

To Hearings Committee

From Heather Wilson

Date 31 July 2018

Subject Resource Consent Application
LUC-2018-208
53 Nichols Road, Momona
P and H Wilson

Why do we want to build on this site?

Our family has a long history with the Momona District having farmed here since 1870's.

Philip's mother (Mina Wilson nee Gamble) was born in on the family farm in Momona in 1930. Her parents farmed the Mayfield property and her father was also the Drum Major for the Momona Pipe Band. Mina attended Momona School, est. 1899, at its original site on the SW corner of Centre Road / Bruce Road.

Half of the original school building still exists on this site. Fire destroyed one classroom.

Mina's name is on the school's honour board as Dux of the school. This board is now displayed in the Momona Hall – placed there when the school closed in 2004.

The second site for the school was at 63 Bruce Road west, (recently the road's name changed to Nichols Road, 100 metres from our property).

The school was moved to this new site in the early 1960's when the Momona Airport was established and the old school would then be under the aircraft flight path and deemed to dangerous and also noise issues for the children and teachers.

I do question Amy Young's suggestion that this tree has a link to either the school or the Co-op Dairy Company. On enquiry neither has been associated with this property.

Philip and I lived and worked in Momona in 1977 – 79 on a 9acre property on Bruce Road East. This property was the original Post Office for the district.

I worked at the Henley Cheese Factory – which had relocated to Bruce Road W from its Henley site due to flooding issues. We then went full time dairy farming at Otokia for the next 20 years. Our four children attended Momona School and we were fully involved with local activities.

Other members of our wider family also have a long association with the area.

We are looking forward to returning to Momona to live and to have our grandchildren growing up with the knowledge of their family's history and continued association with area. It will be a sad situation if a tree curbs our ability to achieve this!

We intend building a modern home, fully insulated and ready for Solar Panel power in the future. The position of the tree (near due north) does not enhance the use of solar panels with the shading effect on the roof of the house.

As you can see we are not 'fly by nighters'. We are not just 'looking for a place in the country'. We would like to build on this site because we have a history and a love for the area.

This tree compromises our intent for the property particularly health and safety. The ferocity of the debris falling from this tree is not something you would wish upon any person, animal, vehicle etc that may have the misfortune to be struck by.

We do intend to plant responsibly and effectively once the house is complete. Native Kowhai trees are a favourite – our native Tui love these trees.

The previous owners of this property were Gar Leong and Winnie Ding and their family. They were highly respected market gardeners during the 1960's- 1980's. Gar Leong was a very effective and trusted Councilor for the Silverpeaks County Council. They too had a great love and appreciation of the Momona district. Their children attended Momona School.

Signed – Heather Wilson