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Tui Glen debt free — green belt plan away

The Henderson Borough Council has embarked on an ambitious green belt development programme which will go a long way to silence critics.

For years the council has been hamstrung in its attempt to develop the borough's reserves by lack of finance.

This shortage was attributed to the expense of keeping Tui Glen Motor Camp going.

Critics claimed the council paid more attention to commercial and industrial development than to the outdoor needs of ratepayers.

Less than two months ago the council paid off the balance of money owing on Tui Glen land.

This was almost a signal to arouse enthusiasm in broader planning of the borough's reserves.

While Tui Glen land is debt free, the amount owed from running and maintaining the camp remains considerable.

The town clerk, Mr Humphrey Kemp, said the amount was expected to reach \$29,000 by the end of the year.

Income from the motor camp was fractional by comparison.

Borough councillors do not anticipate Tui Glen ever making a profit but they hope that one day income will almost equal expenditure.

Recently the council has expanded its thoughts on Tui Glen and considered its merit lay in its use as a local park rather than a temporary home for holiday makers.

Other green areas in the borough have benefited from this greater awareness.

The Valley Rd reserve for example, just off the Great North Rd, has been turned into an attractive picnic area and parking lot.

Granite boulders, flower beds and shrubs have been posi-

tioned so that people coming into the borough from Valley Rd will know that the local council is not just interested in building development alone.

The Valley Rd Reserve is also a feather in the council's cap because it took on beautification after a service club's plan to make improvements was given up.

Another green area plan by the council is the forsaking of one area for another which councillors believe will benefit ratepayers the most.

Plumer Domain will shortly be put up for sale for industrial use and some of the proceeds will go towards the purchase of a 17½ acre block of land which runs along the Opanuku Stream.

Visions of walking along the banks of this stream could become a reality if the council maintains its currently strong attitude towards green area development.

Another borough green area is Hart Domain — a five-and-a-half acre piece of land off Newington Rd.

Development, although slow, is consistent. Present upgrading is largely depositing top soil where it is most needed.

ABOVE

The area just inside Valley Rd has been transformed into a pleasant picnic area and parking spot by the borough council as the picture above shows.