

**Trelissick Park Group: Minutes of the 190<sup>th</sup> meeting, held at Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, 9:30 a.m. Tuesday 19 November 2019**

*Abbreviations:*

WCC	Wellington City Council	WRA	Wadestown Residents' Association
GW	Greater Wellington Regional Council	OMB	Old man's beard
F & B	Forest and Bird Protection Society	OWBT	Otari Wilton's Bush Trust
DOC	Department of Conservation	VW	Volunteer Wellington
HPPA	Highland Park Progressive Association	VUW	Victoria University of Wellington
TPG	Trelissick Park Group	OHS	Onslow Historical Society
BotSoc	Wellington Botanic Society	OWBT	Otari Wilton's Bush Trust
NCDRA	Ngaio Crofton Downs Residents' Association	CVNZ	Conservation Volunteers NZ
		MfE	Ministry for Environment

[Square brackets: subsequent to meeting.]

**Actions are in bold italics.**

Present

Peter Reimann (TPG)	Barry Durrant (TPG)
Frances Lee (TPG)	Anne Tuffin (TPG)
Murray Pascoe (NCDRA)	Stan Pillar (OHS)
Jenny Lewis (WRA)	Onur Oktem (WCC)
Joshua Patterson (WCC)	

**Apologies**

Cr Rebecca Matthews (WCC)	Karin Wiley (F & B)
Howard Moore (NCDRA)	

**Minutes**

The minutes of the 189<sup>th</sup> meeting, held on 20 August, were confirmed.

**Discussion on Natural Bush Areas and Special Landscapes in District Plan Review**

Dr Onur Oktem and Joshua Patterson from WCC's *City Design and Place Planning* outlined their work on the above, described in the booklet *Backyard Tāonga*. The District Plan is associated with the Resource Management Act. So far they have looked at 169 sites (public land) and contacted 1,700 land owners. The split between the two is roughly 50/50. Many of the land owners have responded. They are investigating rarity, threatened areas, diversity, connectivity and significance to Tangata Whenua. The results will be fed into the Draft District Plan Review, which will be looking at how to accommodate population/housing increase in conjunction with preserving natural bush areas and special landscapes (due mid-2020). **TPG submission mid-2020**

Matters arising:

Kilmarston development above Ngaio - TPG is concerned about downstream effects and NCDRA is concerned about environmental and other effects. The application is currently on 'suspend' - see also under "Submissions" below.

17-Unit Development at 128 Trelissick Crescent - TPG is concerned about destruction of original forest remnant and downstream effects. The application is currently on 'suspend'. Onur Oktem says there are hurdles with this application - see also under "Submissions" below.

Railway land adjoining Trelissick Park - TPG has long been concerned about pest weeds from railway land and the effects on the Park. TPG suggests that this land be considered in the Plan review. **Onur Oktem** Some of their land in the valleys is leased to WCC [TPG treat this as part of the Park and also work on other parts of railway land in the valleys].

Kaiwharawhara Estuary and Kaiwharwhara Point - WCC is involved with GW's Whaitua Committee and Onur Oktem sits in on meetings to monitor effects on the District Plan. TPG suggests she comes to the next *Sanctuary to Sea* meeting, which will include discussion on this area [Zealandia, 5.30 PM, 3rd December]. **Onur Oktem**

WCC's Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) - TPG has for many years been advocating for this to be a mandatory requirement in all new land developments, including infill housing. The Kaiwharawhara catchment is large and the streams in the Park suffer from fast stormwater run-off from hard surfaces. TPG suggests this

be included in the Plan Review. **Onur Oktem**

Contact for Conservation Volunteers NZ - CVNZ have planted large areas at Mt Victoria and possibly this area could be considered in the Plan review. Peter Reimann [has given] Onur Oktem contact details.

Ngaio Gorge Road Slips and Parking - Slips: see below under "WCC Items". Parking: This has been an ongoing problem at the lower entrance - [Peter Reimann to take up with WCC **Peter Reimann**]

Backyard Tāonga Booklet - Copies distributed to meeting attendees and to Murray Pascoe for NCDRA.

### **WCC Items**

Fish Passage Improvement in Catchment - TPG has advocated for more funding in its submission of 8 May on WCC's Annual Plan. **Michele Frank**

Ngaio Gorge Road Slips - Geotechnical investigations, topographical surveys and stabilisation work have been completed for WCC. Designs are being finalised and if consent is given, construction should be underway in November. The work should be complete by October 2020.

Earthquake Strengthening below Upper Ngaio Gorge Road - The existing wall below the upper end of Ngaio Gorge Road is undermined and the slope below is moving. A 'batter slope' below the road for earthquake strengthening is proposed by WCC's contractor WSP-Opus. This would encroach onto the original forest remnant area - environmentally destructive. A large tītoki tree would go, as well as the large pine, macrocarpa and eucalypt trees.

Considering the cost of removing the large trees and the multiple land ownership in the area, TPG is hoping that WSP-Opus, after further investigation, will find that the alternative of a new wall with deep piles is viable instead. Peter Reimann will ask WSP-Opus for an update on what they intend to do. He will keep WCC's Onur Oktem in the loop. **Peter Reimann**

If the batter slope option is finally decided, TPG will be removing some valuable seedlings from the area. The slope would be re-planted afterwards.

Debris Trap Clearance - The large tree trunks and debris heap have at last been removed by WW.

Rubbish Dumping Below Trelissick Crescent - Bill Hester discovered household effects (eg mattresses) dumped below Trelissick Crescent and contacted Adam Groenewegen for removal.

[Erosion of Northern Walkway below Hanover Street - Peter Reimann will contact Adam Groenewegen - **Peter Reimann**]

### **Pest Plant Control**

WCC Pest Plant Control by WCC/Contractor - TPG's submission of 8 May on the WCC Annual Plan advocated for increase in funding. TPG is very grateful for the extensive weed control work carried out by WCC's contractor, Kaitiaki o Ngahere, with support from WCC's Illona Keenan.

Kaitiaki/WCC are planning the next spray season now, Peter Reimann sent suggestions to Illona for inclusion in planning decisions in an email of 25 August.

Kaitiaki have just completed follow-up control of tradescantia on the lower forested slopes below Hanover Street.

Control by TPG - TPG continue with manual control of tradescantia, OMB, Himalayan balsam, cherry, wattle, karaka seedlings, sycamore, bindweed and buddleia by individuals, working bees and groups. **TPG**

### **Nursery/Planting Update**

Just over 1,230 planted so far. Jonathan Anderson of WCC also had a podocarp allocation. Following a Park walk-through with Adam Groenewegen, Peter Reimann provided a list of planted areas and numbers for each.

### **Animal Pest Control**

Trap Scores - Trap scores since 2008: [288] rats/mice, 17 stoats/weasels, 18 hedgehogs.

Bait Stations - Much consumption of block bait by rodents.

Rabbits - Still in evidence along the Trelissick Crescent verge, on the grass slope below entrance 3 (5 shot recently) and along the railway line. Plant protection is being employed. Henk Louw says the rabbit problem is "widely shared throughout the city and we are trying to address all heavily affected areas."

### **Oban Track/Bridge**

Engineering - Trevor Butler, the engineer from Frame Group Ltd, advises that design and preparation of tender documents should finish late this month. Tim Harkness and Peter Reimann will then review the programme for future work and sent this to Frame for agreement. **Frame Group/Tim Harkness/Peter Reimann**

Consents - Frame Group will then work on WCC and GW consent applications. **Frame Group**

Construction Contractors - Tim Harkness from WCC has three potential construction contractors - Outsiders Landscaping, Tascon Ltd and Fulton Hogan. As soon as he has reviewed the design and documentation from the Engineer, he will write the request for quotation. **Tim Harkness**

Construction Tender Evaluation - Jointly by WCC/TPG. Apart from pricing, the following needs to be covered:

lowest price could lead to short-cuts and 'extras', experience, proposed methodology, quality/thoroughness of proposal, feedback from others.

Access from Oban Street - WCC will be funding and managing the access from Oban Street down the road reserve and the legal right-of-way. He has discussed entrance work/fencing/landscaping with the owners of 112/114 Oban Street. **Tim Harkness**

Track - TPG will need to upgrade the existing track to WCC 'Walking Track' standard and do the short stream-bank section to the bridge. Tim Harkness/Adam Groenewegen/a WCC intern/Barry Durrant/Peter Reimann examined the route on 15th November. Upgrading the middle section is straightforward and Barry Durrant will work on this. **Barry Durrant**

Tim Harkness will revisit and mark route changes at the upper and lower sections. **Tim Harkness**

Vehicle Track Changes - The north end of the bridge will connect with the vehicle track, locally elevated to keep the bridge above floods and floating trees/branches. The vehicle track will need to be diverted slightly to allow room for the north end of the bridge.

Completion - If there are no further delays, all should be complete by June/July 2020.

Funds Secured - \$87,760.50 so far, including a donations just received from Transpower (\$20,000), the Ron and Edna Greenwood Environmental Trust, Tararua Tramping Club Michael Taylor bequest and individuals, some via Givealittle - gratefully received.

Funds Required - Based on a ball-park estimate from the engineer, we should have enough.

Financial Handling - NCDRA, as an incorporated society, has agreed to act on behalf of TPG on all financial transactions and have set up a dedicated ANZ 'Serious Saver' account. As there will be regular outgoings interest will be negligible. It was agreed that any interest benefits of using term deposit(s) instead would be negligible. Murray Pascoe of NCDRA confirmed that the \$20,000 from Transpower is in their dedicated ANZ account.

HPPA will eventually need to transfer the money they are holding to NCDRA for progress payments. HPPA's term deposit of \$51,763 matures on 20 March 2020.

### **Lower Kaiwharawhara Stream and Estuary/Reclamation**

Kaiwharawhara Estuary and Point - William Woods of Centreport will give an update of plans for developments in the area at the next Sanctuary to Sea meeting on 3rd December.

### **Submissions**

128 Trelissick Crescent 17-unit Development - Bill Hester has recently asked WCC if there is any updates. WCC advise the application is still 'in suspend'. It doesn't automatically expire and could potentially remain on 'suspend' indefinitely.

Ministry for Environment - Healthy Waterways and Freshwater Management Discussion Document - TPG lodged a submission on 'Action for Healthy Waterways' and the associated 'Draft National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management', looking for more action on fast stormwater run-off, sedimentation, pollution, monitoring and fish passage. TPG's submission, on the 'Current Issues' page of our website, is only one of 17,500 received. They will be reviewed by an Advisory Panel. Ministers are expected to have the regulations in force by mid-2020.

112 Churchill Drive BUPA Development (next to Countdown) - Earthworks are proceeding. A 'Watchdog on BUPA Crofton Downs' is on <http://www.bupa.nz/2019/08/13/complaints-procedure-bupa-churchill-construction/>.

Kilmarston Development (Above Ngaio/below Crows Nest) - As per previous minutes, WCC's Jonathan Anderson will advise if anything happens - nothing yet. He says the application is "open-ended and can sit in a state of inaction pretty well indefinitely." **Jonathan Anderson (WCC)**

Appeals to Environment Court on the Proposed GW Natural Resources Plan - TPG has received copies of appeals from F & B, Rangitāne tū Mai Rā Trust and Rangitāne o Wairarapa Incorporated Society, Z Energy Ltd/Mobil Oil NZ Ltd/BP Oil NZ Ltd, Meridian Energy Ltd, Porirua City Council, Transpower, Wellington Water Ltd and Wellington Fish and Game Council, CentrePort Limited/CentrePort Properties Limited - all via lawyers.

Anne Tuffin will examine these for any relevance to TPG and the estuary. **Anne Tuffin**

### **Correspondence with External Parties**

Emails

Recent web alerts, resource consents	WCC
Volunteer Wellington workshops/events/volunteers	Julie Thomson/Jo Nixon (VW)
Rubbish collection	John Curran (WCC), Amanda Valois (NIWA)
Bait station and trap reports	Illona Keenan (WCC)
Sanctuary to Sea meeting	Pascale Michel (Zealandia), Daran Ponter (GW), [Onur

	Oktem (WCC)]
Comments on previous minutes	Cr Andy Foster
Plant trays, pots for collection	Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Grass dumped at #57 Kaiwharawhara Road	Danny Redhill (Hanging Around)
Pest plant control updates	Illona Keenan (WCC)
Potential volunteers	Collaborate and VW
Work in Park by Conservation Volunteers	Natalie Jones (CVNZ)
'Messengers of Peace' volunteers	Mary Bluck (Scouts), Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Overnight rubbish dumping from Trelissick Crescent	Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Wellington Urban Ecology Research Symposium	Daniela Biaggio (WCC), Eventbrite, Vimal Patel (VUW)
Ngaio Brownies' visit	Katrina (GGNZ Rangituhi Local Coordinator)
Talk on native snails	Brony Shepherd (Ahumairangi Hill Ecological Restoration Group)
More block bait needed	Paul Horton/Bruce Brewer/Darren Lees (GW), Henk Louw (WCC)
Old truck tire for removal from valley	Jonathan Anderson/Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Kaiwharawhara Stream 'Spring Clean'	Jorge Jimenez (Mountains to Sea Wellington)
Permission to use Trelissick Park map for NIWA Stream health Monitoring Manual	Amand Valois (NIWA)
Continuous water level monitoring - lower Kaiwharawhara	Sam Gundersen (GW), Trevor Butler (Frame Group Ltd)
Funding for Oban track bridge	Givalittle
Missing spade	Jonathan Anderson/ Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Removing plant rabbit protectors on Silverstream	Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Appeal on GW's proposed Natural Resources Plan	Natasha Sitarz (F & B)
Rubbish below Crofton Downs Station	Allan Wright (local resident), Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Text for publicity with Independent Herald and Wellington Scoop on Transpower funding for Oban track bridge	Tim Harkness (WCC), Glenise Dreaver (Independent Herald), Wellington Scoop website
Pest weed inspection post April-May work	Stu Whiterod (Kaitiaki O Ngahere Ltd), Illona Keenan (WCC)
CVNZ project partners meet-up	Natalie Jones (CVNZ)
Transpower Community Care Fund success and Agreement form	Megan Williams (Transpower)
Debris trap clearance	Steven Peters/Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Visit by Raroa Intermediate	Alix Gurau (Raroa Intermediate), Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Spare plants, Silverstream and Park visits	Natalie Jones (CVNZ)
Oban track bridge funding progress report	Brian Hasell (Tararua Tramping Club Michael Taylor Bequest committee), Warwick Greenwood (Ron and Edna Greenwood Environmental Trust), Cr Andy Foster (WCC)
Revegetation sites	Jonathan Anderson/Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Light shields for in lower Kaiwharawhara commercial area	Lucy Alcock (local resident), David Clark (NZ Post), David Valentine/Ben Reid (Exxonmobil)
Updates on Oban Track bridge engineering	Tim Harkness (WCC)
Visit from MBIE Legal	Lyne Pringle (VW), Martien Duis (MBIE), Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Action plan on healthy waterways	Phil Teal (Wellington Fish and Game Council), Martin Workman (MfE),
Visit by Khandallah and Northland Cubs	Craig Barry (Khandallah Cubs)
Pest plant survey	Isabel Hertell (VUW) via Branch Out (WCC)
Plant order for 2020	WCC website/Adam Groenewegen/Anita Benbrook (WCC)
Summary of weed control work	Stu Whiterod (Kaitiaki o Ngahere), Illona Keenan (WCC)

Oban track route check	Tim Harkness/Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Mulch for Park	Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
A role in CVNZ and Kellie Benner's farewell	Natalie Jones (CVNZ)
Volunteer requests	Lyne Pringle (VW)
Neighbour concerns with replacement of derelict footbridge from Waikowhai Street	Kelvin Hastie, Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Transpower remittance for Oban track bridge	finance@transpower.co.nz
[CVNZ contact]	[Onur Oktem (WCC)]
Collaborate Event	Holly Norton (Collaborate)
Epiphytes	Anita Benbrook (WCC)
Treasury visit to Park	Carissa Bryan (Treasury), Lyne Pringle (VW), Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Tramping group visit via Oban Street	Genevieve Hancock (owner of #112)
Weed control on slopes below Oban Street	Illona Keenan (WCC)
Plants for Park	Julie Coulson
Kaiwharawhara estuary area update	William Woods (Centreport)
Invitation to WCC Christmas party	Adam Groenewegen (WCC)

**Letters** - Copies of appeals to the Environment Court on the proposed GW Natural Resources Plan from: Rangitāne tū Mai Rā Trust and Rangitāne o Wairarapa Incorporated Society, Z Energy Ltd/Mobil Oil NZ Ltd/BP Oil NZ Ltd, Meridian Energy Ltd, Porirua City Council, Transpower, Wellington Water Ltd, Wellington Fish and Game Council, CentrePort Limited/CentrePort Properties Limited - all via lawyers, 18 - 25 September.

**Newsletters** - VW, NCDRA, Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves, Wildlands Wellington News.

#### Finance

The bank balance at 4th November was \$1,187.60. This includes \$1,000, which WCC passed on to TPG from an anonymous source in 2011 and TPG kept aside for initial Oban St track expenses. It was agreed that TPG will retain that in the bank account until needed later on.

A cheque for \$47.50 from 'Givealittle' for the Oban track bridge was approved and handed to Murray Pascoe of NCDRA. The 'Givealittle' source has now ended.

#### Other

**Groups in Park** - Thanks to Conservation Volunteers (2 visits), Scouts, Ngaio Brownies and MBIE Legal, for their work in the Park. Khandallah/Northland Cubs, Raroa Intermediate and Treasury are due in December.

**Urban Ecology Research Symposium** - Conducted by VUW/WCC and the Centre for Biodiversity and Restoration Ecology (CBRE) at Zealandia and attended by Andrew Swann and Peter Reimann.

**Silverstream Clean-up** - Peter Reimann participated in a clean-up of the Silverstream below the new housing development organised by Mountains to Sea Wellington and Amanda Valois of NIWA.

**Continuous Level Monitoring at Lower Kaiwharawhara** - Sam Gundersen of GW has sent data on this (very 'peaky' during rain). Peter Reimann forwarded this to Trevor Butler of Frame Group as it may be useful for the GW consent application for the Kaiwharawhara Stream bridge upstream.

**Sanctuary to Sea Meeting** - This will be at Zealandia on 3rd December at 5.30 PM

**QE2 Trust Covenantee below Eastern End of Trelissick Crescent** - Some of the properties extend across the Forest Remnant Track. Peter Reimann has checked boundaries. Some of the owners may be interested in covenanting to the QE2 Trust.

**Light Shields in Lower Kaiwharawhara** - A local resident, Lucy Alcock, living above the lower Kaiwharawhara commercial area has followed up her previous contacts with ExxonMobil and NZ CourierPost requesting sharp edges to their LED lights to align with the site boundaries (effect on biological cues for wildlife in the ecological corridor). They are still investigating.

**NCDRA AGM** - Wednesday evening at the Ngaio Union Church at 7.30 PM

The meeting closed at 11.05 AM.

The next meeting is to be at **9:30 a.m. Tuesday 18 February 2020** at Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, 86 Khandallah Road.

Membership drawn from Highland Park Progressive Association Inc., Ngaio Crofton Downs Residents' Association Inc., Onslow Historical Society Inc., Private Landowners' Group, Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society Inc. (Wellington Branch), Wellington Botanical Society Inc., Wadestown Residents' Association.