

IN THE MATTER

of the Resource Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER

of an application by **THAMES COROMANDEL DISTRICT COUNCIL** for a comprehensive resource consent for festivals and events at Williamson Park, Whangamata

**Statement of Evidence of MARY TAYLOR
on behalf of the Friends of Williamson Park Society**

Dated 25 October 2018

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1. My name is Mary Taylor.
2. I moved to Whangamata over the Christmas/New Year of 1969/1970.
3. Having lived here 48 years I understand the foresight of the people of the town.
4. They understood the town would grow but they wanted certain areas to be available for everyone to enjoy at all times hence Mr Philip Williamson's valuable donation of land Williamson Park (named after Mr Williamson). Their intention was that the land was to be managed by Thames District Council for use by the public forever, with the proviso that it not be used for private commercial purposes, with the exception of the café, and until now this has been adhered to.
5. My husband and I owned Whangamata Motors and Shell Service Station on the corner of Port and Ocean Roads from 1971 to 1981.
6. I have been involved in many organisations in Whangamata and was also on the Whangamata Community Board for 21 years and served 2 terms as Chairperson.
7. I started the Girl Guides in Whangamata. I later became the Guide leader and went on to be Commissioner of the area. I was involved for about 10 years.
8. I was also on the Summer Festival Committee for many years. It was started to stop the riots which frighten the whole town, and make Whangamata a family friendly atmosphere over the Christmas and New Year period. A lot of hours and work went into accomplishing this. If you were not in Whangamata at this time you would not understand the seriousness of this.
9. The work that the Summer Festival did brought an atmosphere that has made it safe for the residents and tourists coming to this town.
10. Please leave the park as it is non-commercial. I do not believe that market days are commercial when raising funds for the community.

Mary Taylor

25 October 2018