

Trelissick Park Group: Minutes of the 142nd meeting, held at Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, 9:30 a.m. Tuesday 7 July 2009

Abbreviations:

WCC Wellington City Council
GW Greater Wellington Regional Council
NPA Ngaio Progressive Association
HPPA Highland Park Progressive Association
DoC Department of Conservation
TPG Trelissick Park Group

Persons to action: in bold italics (some for Marc Slade of WCC, if not able to be actioned by his leaving date of 10 July, would transfer to Amber Bill or Myfanwy Emeny?)

Square brackets – subsequent to meeting or other relevant information.

Members Present

Peter Reimann (chair)	Carolyn Theiler
Frances Lee	Olaf John
Dorothy Douglass	Stan Pillar

Apologies

John Morrison, Wellington City Councillor	Andy Foster, Wellington City Councillor
Marc Slade, WCC Community Biodiversity Coordinator	Robyn Smith, GW Team Leader, Community Environmental Projects
Justin McCarthy, WCC Pest Plant Officer	Joby Mills, WCC Park Ranger
Steven Peters, WCC Park Ranger	Fiona Glasse, Secretary
Robert Mackintosh, Forest and Bird	Barry Durrant, Wadestown Resident's Association

Minutes

The minutes of the 141st meeting, held on 19 May 2009, were confirmed.

WCC Items

Debris Trap and Fish Migration Blockage - Marc Slade has discussed with Amber Bill a long-term solution to ensure fish migration is never blocked at the debris trap. She advised that GW had previously expressed the view that even in its current state the debris trap would not be a major obstacle to NZ fish species such as galaxids and eels. WCC were considering using some under-spend from the stream protection programme to do a feasibility study, but that opportunity has now passed with the new financial year. Amber didn't see it as a priority given GW's previous comments.

TPG still think that moving the rocks below the trap back up to their original positions would help to restore fish passage. As a crane is used to clear logs and branches from the debris trap, it appears that the rocks could be moved at the same time [– to be taken up with Sam Lister of Capacity when the next clearance is necessary.] **Sam Lister/Capacity**

[The Consent allows silt removal in March and between August and December].

Permanent Names for Tracks in the Park – Marc Slade is providing copies of the map showing the proposed names. **Marc Slade**

WCC 500 Tree Allocation – Will arrive at Trelissick Crescent (opp. No. 19) at 9.30 AM on Tuesday 14 July (the date of the working bee at Ngaio Gorge Road).

Leasing of Railway Land – Following an inspection of the rail corridor with Frances Lee and Peter Reimann, Marc Slade is pursuing obtaining a letter of permission to work on railway land in preference to extending the existing lease. **Marc Slade**

WCC Parks and Gardens Staff Changes – Marc Slade departs on 10 July and Myfanwy Emeny is returning part-time to take over.

Possible Addition to Park below 113 – 117 Sefton Street (from last TPG meeting) – It appears that a developer Mr O'Neill and WCC have agreed on a swap between a road reserve at 113 – 117 Sefton Street and some land with a right of way – the land to be added to the Park. However, it appears neighbours have objected and taken the matter to the Environment Court. This emerged from the Wadestown Resident's Association meeting, but details are not clear. Marc Slade will check and advise. **Marc Slade**

Other WCC Work Summary (taken up with WCC via emails)

- Destruction of warning sign at lower end of forest remnant track. **David Halliday**
- Undermining of foundations – bridges 4 and 5 – David Halliday is addressing this issue. **David Halliday**
- Puddling at magazine building – Additional gravel has been laid by Ontrack and a drain trench excavated to the stream.
- Ngaio Gorge Road strengthening – next phase due to start in about a week.
- Restoration planting after Ontrack Work – Landscape plan with locations for planting and species – to be vetted by TPG before Ontrack proceeds. **Joby Mills**

- Picnic Benches – 2 picnic benches are being made for installation by WCC next to the magazine building, from surplus railway sleepers provided at no charge by Ontrack. **Joby Mills**
- Northern Walkway Weed-eating – Needs including in WCC regular weed-eating schedule (from below Hanover St entrance down to bridge 6). **Joby Mills**
- Sign Post Downstream of Bridge 5 – There is a need for a post with a blue direction marker, where the track forks at the end of the grassed area downstream of bridge 5. People get confused here, as the right hand track just goes to the stream, then ends. **Joby Mills**
- Dead Willows across Korimako Stream between Bridges 4 and 5. Some of this debris is now in the stream and will cause stream bank erosion or blockage/flooding. **Joby Mills**

GW Items

Extension of Take Care Funding – Further to the minutes of the last meeting, Robyn Smith subsequently provided details of GW policy change as follows:

“Our usual policy for funding care groups is to spread \$19,000 over five years. In year one we grant the groups \$3,000, and in year’s two, three and four this is increased to \$5,000. The final year grant drops to \$1,000. We have had a small number of groups request a further year’s funding when they find they need only one more year to finish their project. Although groups are able to apply for an extension to their funding, it seems pointless to drop a group’s funding down to \$1,000 for their fifth year and then grant a further year when the project could be finished earlier if they had a larger grant. We propose allowing these groups to be granted (up to) an additional \$4,000 in their last year of funding to enable completion of the project and that this be granted on a case by case basis. The Council’s Funding Policy for Care Groups would be changed accordingly. As the number of groups in this situation is small, this will not require any change to the overall funding requirements for *Take Care*.

However, if you apply for extra funding for your last year, it precludes you applying for any further funding.”

Corporate Groups – Juzah Zammit-Ross is awaiting further details from an enquiry from a corporate group wanting to work in the park via Volunteer Wellington. **Juzah Zammit-Ross**

Ferns – Robyn has notified suppliers of delivery details of the 200 ferns in pots from FerNZ (“Take Care funded”) and 195 ferns and 12 tree ferns from Fern Factor (Honda Treefund). Delivery will probably be later in July to 51 Heke Street, Ngaio.

Plants/Planting

On-going from home nursery supplies for working bees and adopt a spot volunteers. [About 800] of the ferns supplied from Fern Factor as plugs are now planted, also [about 800] of the bush rice grass originating from Otari Wilton’s Bush surplus tray, together with several hundred reveg. and heritage species.

Pest Control

Tradescantia – All spraying for this year has been completed.

Japanese honeysuckle – Complete. Megan Banks advises a “touch-up” may be required in spring and new areas further east then sprayed.

Remainder of “Take Care” Funding – The contractor (Mark McAlpine) has completed spraying montbretia and some tradescantia below Trelissick Crescent. \$1,000 is available for 2009-10 for expected follow-up work.

Animal Pests – Bait is still being emptied consistently from several bait stations – probably by rats. Since September 2008, 22 mustelids and 1 hedgehog have been caught in the 14 traps.

Project Kaiwharawhara

Next meeting date and last meeting minutes awaited. One of the speakers at the last meeting, Bethanna Jackson of Victoria University, advised that her students might be interested in pursuing the local hydrology – to be followed up when Bethanna returns from overseas. **Marc Slade**

Kaiwharawhara Estuary/Reclamation

A meeting has been held to discuss Frances Lee’s comprehensive summary of all known issues (Paul Bruce (GW), Celia Wade-Brown (WCC), Dorothy Douglass (HPPA), Frances Lee and Peter Reimann). The upshot is that Frances Lee is working on a funding application for a WCC Environment Grant for a study to examine options for restoration and access, in conjunction with the proposed Great Harbour cycling/walking track and Sanctuary to the Sea track. The application would be channelled through HPPA. **Frances Lee**

At a site visit, Robyn Smith of GW, Frances Lee and Peter Reimann agreed on the location for the replacement Project Kaiwharawhara sign (less vulnerable to damage from trucks). This will now be installed by GW. **Robyn Smith**

It was noted that the weeding arranged by Centreport/Interislander has been done.

Environment Court

Kilmarston Developments

Resolution of NPA’s appeal appears close, but one of the appellants, Frank McGuire, is still awaiting answers.

District Plan Change 61 (Rezoning of land off Huntleigh Park Way, Heke Street, Thatcher Crescent)

WCC have advised that mediation with the appellants failed. An Environment Court hearing is the next step – date to be advised.

Submissions

Peter Reimann spoke to the TPG submission on the WCC 2009 to 2019 Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) at a WCC meeting.

The draft WCC Dog Control Policy has been received. Frances Lee will draft a submission which will then be circulated to TPG members for comment for a TPG submission. **Frances Lee**

Correspondence

Emails

A large number of emails were received and sent, covering the subjects below:

Sign vandalism – forest remnant track	Joby Mills (WCC)
Work summary	Steven Peters, Joby Mills (WCC)
Additional resources to support community environmental care groups	Andy Foster (WCC)
Fish migration blockage at debris trap	Marc Slade (WCC)
Article for Biosecurity Institute magazine “Protect”	Lynne Huggins (Biosec. Inst.), Megan Banks (GW)
Planting at sewer excavation off Waikowhai Street	Joby Mills (WCC)
WCC 10 Year Plan submission	WCC
Kaiwharawhara estuary	Celia Wade-Brown (WCC), Paul Bruce (GW)
Puddle at magazine site	Steven Peters, Joby Mills (WCC)
Project Kaiwharawhara meeting	Marc Slade (WCC)
Track from Oban Street	Ian Shearer (HPPA), Andrew Hollings
Quotation for potting mix (Community Conservation Fund application)	Wayne Sio (The Bark Farm)
350 Wellington support	Willemijn Vermaat (350 Wellington)
Forest remnant track	Grant Preston-Thomas
Ngaio Gorge strengthening work and vehicle damage	Joby Mills (WCC)
Maps with track names	Marc Slade (WCC)
Corporate volunteer help via Volunteer Wellington	Juzah Zammit-Ross (WCC)
Spraying of montbretia and tradescantia by Mark McAlpine	Megan Banks (GW)
Community Conservation funding now 1 year, not 2 years	Robyn Smith (GW)
Erosion at bridge foundations	Joby Mills, David Halliday (WCC)
Project Coordinator advertisement	Julie Thompson (Volunteer Wellington)
Questions on reserves, Plimmer bequest and DP change for “native vegetation protection”	Marc Slade (WCC)
Dog policy	WCC
Website update	Lindsay Bonnett
Rabbit discouragement by long wet grass	Chris Horne
Take Care funding extension options	Robyn Smith (GW)
Eco-sourcing	Robyn Smith (GW)
Marc Slade departure and Myfanwy Emeny return	Marc Slade (WCC)
St Benedict’s School work in park	Rachel Davis
Forest and Bird representation on TPG	Robert Mackintosh

Letters

Inwards

From DoC acknowledging receipt of Community Conservation Fund application

From Brett McKay (WCC) concerning failure of District Plan Change 61 (Huntleigh Park) mediation

From Genevieve Drake (WCC) enclosing draft Dog Control Policy

From Luke Troy (WCC) enclosing feedback on Draft Plan Changes for residential areas and suburban centres

From Volunteer Wellington – receipt for subscription.

Outwards

To DoC – Community Conservation Fund application

Finance

The bank balance as at 4 June is \$1,023.54.

A payment of \$181.30 to Peter Reimann for Community Conservation Fund application printing, photocopying Gorge Gazette, gift and card for Lindsay Bonnett (wine) for website work, 6 titoki trees, compost, fertiliser and propagating sand was approved.

Other

Committee work sharing and succession – Peter Reimann has advertised for a “Projects Coordinator” to assist with projects and coordination (e.g. submissions and funding applications). No responses have yet been received. Enquiries will be sent to Rotary, the Lions and Probus. **Peter Reimann**

Website – Lindsay Bonnett has updated the website. **Peter Reimann**

Forest and Bird representation – Gordon Purdie has resigned from F & B. Robert Mackintosh will represent F & B on TPG.

Commemorative Seat from Forest and Bird for Martin Hunt – Peter Reimann will check to see whether F & B are still intending to proceed with a commemorative seat at the rear of the grassy flat between bridges 4 and 5. **Peter Reimann**

Biosecurity Institute article – Peter Reimann’s article about the park entitled “An Urban Park – Desecration and Restoration” has been included in winter issue of the magazine “Protect”. An emailed copy has been received - Peter to distribute. **Peter Reimann**

350 Wellington – A photo of plants in the form of a “350” is to be attempted when the plants are delivered on 14 July, as requested by the 350 Wellington organisation (350 represents CO₂ atmospheric parts/million concentration limit aspiration - refer www.350.org).

Work in park by Wadestown Resident’s Association and HPPA - John Shrapnell of Wadestown Resident’s Association wishes to emphasise that these organisations have been working in Trelissick Park since 1969. [TPG (formerly Trelissick Park Ngaio Gorge Working Group) commenced in 1991].

Next Meeting

The next meetings are to be at **9:30 a.m., Tuesday 1 September and 17 November**, Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, 86 Khandallah Road. (A meeting between these 2 dates can be arranged if necessary)

The meeting concluded at 11.20 a.m.

Dates for next 2 working bees and general location details, are:

Tuesday 14 July	Ngaio Gorge Rd after collecting trees at Trelissick Cres
Sunday 2 August	Trelissick Crescent