Mabey Road, Lower Hutt

Alexander Turnbull Library Reference MS-Papers-1293-131

1915 Oct 12
Job Charles Mabey: Mr Cudby, the Council's Inspector and Councillor Welch, have decided not to accept dedication of my new road, hereafter to be called "Mabey's Road" until I assure them that the road will be formed to give access to the river. I hereby agree to form the lower portion of the road at such time as the Council may require me to do so. I now desire the Council to take over the top portion of the newly formed road.

1915 Oct 18
Mr Davis appeared at a Council meeting on 12 Oct on behalf of Job Charles Mabey and Davis undertook to supply a new plan defining the road from the East Road right down to the Hutt River. The Council stated that dedication of the road from the East Road right down to the Hutt River will be accepted and the Chairman has been authorized to sign and seal the plan. The Council requires a tracing of the plan for the purposes of record.

1915 Nov 11
Council acknowledges receipt of a cloth tracing and dedication handed in on the 28 Oct 1915 by Mr Davis. Council, at a meeting on 09 November, accepted dedication and the plan was referred to the Chairman with authority to complete. The Chairman has examined and approved the plan and signed and sealed it. The plan was returned along with a request to supply Council with a copy.

1915 Nov 25
Hutt County Council returns plan and dedication duly executed to Messrs Chapman, Skerrett, Trip & Blair, Solicitors, Wellington. The tracing has been retained for record purposes.

1921 Jun 10
Job C. Mabey, Taita: Will you grant me the use of nine feet of Mabey's Road for this would enable me to straiten the fence and for which I am willing to pay £1 per year. I have shown it to Mr Foley and your Overseer Mr Cudby they see no objection to the proposition.

1921 Jun 14
Meeting of Hutt County Council – regrets its inability to apply with Mabey's request.

1926 Jun 30
County Engineer to Hutt River Board: Access to Hutt River – Mabey's Road
I have to draw your attention to the condition of the access road from the end of Mabey's Road, Taita into the Hutt River, which my carter informs me is in such a bad condition that it is impossible for him to pull a load of shingle over it. This means that unless your Board will put the same in order straight away, I shall be compelled to obtain the shingle from your beaches through Mr James' property, which entails additional access charges. As my Council are not desirous of have to pay the access charges made by Mr James, the early fixing up of the road in question would be appreciated.

1930 Jan 15
Seaton, Sladden & Pavitt, Engineers to Hutt County Council: Mabey Road Subdivision No.3
Referring to your letter dated 19 Nov 1928, the situation appears to be as illustrated on attached plan and as follows:-

In 1902 the whole of Mr Mabey's property was brought under the Land Transfer Act by Plan No.A/1475. At this date the existing river was shown to be approximately 38 chains distant from the Main Road, the old river course being also shown. In 1913 Mr Mabey subdivided a portion of this land, which included a length of about 21 chains of roading, now called Mabey Road. Application to the Council to take over this length of road was considered, and it was decided not to accept dedication until an assurance had been received from Mr Mabey that further formation would be done giving access to the river… The subdivisional plan showing the road to be dedicated was signed and sealed by the Council and returned to Messrs Chapman, Tripp & Blair on 25 Nov 1915. This plan shows the road ending at 21 chains… There is no evidence available to show what length of formation was actually done at the date of dedication. It is difficult to say what was in the minds of the parties concerned at the time, and the records available do not make it clear. Our own impression is that it was intended that about 38 chains should be the total length, as the Land Transfer plan shows that to have been the location of the actual river. Mr Wylie of Messrs Wylie & Wiren, Solicitors, who is acting for Mr Mabey is of the opinion that the lower portion of the road as referred to means that part A.B. of the 21-chain length being about three chains running down from the higher to the lower level and being a portion, which has been but roughly formed. Mr Wylie interprets "Lower portion of the road" to mean the lower portion of the 21-chain length. If such be the case, then it is this three-chain length at the waterhole that Mr Mabey should form.

1930 Aug 11
Seaton, Sladden & Pavitt to Hutt County Council: Mabey Road Subdivision No.3
Further to your telephone communication with Mr Sladden on the 9th instant, as requested we enclose herewith two copies of our report of 15 Jan 1930 and sun print plan showing Re-alignment of Mabey Road and copy of plan which accompanied original report.

1930 Aug 11
County Clerk to W. V. Dyer, Epuni Street, Lower Hutt – Re Mabey Road
Enclosed please find copy of our engineer's report of 15 Jan 1930, also small plan which accompanies the report. On the 14th of May 1930 the Engineer prepared a plan of the re-alignment of Mabey Road and I enclose a copy of this plan showing the cross sections. [Plan enclosed: Re-Alignment of Mabey Street by Seaton, Sladden & Davitt 14 May 1930 showing Cross and Longitudinal Sections – it shows the old riverbed and nearby "WALKER two houses erected."]

1930 Aug 14
E. P. Bunny to Hutt County Council: I am instructed by the Hutt River Board to make formal application to your Council to complete Mabey Road as dedicated. I shall therefore be obliged if you will have the matter considered at the meeting of your Council on Friday next.

1930 Aug 19
County Clerk to Messrs Brandon, Ward & Hislop, Wellington: The Council resolved "That steps be taken to enforce Mr Mabey's undertaking to form Mabey Road"… I also enclose a plan of Section 55 Lot 9 Belmont Survey District as prepared by our Engineers which should accompany the Engineer's report. Please return report and plan when convenient. I may mention that you dealt with this matter last year, but Mr Mabey did not form any portion of Mabey Road.

1930 Oct 28
Seaton, Sladden & Pavitt to Hutt County Council: We have received verbal intimation that Mr Mabey proposes to proceed with the formation of that portion of the dedicated road that at present is unformed. We have handed a copy of the drawings to Mr Hislop, Solicitor, in response to his request for them.

1931 Apr 04
K. H. Butler, Mabey Road, Taita to Hutt County Council: I have been wondering if your council is aware of the manner in which Mabey Road is being extended. At present I am scarcely able to use the entrance to my bottom section, and if they carry on as they say they are going to I will be left well up in the air. In my opinion this road was quite suitable for its purpose, and was well protected, and should never have been touched, at least until the river had been permanently diverted. I think anyone who saw the flood last night, was of the same opinion. If your council has no control over the extension, it should not allow the present road to be lowered as the contractor is starting to do and trusting it will see its way to act before he goes any further.

1931 Apr 10
Walter V. Dyer to Mr Robinson, _ & Halse… Contractors: I had a conversation over the phone yesterday with Mr Sladden re Mabey Road. He understood to inspect it. I also paid a visit there yesterday with the Chairman of the River Board. It appeared to us the work was not being carried according to the plan. I am of the opinion that the best way for us to handle this, is to officially ask Mr Sladden to watch the County's interest there it must, if this course is adopted prevent any complaints from the River Board as the River Board Engineer must have the knowledge of what they consider the levels &c that should be maintained. I would be glad if you would ask Mr Sladden to act for the County, to see the job is carried out satisfactorily.

1931 Apr 13
County Clerk to J. H. Butler, Mabey Road, Taita – Mabey Road: Our Engineer has been instructed to supervise the road construction work.

1931 Apr 13
County Clerk to Messrs Seaton, Sladden & Pavitt, Wellington – Mabey Road Improvements: I am directed to ask you to be good enough to supervise on behalf of the County the work of reconstruction now being carried out by private persons in connection with Mabey Road. I shall therefore be pleased if you will watch the County's interest in the matter whilst the work is in progress.