

Trelissick Park Group: MINUTES of the 206th Meeting
held at Ōtari-Wilton's Bush Visitor Centre, 9:30am Thursday 7 November 2024

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Apologies: Tim Harkness, Tim Park, Bill Hester, Nicci Wood, Rick Holmes.

3. Present: TPG: Anne Tuffin (chair), Ian Duncan, Peter Reimann, Jonathan Anderson, Angus Napier, Anne Holmstead, Catherine Van Hale, Ian Shearer (minutes). WCC: Adam Groenewegen, Illona Keenan. Zealandia: Nate Rigler,

4. WCC Reports

a. Weed control

Illona provided maps of tree works from last year, including priority areas. Rail closure areas; Cherry trees, evergreen buckthorn on steep escarpments needing safety equipment; large willow on side stream.

NOTED – tradescantia advice from WCC (chemical control 4 times/yr for 4 years). New trial with fungus. (Beetle trial was not successful here.) Avoid slopes that then erode.

ACTION: **Illona** to organise a hikoi to assess weed control for the year. TPG able to support the funding (Frances Lee donation) for the removal of four trees: one willow; two alder, and a sycamore off Barry's track.

b. Tracks & Signs

Email update received from **Tim Harkness**: The handrail on the northern walkway on the Hanover Track has been completed, and the board walk on the tramping track. Upcoming is to gravel the stream side track where we worked earlier in the year in late November/early December, and repairs to the bridge that is currently half closed - hopefully before Christmas.

c. Ranger

Adam reported that the new land being added to the park (Frances Lee gift) will be fenced when surveyed.

Camera assessment of possible broken sewers contracted as part of an investigation organised by Wellington Water. It appears that information and data on sewage leaks within reserves is not being shared well among the relevant agencies at present. Nate is trying to coordinate all information for the Kaiwharawhara catchment and asked us to advise him if any sewage leaks are suspected. **NOTE: Nate** advised that the Kaiwharawhara is prioritised by Taranaki Whānui and the Crown is obligated to prioritise its protection.

Geotec investigations are underway on a section of Ngaio Gorge Rd to look at a possible wall to retain the road just above the forest remnant track entrance.

5. GWCR Items – no update items raised.

6. Kia Mouriora te Kaiwharawhara / Sanctuary to Sea

Nate Rigler reported that the TPG/Frances Lee \$25k contribution toward the inanga spawning project has triggered some progress. Other organisations have also contributed 'in kind' so only about \$1k of this money has actually been needed to date. Planting boxes in the stream are in place and have been planted. Some plants were donated. A mural is being added to a small Council building near the pedestrian-cycle bridge beside the spawning area. This will include a small acknowledgement to Frances Lee. The area, including the DOC land, is being managed as an active partnership. Monitoring of inanga needs to be ongoing, but is not yet established beyond the initial year. Fish passage ideas are also being investigated - ideas that discourage trout moving up stream from the estuary.

A small tree-control-area project adjacent to School Rd has been developed with local businesses keen to be partners. To make this project sustainable over a long period, it may require an NGO input (Zealandia or TPG) to help encourage and remind the companies each year. Nate will lead initially and advise for future.

A strategy session has developed ideas for Zealandia and surrounding areas. Back-yards adjacent to boundaries need community partnership ideas, but mechanisms for weed control on private land is difficult, other than socialising groups and encouraging community workshops.

The Kia Mouriora te Kaiwharawhara Community will be held on Wednesday 27 November, 4:30pm - 6:30pm. Email sanctuarytosea@visitzealandia.com to RSVP

Volunteers are welcome to come to the WCC Community hui at the Berhampore Nursery on 5th Dec – all welcome. Please RSVP by Thursday 21 November using this link: [RSVP WCC parks community group end of year celebration](#)

AT THIS STAGE OF THE MEETING THE WCC AND ZEALANDIA ATTENDEES LEFT THE MEETING.

7. TPG Activity

a. Finance Report – *Ian Shearer*

As at 7 Nov 2024:

TPG current account balance =	\$912.64
TPG funds held by NCDRA @ 1 August =	\$ 50,285.58
Transpower grant (received 21Oct) =	\$ 15,000.00
Interest received (Aug to Nov)=	\$ 475.65
Balance as at 5 Nov 2024 =	<u>\$ 65,761.23</u>
Total Funds held =	<u>\$ 66,673.87</u>

Motion moved: That authorisation of expenditure of TPG funds from either account could be by any two of the following three specified TPG members (email approval or direct bank two-signature methods):

TPG chair (presently Anne Tuffin)

TPG treasurer (presently Ian Shearer)

TPG committee member (Angus Napier)

Motion approved by all present.

Discussion on the authorised disposal of funds in case of the Trelissick Park Group closing down: **It was moved and agreed** that any remaining funds would be

disbursed to like-minded NGOs or projects with interests in the ongoing protection of the environment within the TPG area. Decision to be made by remaining TPG members at the time.

Further discussion on actions related to the possibility of NCDRA closing down – **ACTION: AGREED** that **Angus** would review the winding up clause in NCDRA constitution, and report back to the next TPG meeting.

b. Animal Pest Control

Email update received from **Bill Hester**:

- 1) The delayed handover of the Trelissick Park Oban slope A24s monitoring should happen this coming weekend. The slope's A24s will be taken over by Andrew Cutler who lives close by on Oban Street. The WCC will be needed for supplies and support in future. This area has the only current use of A24s in the Park.
- 2) longer term – the Trelissick Park Group currently has seven volunteers (plus Bill) doing the predator stuff - and it ticks along, evolving for the past sixteen years, keeping the often monthly tasks short enough to be regularly tended to by the volunteers and to sustain their involvement.

Currently there are:

- three bait station people (brodificum): Steve Mackles, Andy McIver and Jim Nicholson
- two DOC200 people: Warrick Fowlie and Richard Grasse
- one person doing the small pocket of ten tunnel traps near the debris trap - Shelley Kininmonth (under Briony Ellis of Predator Free Khandallah)
- one person doing the A24 traps on the Oban Street hillside, Finnigan Illsley-Kemp transition to Andrew Cutler in near future
- and me, now as backup, and overall coordinator with WCC and Regional Council.

We'll have to come up with a replacement for me - which will make it a good time to rationalise where the current Trelissick Park Group approach fits into the multitude of other predator control groups - and also to tie in with the current WCC and Regional Council focus. It may be sensible to remove the TPG predator control activity from TPG and combine with the now prolific predator control groups. The TPG approach was first, but not now unique by any means, being surrounded by Wadestown, Crofton/Ngaio and Khandallah groups – all sharing similar aims. (Slight difference is our continued reliance on the poison brodificum.)

AGREED to sort out the next steps sometime early in the coming new year.

c. 2024 Planting

Angus reported that all planting for 2024 is completed. We could have done with more stream-side plants.

d. 2025 Plant Order

Order due before the end of year. **ACTION: Jonathan** will circulate a draft list.

e. Weed control

- Discussion continued on weeds in the park. **Jonathan** to provide priority list to Illona. **Post meeting:** Jasmine (1 site), elaeagnus (1 site), OMB (3 sites), honeysuckle (9 sites), Canary Islands ivy (?1 site), Japanese knotweed (1 site), banana passionfruit (2 sites), mile a minute (1 sites).

f. Working Bees

Discussed possible strategy for engaging local groups of people using Facebook groups etc. Ngaio United Church has roadside notice board and will post information on our behalf.

Corporate Groups looking for more exciting work than tradescantia.

ACTION: Angus to update schedule of opportunities.

g. Memorial Trees

Bill emailed that there are now 6 trees planted in memory to a few of the many volunteers. Latest ones:

- Mike Lear, Kahikatea; planted 7 September 2024.
- Dorothy (Dot) Catchpole, Kahikatea; planted 21 September 2024.

Anne noted that a small planting ceremony in recognition of Frances Lee's land gift is planned for early December.

h. Website / Facebook

- Facebook updating: **Anne Holmstead** has taken over this role admirably. The TPG page currently is 'liked' by 796 face bookers and 'followed' by 851 face bookers. These numbers indicate at least some interest by these people in the Park and happenings within. Bill Hester is still a backup in this updating role, but Anne/Bill agree that it's best to have just one person doing the postings to provide consistency. While the information posted is generally of transient interest, the multi-years of posted photos prove interesting and useful.
- Website updating: **Catherine van Hale** is taking over this role and Cathy/Bill have had a couple of sessions to start the transition. The transition will take a month or so. Cathy/Bill agree that when it settles down, just Cathy should do the actual updating. As part of the transition follow-up, it is prudent to consolidate the current hosting (now with MyHost – under Bill Hester's name) and the current domain name registration (now with Freeparking – under Deidre Burke's name) – both with MyHost and under Trelissick Park Group's name. This may take a month or two more. It will require TPG to decide whether it wants the Chair or the Treasurer to be the prime name for 'ownership'.

ACTION: Agreed that the trelissickgroup@gmail.com could be used for web/domain registration.

NOTED: A small budget amount may be needed to pay for a web-designer to change the webpage header if a Te Reo name for the park is adopted.

i. Volunteer hours 2024/25

DECIDED to record this once a year rather than at each committee meeting. Working bee photos are good for evidence.

k. Gorge Gazette newsletter

Peter outlined a large list of articles that he proposed to include in the next issue.

j. Projects

Park mapping – **Anne reported** that Finn Illsley-Kemp is working on the Track Sign map and should have a first draft ready before the end of the year.

Interpretive Signs – **Anne reported** that a small team of volunteers will be meeting shortly to start planning the scope and content for interpretive signs. The team will

then work with WCC and Mana Whenua in the new year to finalise content, design and making.

9. Other

- a. Te Reo name for the park – WCC wants to know the views of TPG members.
NOTED: Nate's comment about the Treaty settlement for the stream.
AGREED to inform WCC that we support a Te Reo name when this occurs.
- b. Plastic Collection Boom - **Jonathan** indicated this was really on a long-term wish list and not an active project at present.
- c. Dog control
AGREED that we need to work on developing a strategy around this issue, but it was conceded it is not a Council priority. It was noted that restrictions on dogs will be essential when kiwi start to move into the Park. In the meanwhile it was suggested that TPG could advocate Kiwi aversion training for dogs.
- d. Road Reserve, Ngaio Gorge Rd (near Minor Entrance) – Three areas of road reserve noted that could be incorporated into the park. To discuss at next meeting.
- e. TPG "membership" – No progress since last meeting. **A Tuffin**

Next meeting: 9.30am Thursday 6 March 2025 – Ōtari-Wilton's Bush Visitor Centre

Appendices

A. Correspondence with External Parties

Topic	From
eDNA testing funding available	Eugene Doyle
Hikoi at Trelissick Park in New Year	Te Hononga Catchments Collective
Numerous, various	Volunteer Wellington
Sign quote for grant application	Sign Foundry
Council purchase of 44 Silverstream Rd	Sherilyn Hinton, WCC
WCC Resource consents notifications (regular)	WCC
QE2 covenants	Rob Cross, QE2 National Trust
Sign company	Celeste Skachill, StudioC
KiwiRail emergency bridge	Sherilyn Hinton, WCC; Diane Livingston, KiwiRail
Ōtari Open Day	Amalia McLaren/ Tim Park, Ōtari
Leasing Rail Land	Renier Wolfaardt, KiwiRail
Interested Neighbour, 131 Silverstream Rd	WCC Planning; Amilie Bentley
Te Araroa Trail	WCC; Paul Stephenson TAWT
New contact for Enviroschools	Chandra Littlewood
Invitation to Kia Mouriora te Kaiwharawhara / Sanctuary to Sea Community Hui	Nate Rigler, Zealandia
Dogs in Trelissick Park	Diane Calvert; Ray Chung
GIS project	Merrin Pearse
Road Reserve land, Ngaio Gorge Rd	Adam Groenwegen
Transpower grant remittance details	Transpower Community Care Fund
Mouri stone for Zealandia	Terese McLeod, Zealandia
Tradescantia Yellow Leaf Spot Fungus	Illona Keenan, WCC

B. Newsletters received

- Te Hononga Wellington Catchments Collective (18/07/24)
- Your community Connector, Volunteer Wellington (15/08/24, 11/09/24, 9/10/24)
- Predator Free Wellington (26/07/24, 27/08/24, 30/09/24)
- Ōtari Trust (03/09/24)
- OMB Wellington (23/09/24)
- KiwiRail Wellington Project News (30/09/24, 18/10/24)
- Let's Talk Newsletter, WCC (7/10/24, 29/10/24)
- Tawatawa SEA (12/07/24, 11/10/24)
- Ngaio Crofton Downs Residents Association Update (24/10/24)

C. Submissions & Advocacy

Submission	Key points	Sent	Oral
Environmental Select Committee (Parliament)	Response to a comment made by Scott Simpson, Chairperson of the Committee following TPG's oral submission.	12/07/2024	

Proposed District Plan (WCC)	Focussed on hydraulic neutrality and adverse affects of storm water on Trelissick Park.	2022	13/09/2024
Water Sensitive Cities assessment (WCC)	Contributed to Te Hononga's submission	21/08/2024	
WCC planning/consents	Hydraulic neutrality in catchment	Regular	
WCC Traffic Resolutions	Supporting 24 Kaiwharawhara Rd parking bay P180 Restriction	29/09/2024	No

D. Community

Khandallah Cubs - Weed talk, 13/06/2024

Otari Open Day – TPG Table, 14/09/2024

Ngaio-Crofton Downs Residents' Association - Committee meeting, 6/11/2024

E. Grants Received

Transpower Community Care Fund, \$15,000 for interpretative signage in Trelissick Park, 09/09/2024.