

Trelissick Park Group: Minutes of the 196th Meeting, held at Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, 9:30 a.m. Tuesday 29 June 2021



Abbreviations:

WCC	Wellington City Council	OMB	Old man's beard
GW	Greater Wellington Regional Council	VW	Volunteer Wellington
F & B	Forest and Bird Protection Society	MfE	Ministry for Environment
HPPA	Highland Park Progressive Assoc.	OHS	Onslow Historical Society
TPG	Trelissick Park Group	OWBT	Otari Wilton's Bush Trust
NCDRANgaio	Crofton Downs Residents' Association	CVNZ	Conservation Volunteers NZ
WRA	Wadestown Residents' Association	ORCA	Onslow Residents' Community Association

[Square brackets: subsequent to meeting.]

Actions are in bold italics.

Present

Peter Reimann (TPG)	Shirley and Gary Morrison (ORCA)
Anne Tuffin (TPG)	Barry Durrant (TPG)
Jenny Lewis (WRA)	Stan Pillar (OHS)
Ian Shearer (HPPA)	

Apologies

Angus Napier (F & B)	Alison Melling (TPG)
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Minutes

The minutes of the 195th meeting, held on 23rd February, were confirmed.

WCC Items

Fish Passage Improvement in Catchment – Daniela Biaggio has sent a preliminary report co-funded by WCC and GW, using NIWA databases to input and manage all fish barrier work in Wellington catchments. Further work depends on funding from MfE for a collaborative project with GW and Mana Whenua on fish passage improvement in the region. This will be used for training and remediation.

The preliminary report includes all the barriers in the Kaiwharawhara catchment. It identifies a 150 m culvert for Kaiwharawhara Stream under the oil tanks downstream of the Park, needing to be modified first, as it causes the greatest biodiversity decline between fish sites upstream. The report states that the lower section of Kaiwharawhara Stream has the greatest biodiversity of all monitored streams. The greatest ecological potential comes from modifying this pipe, but more study is needed to allow for assessment of how the culvert should best be modified.

[TPG looks forward to the final report and proposals for improving fish passage, particularly in the 150 m culvert mentioned above. ***Danelia Biaggio***]

Ngaio Gorge Road Stabilisation Project – Work on the slips commenced in mid-October 2020 and should continue for two years. Three retaining walls will be constructed to realign the road. Once that is completed the Council is to continue stabilising the lower and upper slip sites and will remove the concrete barriers and shipping containers.

Trelissick Park Five-Year Plan (2016-2021) – Anne Tuffin and Peter Reimann have updated the Plan as a draft for comment by WCC. Peter Reimann will advise Adam Groenewegen that the final version will be put on TPG's website on [20 July], including any amendments requested by WCC before then. ***Peter Reimann/Adam Groenewegen***

Groenewegen

Northern Walkway below Hanover Street – Upgrade – WCC's contractor is slowly upgrading this track, subject to funding, by removing all the timber edge boarding and rebuilding the stairs and applying new gravel. The recent track subsidence near the entrance has been fixed. ***Tim Harkness***

New maps and map-boards Update – Adam Groenewegen has organised revised Park maps to show the new Oban track and Kaiwharawhara Stream bridge #7.

Tim Harkness advises that there will be a delay updating the map-boards as WCC is giving priority to parks without any. ***Tim Harkness***

Brochures and Working Bee Pamphlets – Delivered by Adam Groenewegen. They include the new maps.

Rubbish dumped below Oban Street houses – After several working bees all the rubbish from a patch below the Oban Street houses has been carried up to the roadside for collection by WCC. Initially there were two truckloads, then several more filled bags and relics. Around 500 bottles were collected for cleaning and recycling. The patch has now been planted, but the effect of any contamination is yet to emerge.

Dog Control Update –The sign at the Oban track entrance is confusing, as some people may think on-leash applies to the whole park, whereas currently, the off-leash areas are in the valley and from all entrances except from Oban Street. TPG advocates for the Oban slope entrance to be off-leash, like below the Hanover Street and other entrances.

Myfanwy Emeny says that this will be part of the review of dog exercise areas and the dog policy, to happen at the end of this year. **Myfanwy Emeny**

Infill Housing – TPG is concerned about the insidious effect of infill housing. Gradually the bush in spaces between house is being removed. The leafy character of Wellington is going and fast stormwater run-off increasing (see also TPG's submission on the Draft Long-term Plan below).

Storm Problems – The main track alongside Kaiwharawhara Stream was closed on 23 June due to fallen trees and a slip. The many Park users and TPG look forward to prompt restoration. **Adam Groenewegen**

Pest Plant Control

Control by WCC/Contractor – TPG would like an update on what weed control Kaitiaki o Ngahere has done so far this year and what is planned. There is much to do. **Illona Keenan**

Darryl Kee was encountered at Oban Street recently. He has tackled Asiatic knotweed below there and below the end of Hanover Street.

Control by TPG - TPG continues 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

At 24 June, 245 have been planted, sourced from WCC, F & B and home nurseries. Most have been for two patches on the upper and lower slopes below Oban Street, a streamside spot downstream of bridge 7, infill along the Trelissick Crescent verge and infill below the Hanover Street entrance. There are around 200 more to plant, mostly as infill for the above, for a spot below 144 Oban Street and to enhance forested areas. **Peter Reimann**

WCC's Jonathan Anderson provided a list plant species that would increase biodiversity (see May 2021 *Gorge Gazette*). As a result, F & B supplied some puka (*Griselinia lucida*), toro (*Myrcine salicina*) and milk tree (*Streblus banksii*).

Many kohekohe (*Dysoxylum spectabile*) from seed supplied by Richard Grasse (F &B) about two years ago are included in the above plantings, along with some tawa (*Beilschmiedia tawa*).

Animal Pest Control

Traps - There are now 11 A24 self-resetting traps on the slopes below Oban Street, consistently yielding high numbers of rats/mice. From his previous experience servicing these traps, Barry Durrant doubts the reliability of the counters showing such high numbers of catches. The DOC 200 traps elsewhere have caught 10 rats and 2 weasels so far this year.

Bait Stations - Much consumption of block bait by rodents.

Rabbits - Still in evidence.

WCC's Henk Louw has arranged for TPG predator organiser Bill Hester's contact to be shared with Predator Free Wellington's website.

VUW have organised a '24-hour western Wellington predator snapshot' including monitoring lines within the Park. Each line comprises 10 tunnels with monitoring cards and lures. There was one in May, and another in November. Results awaited. **Finnigan Illsley-Kemp**

Kaiwharawhara Estuary

KiwiRail/Centreport are planning a new ferry terminal at Kaiwharawhara providing a modern, more resilient shared facility for KiwiRail, Interislander and possibly Bluebridge. Centreport's long term intention is that the reclamation area will become the location of a new exit, directly off the motorway (SH1) for cars and trucks entering the new ferry terminal area. Inclusion of Bluebridge is still to be determined.

They are canvassing views of interested parties while working on options. TPG is keen to protect and enhance the Kaiwharawhara estuary area, as it is part of the ecological corridor, which goes through Trelissick Park.

Anne Tuffin and Peter Reimann have discussed this with Sue Allen (KiwiRail), Aaria Dobson-Waitere (Zealandia) and Bronwyn Brown (Wellington Civic Trust). **Anne Tuffin/Aaria Dobson-Waitere/Peter Reimann**

GW sends to TPG resource consent applications each week. GW's Anna McLellan will be discussing with Anne Tuffin the nature of the contaminant that Centreport has applied for, to put on the Kaiwharawhara Point reclamation land. Anne will then pass this information on to Aaria Dobson-Waitere (Zealandia). **Anna McLellan/Anne Tuffin**

[Also, Anne Tuffin will advise Aaria of GW's Whaia Caton's contact details to add Zealandia to the GW weekly resource consent notification list. **Anne Tuffin**]

It was suggested that someone should represent TPG on the CentrePort Environmental Consultative Group. Frances Lee fulfilled that role for many years but is no longer able to. Anne Tuffin was nominated, and she agreed. [Peter Reimann proposed this to Thomas Marchant of CentrePort and he agreed. He will advise the date of next meeting].

Submissions

WCC's Draft Long-Term Plan – TPG's submission requested:

- More investment in preserving natural green spaces and maintaining parks and reserves, as well as more control of pest weeds and pest animals.
- New developments must be biophilic due to concern about damage to stream banks from fast stormwater runoff from hard surfaces in the catchment. All developments, including new roads, must have a neutral effect on stormwater runoff, such as by use of swales, wetlands, planting, green walls/roofs, soakage areas, permeable (instead of hard) surfaces, stormwater detention and roof water tankage.

Resource Management Act, National Policy Statement on Urban Development, WCC's proposed new District Plan and Spacial Plan – These require constant vigilance for any implications and projected developments affecting the Park. **TPG**

Correspondence with External Parties

Recent resource consent web alerts	WCC and GW
VW workshops/events/volunteers	Julie Thomson/Clare Teal (VW)
Rubbish collection	John Curran (WCC)
TPG website in National Library	Gillian Lee (National Library)
Sharing of TPG contacts with Predator Free Wellington	Henk Louw (WCC)
COVID-19 Level 2 requirements	WCC Park Rangers
Planting and mulch to commemorate mosque shooting victims	Kumar Kumareswaran (Sathya Sai Group), Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
VW National Volunteer week event postponed	Heidi Quinn (VW)
Pest plant control and OMB below railway	Illona Keenan/Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Work in Park by Conservation Volunteers	Sonja Urban (CVNZ)
Main track alongside Kaiwharawhara Stream closed due to fallen trees and slip	Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Treasury visit to work in Park	Lyne Pringle (VW) Joseph Sant/Emily Howe (Treasury)
Track upgrade below Hanover Street	Tim Harkness/Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
St Benedict's School visit	Fiona Barnett/Michael Havell (St Benedict's School)
TPG 30 th birthday	Daniela Biaggio/Adam Groenewegen (WCC), Kate Sanders (Kept Consulting Ltd), Kumar Kumareswaran (Sathya Sai Group)
Consent notifications	GW
Sanctuary to Sea Update	Aaria Dobson-Waitere (Zealandia)
GW waste dumping consent at Kaiwharawhara Point	Aaria Dobson-Waitere (Zealandia), Whaia Caton (GW)
Collaborate app. relaunched	'Poppy'
Lacebark and fierce lancewood queries	Anita Benbrook (WCC), Dennis Duerr, Andrew Cutler
Plants for spot below 144 Oban Street	Andrew Cutler
Ferry terminal upgrade/relocation discussion	Bronwyn Brown (Wellington Civic Trust), Aaria Dobson-Waitere (Zealandia), Sue Allen (KiwiRail)
Possible group from MfE in April	Heidi Quinn (VW), Lucy Tindall (MfE)
Debris trap clearance	Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Updated 5-Year Plan	Adam Groenewegen/Daniela Biaggio (WCC)
Fallen tree	Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Restoration Day	Jo Fagan (GW), Park Rangers (WCC)
Papakowhai Brownies visit	Katrina
Kaiwharawhara Stream problems	Adam Groenewegen/Daniela Biaggio/William Melville (WCC)
Dogs off-leash Oban slope	Myfanwy Emeny/Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Wadestown fair 13 March	Karen Roper (WRA)
Plants	Doug Tennant
Promotion at Victoria University	Heidi Quinn (VW), Trish Knight (VUW)
Trelissick Park map	Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Plant delivery	Anita Benbrook (WCC)
Volunteer award nominations query	Heidi Quinn (VW)
WCC Long Term Plan submission	Amy Brannigan/Diane Livingston (WCC)

Plant species suggestions for Park	Jonathan Anderson (WCC)
24-hour western Wellington predator snapshot	Minda Goncalves (VUW)
Whaitua Committee engagement	GW
Mapboard graffiti	WCC
MBIE volunteer blitz invitation	Lyne Pringle (VW)
Seaweek estuary cleanup	Amanda Dobson (Enviroschools), Aaria Dobson-Waitere (Zealandia)
New Park brochures	Adam Groenewegen (WCC)
Unveiling Park commemorative bench	Kumar Kumareswaran (Sathya Sai Group)
TPG website in National Library	Gillian Lee (National Library)
Fish passage improvement in catchment by WCC/GW using NIWA databases	Daniela Biaggio (WCC)

Newsletters - VW, NCDRA, Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves.

Finance

The bank balance on 23 February was \$468.80.

Thanks to Deidre Burke for once again paying for the website domain fee.

Other

Turnbull Library Archives – The TPG website contains much historical information. Peter Reimann asked whether this is 'swept' periodically by the library. The library advises that the link to the archived copy of the Trelissick Park Group website is at TPG in National Library. The brief catalogue record will be upgraded to a full record with subject headings, names etc. by the cataloguing team at some stage.

Planting and Seat to Commemorate Mosque Shooting Victims – The Wellington Interfaith Council and Sathya Sai Group have planted 51 heritage tree species in Trelissick Park, in conjunction with TPG. The trees originated from the WCC allocation, supplemented by others from the F & B nursery. These were planted below the Hanover Street entrance near the stream on 5 September 2020. Stakes were put in next to each plant on 20 February. They have carted mulch down and spread it around each plant. They will next carry out maintenance of the area on 31 July. **Sathya Sai Group/Interfaith Council**

WCC have provided a commemorative seat, with plaque, funded by the Interfaith Council to replace a decaying seat bench beside the Northern Walkway half-way between Trelissick Crescent and Bridge 6. An unveiling ceremony was held on 15 March.

Groups in Park – Treasury, CVNZ (twice, another in July), St Benedict's School.

Seaweek Beach Clean-up – TPG attended.

Wadestown Fair 13 March – TPG attended.

Waikowhai Street Entrance – At the last meeting Howard Moore of NCDRA suggested the need for car parking improvement at the entrance and along the roadside, enhancement of the entrance and maintenance at the steps below the entrance. The entrance has now been landscaped with grasses and rengarenga and the steps below appear satisfactory. Peter Reimann to follow-up on car-parking. **Peter Reimann**

Website Update – Bill Hester is working on this. **Bill Hester**

Restoration Day – Peter Reimann attended – excellent for networking and information.

Promotion at VUW – Anne Tuffin in conjunction with VW attended a mini expo at VUW to encourage their staff to join in employee volunteering with such groups as TPG.

TPG's 30th Birthday – 17 June.

The meeting closed at **10.30** a.m.

Next meeting: **9.30 a.m. Tuesday 26 October** 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.