

Section 2 – Forest Gate Domain

6. Forest Gate Domain, Ongaonga

6.1. Purpose

This document sets out information and the management approach specific to the Forest Gate Domain to recognise its role as the local sport and recreation park for Ongaonga and surrounds, and Central Hawke’s Bay’s premier cricket ground.

The purpose of the management approach is to identify outcomes and key actions to be undertaken for this Park.

6.2. Background

In 1980 Councils were asked to accept responsibility for their local Domain Boards. In the case of Forest Gate – the existing Domain Board decided to accept Council’s control by way of vesting the Domain in the Waipawa District Council in trust for recreation purposes.

Although the land has been vested in Council, the Domain Board Committee is responsible for the day to day running of it and receive an annual Council grant for mowing and management. The Domain is split into a Golf Course run by the Ongaonga Golf Club, a small farm run by a Farming Committee, and a cricket ground run by the Central Hawke’s Bay Cricket Club. An agreement between the Domain Board Committee and the Farming Committee is in place. Any profits from the farm are split between the Farming Committee, Golf Club, and Cricket Club with rent being paid to the Domain Board.



Reserve category	Sport and Recreation Park
Reserve location	State Highway 50
Area	42.5 ha
Reserves Act classification	Recreation Reserve

Agreements	Forest Gate Domain Board MOU
Facilities and use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cricket pitch and oval, training nets • Cricket pavilion (Club owned) • Carpark and access • Public Toilets (Council owned) • Golf course (9 holes) and clubrooms (Club owned facilities)

6.3. User information (as of February 2022)

- CHB Cricket Club has 40 senior members, 20 youth members and 60-70 junior members. They work closely with schools and have a foundation skills programme fully funded by the club through grants and fundraising.
- Ongaonga Golf Course membership – 110 senior members and 5 youth/junior members.

6.4. Role in the wider sports and recreation network

- Forest Gate Domain is a local sport and recreation park for the Ongaonga community. It is the premier cricket ground for the district and the location of the Ongaonga golf course.

6.5. Challenges and opportunities

- The Cricket Pavilion is 20-30 years old and in average condition.
- The Golf Clubrooms are over 40 years old and in average condition.

6.6. Management approach

Park specific considerations:

- Recognise the significant role that the Domain Board Committee and clubs based on the Domain have in the management and development of the Domain and support community led processes to determine future aspirations for the Domain.
- Continue as the local sport and recreation park for Ongaonga and recognise the status as Central Hawke’s Bay’s premier cricket ground.
- Council continues to provide an operational grant to the Domain Board Committee.
- Plan to renew lease and agreement into the future recognising standalone nature and success of operation.