

**Minutes of the 118th meeting of the Trelissick Park/Ngaio Gorge Working Party
held at KATE, Ngaio at 9.30 am on Tuesday 7 March, 2006**

Present: Peter Reimann (Chair), Dorothy Douglass, Barry Durrant, Jock Fleming, Olaf John, Frances Lee, Richard Northmore, Jan Staffan, Caroline Theiler
In attendance: Myfanwy Emeny (nee Hill), WCC. John Holmes, GWRC

Apologies: Deidre Burke, Marilyn Hester

Welcome: Peter extended a warm welcome to a new member of the Group, Caroline Theiler an Adopt a Spot representative. Barry Durrant may replace Richard Northmore as the Wadestown Residents Assn representative. Congratulations and good wishes of the members were extended to Myfanwy on her recent marriage.

WCC: Myfanwy Emeny

Corporate Volunteers: a group of 13 from ANZ will be available for weeding from 1.00pm-5pm on 13/14 March. Myfanwy wanted them for weeding at School Road on one of these days, and it was agreed that Frances would meet them at Trelissick Crescent at 1.00 pm on Monday 13 March to get them started on weeding Korimako blackberry sites. (NB dates now 14/15 March, and Peter Reimann to meet them on 15 March)

Memorandum of Understanding: Work was progressing on the development of a WCC Memorandum of Understanding which will clarify the responsibilities under the 5 year plan of WCC on one hand and the volunteer groups on the other, with special reference to tracks, weed control and planting programmes.

Easement over private land for track below Ngaio Gorge Road: Myfanwy would check with Scott about progress on the legalities involving two private owners in the provision of access for the track over their land.

Spraying of Willow stumps: Members noted that the willow stumps that had been re sprouting around the new bridges had been sprayed by the Council . The question of when the Tree Team might be in the Park again was raised with regard to the removal of trees.(eg sycamores and willows)

Weedeater damage to Plantings: Caroline and Marilyn had met with WCC staff concerned and had shown them the damage done by ring barking. They had been receptive to suggestions. The Memorandum of Understanding should be helpful too.It had been agreed that:

- no weedeating would be done in the 'lawned area' of Wightwick's Field, below Trelissick Crescent and the viewpoint off Waikowhai Street.
- 1/2 metre will be cut back alongside tracks.
- flaxes and cabbage trees must be planted 1.5 metres from track edges.

In addition, a WCC staff education programme is to be provided.

GWRC: John Holmes

Project Kaiwharawhara: The next Project Kaiwharawhara meeting is to be held at 5.30 pm on March 15th at Otari.

Walking in the Stream invitations: This evening walk to observe native fish life with Mike Joy has been delayed but is now planned for 28 or 29 March. It is very weather dependent, and will be limited to 20 people. Further information will be available at the Project Kaiwharawhara meeting where place of meeting, clothing, lights, etc will be discussed.

Fish Passages: Funds for the construction of both fish passages have been approved by WCC. The Blackbridge Road site will be dealt with first. The resource consent is being prepared this week by Graeme Campbell and it is hoped to have the design and construction completed by the end of April. Planting in the area is to be left as late as possible. It is hoped that both fish passages will be completed for the next breeding season.

Railway sites:

(a) Site 1: The up stream site has been inspected by Wayne Cowan. There is much blackberry and not many natives. He suggests that the blackberry be cut back, and the new growth sprayed in the spring before planting. The question is who is to do the cutting back. Some help may be available from GWRC. GWRC and WCC will consult.

(b) Site 2: Wayne and Jonathan Kennett are at Crofton Downs inspecting the 2nd site and Jonathan will report back at 11.00 am.

Planting on both sites to be done in winter 2007

There was some discussion on the provision of plants for these sites. The question had been discussed with Rewi Elliott at Otari who thought it would be possible to provide enough plants. The difficulty was storage. It was suggested that home nurseries might be a solution. Frances will find out how many Group members would be willing to look after plants and directions will be compiled on how to manage a home nursery.

Volunteer Awareness Week: This will be held on 15-18 March and a Workshop will be held on 30 March. Contact Jo Fagan, (GWRC), cost \$95. GWRC is holding and will pay for six places for volunteer groups on a first in first served basis, no more than one place to each Group

Project Kaiwharawhara notices: These had received good coverage and the signs had been favourably commented on including by Pinky Agnew.

Correspondence:

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Feb	Minutes of the Kaiwharawhara Stream Re-vegetation Project-3.2.06
Feb	WCC, List of Environmental Grant recipients, 2004/2005
13. 2.06	WCC, Update on Communication and Participation Project
14. 2.06	GWRC, Application to use endofhall in streams
21. 2.06	Morrison Kent – Ridvan Gardens now willing to have informal dialogue
24. 2.06	Tawa Bush, AGM on 8 March, plus report
26. 2.06	Otari Trust, Copy of its report back to WCC on 2004/05 grant
27. 2.06	C Theiler/M.Hester, discussions with WCC re weeding
27. 2.06	Volunteer Awareness Week 12/18 March
27. 2.06	Otari Trust/Trelissick Park joint application to WCC for grant
March	Otari/Wilton's Bush Trust News
1 .3.06	Environment Court, Ridvan Gardens proceedings on 16 April, 2006

- 2 3.06 Environment Court, Ridvan Gardens (and others), Hearings in weeks 18 April and 24 April
 3. 3.06 GWRC, re Otari meeting 3 March

OUT

24. 2. 06 GWRC, Agreement by Group to consultation conditions for use of endoathall in Kaiwharawhara Stream
 March 5 year Plan, 2006-2010
 March MFE, application for Adopt a Spot Scheme

Finance: The resignation of Richard Northmore as Chairman had also left vacant the position of Treasurer to the Working Group. Peter Reimann volunteered to act as Treasurer to the Group and was authorised on the motion of Olaf John/Jan Staffan to act as joint signatory with Frances to bank accounts held by the Working Group. The motion was **Carried**.

Joint Re-vegetation Project: Jonathan Kennett reported on the meeting he and Wayne Cowan had just completed concerning the preparations required for the revegetation of the two railway sites. The two areas had been leased by WCC. The upstream area is approx 20x30 metres, the down stream area 50x50m. The sites are significant and the main weeds on the upper area, blackberry and tradescantia, will require clearing by a WCC contractor. On the lower site the weeds are not so high but include japanese honeysuckle as well as other weeds common in the area. On both sites weeds need to be cut to ground level and japanese honeysuckle and tradescantia will need 3 or 4 poisonings, say October, December and March, and blackberry poisoned late January/early February. If a contractor, with Wayne Cowan's help, can achieve the level of pest control needed, a minimum of 5000 plants closely planted, will be required to achieve a good canopy and reduce the need for weeding.

The stream is a good boundary for stopping weeds, and monthly work parties will be required to attend to this. A group with well established procedures and regular monitoring of 2 x 10m plots on each site including photographs to show the success of plant growth will be required. Lemonwood, Kohukohu, Wineberry, Five-Finger and Coprosma Robusta are likely to be the most successful. However. the valley experiences frost in winter and the latter is most frost tender. He thought that WCC would probably contract out the weed control phase. Plant supply is also a major issue. Otari, plus home nurseries discussed earlier, and a special request to Berhampore might provide what was necessary. The next meeting for the joint re-vegetation project is 16 April at Otari at 9.00am

General Business/Members Corner:

Joint Re-vegetation Project: Jock Fleming reported that while his role as link between Otari Trust and Trelissick Park/Ngaio Gorge Working Group had not changed, Wilbur Dovey had taken over his place on the joint Kaiwharawhara re-vegetation project and should now also attend the Working Group meetings.

Sewer Pipes: Frances reported that the old sewer pipes were being removed from the stream and that she had rung Iqbal Idris in Capacity to thank his team for getting this task done.

Plimmer Bequest application: Frances reported that the Group application for funds from the Plimmer bequest for a 'Sanctuary to Sea' Walkway had not been short listed, the Committee having supported the Scorching Bay Beautification Project and a project to enhance Central Park. The Group had, however, been listed as an eligible group, with a merit score of 13, though their project was not regarded as highly innovative.

Grant Williams: Grant Williams of the Tree Team has left WCC

Ridvan Gardens: Prof George Gibbs from the Entomology Department at Victoria University had visited the Gully to be destroyed if the Ridvan Gardens project proceeds, and noted the important seed source of older trees, lots of re-vegetation and birds foraging in the area.

Harbourside sub-division: Sites 32 and 33 plus adjoining public areas have recently been planted with flowers, not trees, and in a way that bears no resemblance to the approved planting plan. This has been taken up with WCC. Native plantings in the area near the entrance have also been removed.

Kilmarston sub-division: It has been discovered that resource consent for the filling of 6 gullies on this sub-division was approved by junior staff in GWRC in 2004. This pre-dated the present concern for stream sources in local catchments and GWRC is currently looking at what might be done to ameliorate the situation.

WCC Strategy and Policy meeting, 1 March: Frances reported that the issues discussed at this meeting had included the development of a Long Term Community Plan (LTCCP) for the period 2006/16. The Environment Chapter covered improvement in Council care of streams, and consideration of the need for new regulatory provisions for the care of catchments. Project Kaiwharawhara seems to have had some influence in the recognition of these issues. It was suggested that one of the Councillors be invited to speak to the Group on these matters at a later meeting.

Adopt a Spot Project volunteer application: Phase One of the processing of this application for an Adopt a Spot co-ordinator to Ministry for Environment (MfE) had been completed and the Group was advised that the sum sought may not be sufficient to achieve the desired purpose. The sum sought in Phase Two has been increased to a total estimated \$21,800, of which \$17,200 has been applied for MfE funding. The remaining \$4,600 is 'in kind' costing is for the voluntary work component. The coordinator will recruit and encourage spotees. The result of the application should be known on 21 April. If successful, the funds will be distributed through Highland Park Progressive Assn. Inc.

Booklet: A copy of the booklet published by the South Coast Gateway Trust had been received as an example of what can be funded through WCC. The purpose and value of a Trelissick Park book to the group needs to be established. Meanwhile, an approach has been made to former Chairman, John Mc Innes for his comments.

Plant Order: Caroline and Marilyn to compile a list from the plants available at Berhampore for the 500 allocated to the Group. It was thought that all 500 would be needed for infill planting. Application to be made by 31 March.

5 Year Plan: The five year plan and schedule, 2006/2010 have been prepared and have gone to WCC and GWRC for comment. Jock Fleming noted that the area covered by Otari was now 100 hectares, not 77 as stated in the 5 year plan.

Rats and Possums: Larger numbers of rats than usual have been sighted in the Park. It decided that both WCC and GWRC should be advised of this by Frances. It was also noted that the baiting of possum stations in the Park had been taken over from Richard Northmore by Rosie Doole

Wadestown Fair: This to be held on 18 March outside the Library. The Group could have a display. (Peter Reimann to contact John Shrapnell)

Kaiwharawhara Reclamation: Frances still actioning CentrePorts' title to unreclaimed land and the stream/estuary area.

Brookside: developer to replant both sides of the stream this winter.(WCC Officer – Paul Duffin)

Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held at KATE, Ngaio, at 9.30 am on Tuesday 18 April.