Of

Resource Management Act
1991 and a Plan Change under
Schedule 1

And In The Matter Of

Plan Change 23 to the
Palmerston North District Plan

STATEMENT OF P LAMPP



Instructed by:

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1. My full name is **Peter Joseph Lampp**. I am a resident of Palmerston North. I am a journalist having been trained in service. From 1985 I was employed by Fairfax Media Limited as a journalist with the Manawatu daily masthead, the Manawatu Standard. I was the sports editor from 1990. Prior to 1985 I lived in Whanganui and Auckland. I am very familiar with the lower North Island.

2. As a result of my employment and my status as a resident of Palmerston North since 1985, I am able to provide accurate information on the following:
 - (a) The qualities of the Manawatu Golf Club.

 - (b) The importance of the Manawatu Golf Club in the cultural and sporting life of the Manawatu.

 - (c) The achievements of the Manawatu Golf Club.

3. I am also commissioned to update the book "*A Century of Golf at Hokowhitu*". This book was published by the Palmerston North publishers the Dunmore Press Limited and marked the centenary of the Manawatu Golf Club in 1995. This was a combined effort by the publication committee and contains valuable information regarding the historical background to the development of the Manawatu Golf Club as well as providing significant insight into the pioneering history of Palmerston North. My work is updating the text of the publication to recognise the 125th anniversary of the Manawatu Golf Club, so I am focused on the years 1996 to 2020.

4. As an avid golfer I have played internationally on some top-rated courses in the world as a reporter. I also am very familiar with the golf courses of the North Island. My son is on the staff at the Cape

Kidnappers course and formerly worked at the Royal Melbourne Golf Club.

5. The Manawatu Golf Club stands almost without peer in the world, in having produced three USAPGA tour professionals: Grant Waite, Craig Perks and Tim Wilkinson. Training young players has been a strength of the Club for a long time and it has one of the strongest youth memberships in the country. This illustrious history is a source of community pride.
6. The Manawatu Golf Club is a significant facility on the New Zealand fixture card. It has hosted the New Zealand inter-provincial and amateur championships, the NZPGA Championship which is second only to the New Zealand Open in the New Zealand golf calendar and it is also part of the Charles-Tour events. This marks the Manawatu Golf Club as a premier course and in my opinion it is one of the top three or four parkland golf courses in New Zealand, excluding privately funded resort courses such as the The Hills Golf Course or Cape Kidnappers.
7. The Manawatu Golf Club relies on a mixture of voluntary assistance and paid contributions by staff and members. The voluntary component cannot be underestimated and the history outlined in *The Century of Golf Hokowhitu* shows the tremendous amount of community-based input that has led to this sporting facility. That contribution also led to a strong sense of ownership and pride in the facility and the membership is highly motivated towards maintaining the qualities and features of the golf club which are so admired throughout New Zealand.
8. Of major importance to the quality of any golf club is the aesthetics and amenity. At a practical level the amenity important to the golfer is the layout of the holes and the maintenance of fairways and greens to a

standard that provides the appropriate levels of challenge and support to an range of golfers. The course would easily rate as the most pristine and best groomed outdoor sports facility in the Manawatu.

9. A golfing experience is strongly influenced by natural and cultural elements. The natural elements are the setting within a pleasing and natural context. This are the basic environmental bones that are so important to the selection of a site. The second component is the planting and treatment of boundaries. The predominance of greenery, in the absence of built elements, is especially important. Good golf clubs always have a park-like feel, essential to the recreational experience. In this respect the Hokowhitu course is world class.
10. As the authors of *The Century of Golf Hokowhitu* said in chapter 3 at page 34:

The Manawatu Golf Club's course is located in a prime position within the city boundary, bordered by a river, Centennial lagoon and parks, tertiary intuitions and a few unobtrusive private properties. Despite the advancing urban development, the area remains a delightfully picturesque corner of the city.

11. Along many of the boundaries, including that adjoining the tertiary institutions, mature planting has developed to provide a strong sense of enclosure and affords the type of amenity that I have described. Retaining this character is of the utmost importance.
12. In my opinion the proper management of all joint boundaries with the Manawatu Golf Club should be of most concern in any planning for urban development adjacent to the Manawatu Golf course. The Club has by virtue of its importance to the city, its long-standing occupation

of the site and high aesthetics, a rightful claim to careful and thoughtful planning of new development.

P Lampp