STONEBROOK PARK

LANDSCAPE CONCEPT PLAN

1 NORTHERN ENTRANCE

The northern entrance to Stonebrook Park is predominantly a pedestrian and cycle node with space for rest and relaxation. There is a focus around the water race with steps along one edge down to the water and a more naturalised character to the opposite edge. This area contains bike stands, an information board and low stone walls for enclosure, signage and timber seating. Hard surfacing is predominantly concrete detailed with trimmer strips and an area of compacted aggregate is proposed beneath a group of ornamental trees.

2 THE COMMON

The Common is intended as a high use area for play and relaxation. This lawn area is expected to be more frequently maintained than other parts of the reserve. A backdrop of native planting beyond the water race and a circle of regularly spaced ornamental pear trees encloses the lawn area while a tussock and kanuka covered mound provides some shelter from southerly winds. This space is highly accessible with several access paths (rating longest on the shared path, as well as a slow road and car parking for the park users.

3 THE NUT GROVE

The grove of productive hazelnut trees is a unique feature of Stonebrook Park. Sheltered clearings within the goose create places for picnics and peaceful places for relaxation. The trees are under-planted with low maintenance turf grass requiring very little maintenance while picnic clearings are designed to allow access for more regular mowing.

4 THE VILLAGE GREEN

The Village Green is a place for community interaction. Strongly linked to the village centre commercial area, the Village Green hardscape shares the same grid pattern of segmental paving within concrete strips and is seen as a space for potential community markets. A large lawn area surrounded by large park trees such as Oaks provides space to kick a ball, while ornamental cherry trees line the shared path that runs beyond. Low stone walls, an overhead pergola and hedges define spaces and create sheltered places for seating. A grid of ornamental cherry trees provide shade and aesthetic qualities.

5 THE VILLAGE YARDS

The Village Yards is the core activity centre of the linear park. The spatial arrangement is focussed on access and relationships between the reserve play areas, the shared path, the water race and the commercial centre. Hard surface areas, bridges and boardwalks extend to edge the widened water race which is paveded with weirs to create pools to play in. There is a half basketball court, a junior playground, a senior fitness and playground, a public toilet facility, overhead timber pergola and seating areas, lawns, trees and shrub gardens. There is emphasis on the culvert appearing as a bridge structure, and a paved road surface to highlight the crossing point/node for the shared path.

6 SET ASIDE

The Set Aside is a more naturalised woodland landscape, characterised by low-earth mounds covered with kanuka, woodland shrubs and longer turf grass with tussocks. This area is designed to be low maintenance and require infrequent mowing. The shared path meanders through the woodland post small clearings which provide informal, sheltered places for rest. The Set Aside also provides a more naturalised backdrop to access to, and connections within the linear park. There is a road side swale to capture and treat road surface run off.

7 FARMHOUSE GARDEN

The Farmhouse Garden is an area of Stonebrook park that is reminiscent of a landscape that might have once surrounded a rural farmhouse. The area contains a toddler's playground with adjacent seating area and is surrounded by shrub planting, ornamental trees, hedges, lawn and a large evergreen tree – landscape features perhaps associated with an historic homestead. An avenue of upright holly trees define the 'driveway' to the homestead from the southern entrance.

8 SOUTHERN ENTRANCE

It is envisaged the southern entrance will be the main entry for those living beyond the Stonebrook development to enter Stonebrook Park. This space is simply designed to appear like an inviting rural driveway entrance. The concrete surface with timber threshold strips extends to meet the kerb to indicate public pedestrian and cycle access and mark the start of the park. Low stone walls, a timber bridge over the water race to divide as seating and signage walls, there is an information board, bike stands and potential for shelter. Timber post and rail farm style fencing (with gates to allow water race maintenance vehicle access) mark the boundary to the park.

9 THE WATER RACE

The water race is the one continuous focal feature linking the different areas of the linear park. The redirected water race will be naturalised by meandering and varying its form and lining its base and banks with river stones, boulders and planting. Along the length of the water race there are various formal (bridges) and informal crossing points and places for people to interact with the water. Concrete weirs, rock weirs and log weirs are used to pond water and control flow. An access track will be created along one side of the race for maintenance vehicles.

10 THE SHARED PATH

The shared path through the linear park acts as the spine of Stonebrook's shared path network, where cycle and pedestrian paths from throughout the neighbourhood link together. The path is predominantly an asphalt surface, with a series of concrete 'bike rumble strips' to indicate the approach of intersections or in slow cycle areas. The shared path will be lit at night.

11 THE HEDGEROWS

The hedgerows throughout the park are designed to represent pre-existing shelterbelts that characterise the rural farmland surrounding Rolleston. They provide shelter from wind and define different areas. Low maintenance fastigated tree species, such as red oak, will be selected to minimise maintenance requirements. Compacted aggregate beneath some hedgerows create secondary paths and facilitate maintenance.

DATE | 26 SEPTEMBER 2013 SCALE | 1:500 @ A1 (EXTENDED)

STONEBROOK

rough & milne landscape architects