

Trelissick Park Group: Minutes of the 144th meeting, held at Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, 9:30 a.m. Tuesday 17 November 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
F & B Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society

Square brackets – subsequent to meeting or other relevant information.

Members Present

Peter Reimann (chair)	David Grace
Frances Lee	Olaf John
Dorothy Douglass	Stan Pillar
Carolyn Theiler	Barry Durrant

In Attendance

Joby Mills, WCC Park Ranger	Megan Banks, GW Biosecurity Officer (Plants)
John Foden, Bells Track Group	

Apologies

Andy Foster, Wellington City Councillor	Robyn Smith, GW Team Leader, Community Environmental Projects
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Minutes

The minutes of the 143rd meeting, held on 1 September 2009, were confirmed.

WCC Items

Debris Trap and Rock Repositioning – Amber Bill was to speak to GW about impediment to fish migration caused by the rocks having been washed downstream. Also, Sam Lister (Capacity) had advised that the silt was to have been removed from above the debris trap in September. This has not yet happened and Sam Lister did not respond to Frances Lee's enquiry. As machinery is used to clear the silt, it appears that the rocks below the trap could be moved back up to their original positions to help to restore fish passage at the same time. Joby Mills will follow this up with Sam Lister. **Joby Mills**

Willows Across Stream – David Grace has sent details to Joby Mills for removal action. **Joby Mills**

Gulch below Hanover St entrance – TPG has pressed for WCC/Capacity remedial work several times over past years. Meanwhile the erosion and safety hazard increases. TPG are concerned that such a stormwater situation is allowed to persist in this KNE (Key Native Ecosystem) park and that no action has been taken about the safety hazard. David Grace is looking at suggestions and will discuss this further with Joby Mills.

David Grace

Bridge Foundation Undermining – David Halliday is organising repair/gabions at the undermined foundations for bridges 4 and 5 in summer, when the water level will be low.

Branch Out Magazine – The last issue has been received. An electronic version will be produced in future. Peter Reimann has provided to WCC a list of email addresses of those wanting to be on the circulation. Andy Foster advises that a workshop was to be held on 16 November within WCC on communications/engagement which came originally out of officers' decision to drop publications including Branch Out, and focus more on the "Our Wellington" page in the Dominion Post.

Map Showing Permanent Names for Tracks in the Park – John Foden has updated the map to show track names and grid lines. A few other minor changes were suggested: adding bridge numbers, nominating the Ngaio Gorge track from the lower entrance to Waikowhai Street (deleting the Korimako Track name), showing the lookout above bridge 6 and showing the revegetation track below Hanover Street. The old bridge from Wightwick's Field will be retained. John Foden will provide a disc with grid lines and one without, to Joby Mills and Peter Reimann. **John Foden**

Work on Railway Land – Permission Letter from Ontrack – Amber Bill has written to Ontrack concerning permission to work on railway land (in preference to extending the existing leases). No reply has been received and she is following this up. **Amber Bill**

Memorandum of Understanding – TPG is providing comments on the draft MOU compiled by Leicester Cooper (WCC). **David Grace**

Health and Safety – Peter Reimann has signed the WCC Health and Safety folder at a recent meeting with Joby Mills. The Health and Safety Guidelines have been updated accordingly and sent to all volunteers. A park-wide Health and Safety Assessment form is being completed and will be sent to Joby Mills shortly.

David Grace/Peter Reimann

Picnic Tables by Historic Powder Magazine – Joby Mills will expedite this with Ontrack. **Joby Mills**

First Aid Kit – Joby Mills provided a first aid kit for use by the Group on working bees and volunteer days.

Puddling at Bridge 6 – This is still a problem, due to insufficient drainage from the track. **Joby Mills**

Japanese Knotweed – Two plants have been found above the debris trap. Peter Reimann will mark the sites and advise Justin McCarthy and Joby Mills. **Peter Reimann**

Working Bee Pamphlets – Joby Mills will arrange printing of the 2010 pamphlets in accordance with the mark-ups provided. **Joby Mills**

GW Items

Last Year of Take Care Funding – Follow-up spraying of montbretia by Mark McAlpine is being done now.

[Ferns - The Polystichum richardii arrived from NZ Ferns. About half of these have been planted.]

Honda Tree Fund Plants for 2010 – The application for 1,000 riparian grasses/sedges/rushes was successful. This is for stream banks and stormwater ditches as they enter the valley. Peter Reimann will organise delivery arrangements with Robyn Smith. **Peter Reimann**

GW Environmental Awards – Peter Reimann, nominated for the “leadership” award, took 5 GW adjudicators on a short walk through the park and is now a finalist. Awards will be announced on 2 December at a ceremony at the City Gallery.

Joint WCC/GW Funded Pest Weed Spraying - Megan Banks has advised the programme as follows:

- Tradescantia: spraying in gorge between bridges 5 and 6, possibly also down from Trelissick Crescent, in Oct/Nov 2009, with a March 2010 follow-up.
- Follow-up spray of previous areas, where necessary, in Oct/Nov 2009.
- Japanese honeysuckle: in area above the gorge between bridges 5 and 6 and below Hanover Street in Oct/Nov 2009 (cut/spray, with follow-up in March 2010).
- The contractor for the above 3 items is David Williams of GSL. He worked in the park 2 years ago.
- Climbing asparagus: dig out and remove (with in-tact tubers) above historic site, between bridges 5 and 6 and below Hanover Street – contract not organised yet.

Megan Banks will look at a significant tradescantia patch found just below the Waikowhai Street entrance (between the road and the track). **Megan Banks**

Plants/Planting

Planting is complete for the year. The Saphya Sai Service organisation will be maintaining their spot across the stream below the debris trap on Saturday, also cutting Australian wattle.

Peter Reimann may have to ask GW for their pump if it does not rain soon.

Animal Pest Control

Bait is still being emptied consistently from several bait stations – probably by rats, which are still being caught in the mustelid traps. Since September 2008, 29 mustelids and 1 hedgehog have been caught in the 14 traps].

Thanks to Robyn Smith (GW), who arranged delivery of 50 wire reinforced mesh rabbit protectors. About half of these have been installed on susceptible karamu, kowhai and cabbage tree species below Trelissick Crescent.

DoC Community Conservation Fund Work

[Following notification of the funding success for restoration of riparian railway land below bridge 5:

- Deed of Grant signed
- First invoice submitted and funds lodged in TPG bank account
- Order placed on Wayne Hawkins for blackberry cutting and spraying 2 months later. The cutting has already been done.
- Order placed on Taupo Native Plant Nursery for 1,150 plants in root trainers – delivery November, 2009. We will need to re-pot these into bags during the summer after ordering some bulk potting mix.]

Peter Reimann is taking a reporter for the community newspaper “City Life” to the site on 17 November for photographs.

Project Kaiwharawhara

Next meeting: Wednesday 18 November at Otari Wilton’s Bush Visitor Centre at 5.30 PM. Juliet Milne from Greater Wellington will be talking on her report ‘stormwater contaminants in urban streams’ and Stefania Chrzanowska from the Wellington City Council District Plan team will be talking about the residential and suburban centre plan change.

Kaiwharawhara Estuary/Reclamation

Frances Lee is making progress with initiating funding from WCC and Centreport for a study by Boffa Miskell to examine options for restoration and access, in conjunction with the proposed Great Harbour cycling/walking track and Sanctuary to the Sea track. She is meeting Boffa Miskell with Paul Bruce (GW) on 17 November.

The replacement Project Kaiwharawhara sign (less vulnerable to damage from trucks) has been cleared within GW, so will soon be installed. **Robyn Smith**

[A working bee was held at the estuary on Sunday 6 September for weeding, litter removal and planting.]

Environment Court

Kilmarston Developments

Resolution of NPA's appeal appears close, but one of the appellants, Frank McGuire, is still awaiting answers. Kilmarston wants to clear the NPA and McGuire appeals together. GW have extended their consent for filling in 6 gullies without consulting interested parties. TPG has written to the GW CEO to complain. NPA have written a back-up letter. (Frances Lee advised that Andy Foster (WCC) and Sally Baber (GW) are looking into issues with ephemeral streams in general).

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

The Environment Court programme is:

- Filing/serving evidence by all parties was completed on 11 November. Rebuttal evidence from WCC will be on 25 November.
- Meeting of experts, with joint statement: by 9 Dec.

TPG has submitted the same evidence as the appellants, Gordon and Dianne Purdie, as well as summarising the original submission and stating that "we have no confidence that there will be adequate periodic inspections, then sign-off at completion by a Council officer to certify compliance with the consent conditions, nor that any subsequent transgressions will be discovered in time", referring to a past documented example of this at 23 Thatcher Crescent.

Submissions

Plan Change 70 – Earthworks – TPG lodged a submission on the new District Plan Change 70 covering Earthworks. One party, Cardno TCB, has lodged an objection to the TPG submission relating to need for notification.

WCC Draft Dog Control Policy – The final Dog policy document from WCC is awaited.

Correspondence

Emails

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

Letter to Ontrack about permission to work on railway land	Amber Bill (WCC), Frazer Tweedie (Ontrack)
Honda Treefund form for 2010 requirements	Jo Fagan (GW)
Cost of toetoe plants	Fred Allen (Kiwi Plants)
TPG submission on Plan Change 70 (earthworks)	Lauren Neal (WCC)
Tawa Bush Telegraph	Allan Todd (Friends of Tawa Bush)
Podocarp planting (6 rimu off Hanover St entrance, 6 kahikatea up & down from bridge 6)	Andy Hollings (from F & B nursery)
GW environmental awards	Robyn Smith (GW)
GW leadership award application	Matt Velde (GW)
Conservation Week activities	Peter Stuart (DoC) & Paula Quayle (Parliament – Katrina Shanks' secretary)
Weed control spraying programme	Megan Banks (GW)
Dog Policy oral statements (Frances Lee and Deidre Burke)	To WCC meeting
Conducted tours of Trelissick Park for Wellington visitors	Joby Mills (WCC) & Fayne Baring
"350" activities (aspirational atmospheric CO ₂ goal)	350 Aotearoa
Polystichum richardii fern delivery	Robyn Smith (GW), Neil Amies (NZ Ferns)
"Branch Out" magazine closure & electronic substitute	Trina Saffioti (WCC)
DoC Community Conservation Fund success	Amber Bill & Joby Mills (WCC), Robyn Smith & Megan Banks (GW), Frazer Tweedie (Ontrack)
Ngaio Gorge road strengthening work progress enquiry	Scott Kirkland (WCC)
Concern about Kilmarston consent extension by GW	Robyn Smith & David Benham (GW), David Hedgley (NPA), Andy Foster (WCC)
BNZ "Closed for Good" application, execution and feedback for volunteer weed releasing in park	Shelley Martin (GW), "Closed for Good" & Roger Bowron (BNZ)
Kaiwharawhara estuary study and funding	Blair O'Keefe (Centreport), Paul Bruce (GW), Celia Wade-Brown (WCC), Boydon Evans (Boffa Miskell), David Bishop & Kerry Swadling (DoC) and others
Rubbish pick-up and mulch delivery	Joby Mills (WCC)
Weed releasing by St Benedict's School	Rachel Davis (St Benedict's School)
Website update	Lindsay Bonnett
Bait station status and mustelid trap bait queries	Bruce Brewer (GW)
NPA change of contact details	David Hedgley (NPA)
NPA meeting agenda and then minutes	David Hedgley (NPA)
Sewage leak	Joby Mills (WCC)

Hole in track from Hanover Street	Joby Mills (WCC)
Health and safety folder/sign-off	Joby Mills (WCC)
First aid kit	Joby Mills (WCC)
Diesel smell and thanks for spraying historic wall	Joby Mills (WCC)
Removal of willows across stream	Joby Mills (WCC)
Undermining of bridge 4 & 5 foundations	Joby Mills (WCC)
Up-rooted/stolen post and brochure holder, Hanover St entrance	Joby Mills (WCC)
Memorandum of Understanding draft	Joby Mills & Leicester Cooper (WCC)
Friends of Ohiro Stream newsletter	Janet Campbell & Paul Blashke
Memorial seat for Martin Hunt (trees proposed instead)	Janet Cockburn (Forest and Bird)
Project Kaiwharawhara meeting	Myfanwy Emeny (WCC)
Wellington 2040 submission	David Hedgley (NPA)
Draft article for newspaper "City Life" on DoC funding success	Andrew Bonallack (City Life), Katrina Edwards (DoC)
Loan of water pump	Robyn Smith (GW)

Letters

Inwards

- WCC – Closing date for further submissions on earthworks DPC70, also date for oral submission
- Fran Wilde (GW) – Response to TPG submission on 10-Year Plan
- Nigel Corry (GW) – Acknowledgement of nomination for Leadership Award
- Dorothy Reynolds (HPPA) – Donation to TPG
- Dorothy Shaw (Bowen Hospital) – Refurbishment has started. Please advise if any concerns.
- Barbara Franklin (WCC) – Acknowledgement of grant application from Environmental Pool
- Geoff Skene (GW) – Invitation to Environmental Awards ceremony 2 December
- WCC Health and Safety folder
- WCC – Invitation to Christmas party
- Debra Gainey (Ministry of Justice) – Numerous letters concerning Environment Court programme on DPC61 appeal (properties adjacent Huntleigh Park)
- Evidence concerning Environment Court programme on DPC61 appeal (properties adjacent Huntleigh Park) from: Hazelton Law (for Chester and Kubala and Taylors), G & D Purdie, DLA Phillips Fox (for WCC), Izard Weston (for Kellys), Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves, Jane Harding, Keith Rogers & Roberta Loretto, C & L McCallum.
- Copy of letter from David Hedgley (NPA) to GW concerning erroneous GW consent extension for Kilmarston development.

Outwards

- WCC - Submission on earthworks DPC70
- Dorothy Reynolds (HPPA) – Thanks for donation
- Debra Gainey (Ministry of Justice) - TPG evidence concerning DPC61 appeal (properties adjacent Huntleigh Park) –copied to appellants and all s274 parties.

Finance

The bank balance as at 4 November was \$2,721.74. This includes payment of the first TPG invoice by DoC for \$2,025, in accordance with the Community Conservation Fund Deed of Grant.

There is still about \$90 to spend from the St Luke's donation. **Peter Reimann**

Other

New Secretary – Peter Reimann will initiate enquiries for a new secretary early next year. **Peter Reimann**

Commemorative Seat from Forest and Bird for Martin Hunt – Janet Cockburn of F & B says they now propose to commemorate Martin Hunt with heritage trees, instead of a seat. They have taken this up with Amber Bill (WCC).

Frances Lee Suggestions/items

- A stream clean-up should be organised soon.
- Balsam is emerging – needs pulling out.
- Need to watch for pollution/silting from the Bowen Hospital works
- F & B are looking at green corridors.
- Frances wished to acknowledge all the work put in by Peter Reimann, Carolyn Theiler, Marilyn and Bill Hester and Dorothy Douglass. Peter Reimann wished to add Frances Lee to that list.

Next Meeting

The next meetings are to be at **9:30 a.m., Tuesday 2 February 2010**, and **Tuesday 6 April 2010**, Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, 86 Khandallah Road.

The meeting concluded at 11.40 a.m.