

Trelissick Park Group: Minutes of the 146th meeting, held at Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, 9:30 a.m. Tuesday 6 April 2010

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	Stan Pillar
Dorothy Douglass	Barry Durrant

In Attendance

Joby Mills, WCC Park Ranger	Robyn Smith, GW Team Leader, Community Environmental Projects
Megan Banks, GW Biosecurity Officer (Plants)	Justin McCarthy, WCC Pest Plant Officer

Apologies

Andy Foster, Wellington City Councillor	John Morrison, Wellington City Councillor
Celia Wade-Brown, Wellington City Councillor	

Minutes

The minutes of the 145th meeting, held on 2 February 2010, were confirmed.

WCC Items

Silt Removal above Debris Trap – Carried out in March.

Willows Across Stream – Most have been removed.

Gulch below Hanover St entrance – David Halliday will organise a water-disperser made from rip-rap rock within the gulch. **Joby Mills**

Bridge Foundation Undermining – Gabions installed at bridges 4 and 5 in March.

Work on Railway Land – Permission Letter from Ontrack – Amber Bill is still waiting for Ontrack written confirmation of permission for weed removal and tree planting on railway land by the streams. **Amber Bill**

Memorandum of Understanding – Completed and signed.

Health and Safety - A draft park-wide Health and Safety Assessment form has been filled in and sent to Joby Mills - comments awaited. **Joby Mills**.

Weeds from Past Ngaio Gorge Road Work - The previous excavated areas are infested by weeds, particularly buddleia. These will act as a seed source for spread further into the park. The weeds need to be replaced by tree planting, suitable for the steep slope and mesh on the surface. **Joby Mills**

Weed Trees along the Valley - Buddleia and willow is emerging in various places along the valley - needs a cutting/poisoning sweep. **Joby Mills/Justin McCarthy**

Water Pepper Infestation - WCC has sprayed the remaining water pepper in and below Waikowhai Street. More has been found along the Kaiwharawhara Stream.

Sewer Pipe Relining - Completed. TPG is very pleased at the way Joby Mills and the Contractor worked together to minimise plant damage.

Ngaio Gorge Road Work - An on-site meeting was held in early February between WCC, Opus International Consultants, NPA and TPG. Outcomes:

- Scott Kirkland will arrange for WCC to do more planting below wall 8 in May/June. **Joby Mills/Scott Kirkland**
- Work on wall 6 will start soon. Tradescantia at the site has been sprayed. A mesh fence to prevent debris falling into the park was suggested.
- Wall 7 (opposite and down from Perth St intersection) will follow. This requires removal of some large trees (including titoki) and a sloping embankment of fill. WCC will re-plant this area.

Weed-eating - Some damage has occurred to new plantings between the magazine building and the lower entrance, due to weed-eating. TPG requested that this area be deleted from any future weed-eating schedule. **Joby Mills**

GW Items

GW Environmental Awards – Peter Reimann has given his \$500 prize money to Ngaio School for building a propagation hut from recycled material.

Take Care Fund Application - TPG has lodged an application for 3 years of funding for a "careful sprayer" (continuation of the last two year's work by Mark McAlpine) on tradescantia and montbretia, also home nursery expenses (\$1,500/annum).

Weed Control

- Tradescantia: spraying in gorge between bridges 5 and 6 and around the scout hall, with a March 2010 follow-up - completed.
- Follow-up spray of previous areas where necessary (from Waikowhai St to the gorge and bridge 6 to the bottom entrance) - completed, but spraying was indiscriminate, killing just under 100 new plants, others looking sick - it is expected in a few more weeks the total will be higher than 100. Repairs??
- Japanese honeysuckle: in area above the gorge between bridges 5 and 6 and below Hanover Street to the rail track (cut/spray, with follow-up in March 2010) - completed
- The contractor for the above 4 items was David Williams of GSL.
- 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??
- Plans for next financial year??
- Coordination with use of "careful" sprayer for isolated tradescantia and montbretia (eg Mark McAlpine) if "Take Care" fund application successful.
- Other areas needing spraying:
 - Weeds below past Ngaio Gorge Road strengthening work - mainly buddleia (see under WCC above)
 - Buddleia, Japanese honeysuckle, blackberry on railway land
 - Sycamore throughout the park, also on covenanted land below Hanover St
 - Mexican daisy around fish ladder area
 - Water pepper in lower Kaiwharawhara.
- Note: Bill Hester has done several sweeps of the park manually removing balsam before flowering.

Plants/Planting

Honda Tree Fund Plants for 2010 – The 1,000 riparian grasses/sedges/rushes will be delivered to 51 Heke St, Ngaio. All will be in root trainers, except the toetoe in pb3s. These are for planting along ephemeral streams, at stormwater outlets, on stream banks and on the open patch below the debris trap (recently sprayed for montbretia). Delivery:??

DoC Community Conservation Fund - About 800 trees were planted in March on the streamside area on railway land down from bridge, assisted by 8 from AIG Insurance and 16 from ACC, arranged through Volunteer Wellington. Rabbit protectors, kindly arranged by Robyn Smith, have been put around karamu and cabbage trees. The site will probably fit another 100- 200 trees, leaving another 200 - 300 surplus to be planted elsewhere.

WCC Allocation - Delivery of the requested 500 plants has been requested for Tuesday 13 July at Trelissick Cres. These will be 350 standard revegetation species and 150 canopy (heritage/podocarp) species.

Home Nursery - the 3 home nurseries have a variety of species to supplement the above.

Oban St Track Funding

David Grace has discussed possibilities with David Halliday (WCC), Barry Durrant, Andy Hollings and Jono Baddiley. David Grace is conducting a survey via HPPA newsletter and letterbox drop of the need for a track by the locals.

If the survey indicates a need, a price estimate for the track and bridge will follow, then funding will be sought.

David Grace

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, 36 mustelids and 3 hedgehogs have been caught in the 15 traps. Empty (blown) eggs are successfully catching animals.

Rabbits are becoming more prevalent in the park - possibly escaped pets?

Project Kaiwharawhara

??

Kaiwharawhara Estuary/Reclamation

The Kaiwharawhara Estuary and reclamation scoping study by Boffa Miskell is proceeding, based on the scoping paper. This is examining ownership, options for restoration and access. Support has been obtained from ministers (Transport still outstanding) and a request lodged with Centreport for additional funding to cover the scope adequately.. **Frances Lee**

GW has asked Centreport to move the log in front of the replacement Project Kaiwharawhara sign outward for greater protection from backing trucks .

Environment Court

Kilmarston Developments

No further advice of any resolution of NPA and Frank McGuire's appeals. TPG has written to GW CEO seeking more robust consenting processes, following the recent renewal of the consent for filling in gullies/ephemeral streams.

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

The Environment Court decision is as follows:

- Amendment of highly significant ecological values management line
- 1 household unit east of the above line at 11A Huntleigh Park Way (controlled activity)
- 1 household unit east of the above line on all existing lots (restricted discretionary activity)
- Some other vegetation clearance to specified limits
- WCC to prepare a revised Plan Change by 16 April, with parties to respond by 7 May, further revisions after 10 working days and parties to respond by 28 May.

Correspondence

Emails

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

Plan Change 61 (rezoning properties adjacent to Huntleigh Park	Debra Gainey (Environment Court), Andy Foster (WCC)
Donation to Schools for environmental projects	Ngaio School (Kristin Sheppard) and St Benedict's School (Rosemarie Ellis)
Seaweed beach clean-up	Don Richards
New mustelid trap (No. 15)	Justin McCarthy (WCC)
Ngaio Gorge Road strengthening	Janet Duxfield (Opus), Scott Kirkland (WCC), Julia Williams (NPA)
Stream clean-up	Donna Sherlock (WCC)
Newsletters	Friends of Owhiro Stream and Friends of Tawa Bush
Memorandum of Understanding and Trelissick Park map	Leicester Cooper (WCC)
Advertisement for secretary	Judy Kerr (Volunteer Wellington)
Water pepper infestation	Joby Mills/Justin McCarthy (WCC)
Entry on Globepinner's website	Nicola Cassolato
Project Kaiwharawhara meeting	Myfanwy Emeny (WCC)
St Benedict's School work in park	Rachel Davis (St Benedict's School)
Kaiwharawhara Estuary/reclamation study	Boyden Evans/Katie Bailey (Boffa Miskell), Paul Bruce (GW), Celia Wade-Brown (WCC)
Human birds programme	Juzah Zammit-Ross (GW)
Consent for gravel removal above debris trap	Joby Mills (WCC)
Wellington Community Network (WCN) advisory	Joel Umali
Group to assistance with weeding and spraying	Robyn Smith (GW)
Asiatic knotweed	Joby Mills (WCC)
Completion of gabions for bridges 4 and 5	Joby Mills (WCC)
AIG Insurance and ACC groups to work in park	Judy Kerr (Volunteer Wellington)
Fallen tree on Forest Remnant track	Joby Mills (WCC)
Take Care fund application	Robyn Smith (GW)
Sprayed trees, spraying	Megan Banks (GW), Justin McCarthy/Amber Bill (WCC)
Corporate Groups to work in park	Juzah Zammit-Ross (GW)
Rabbit protection for trees order	Robyn Smith (GW)
Request for moving log to protect Project KW sign	Robyn Smith (GW)
Request for black plastic bags	Joby Mills (WCC)
Possum bait station refills	Bruce Brewer (GW)
Request for funding from CentrePort draft letter	Boyden Evans (Boffa Miskell)
Ring-barking of young trees from weed-eating	Joby Mills (WCC)
Working bee dates for GW website	Jo Fagan (GW)
Youth Environment Forum invitation	Joan Fernandes (Ministry for Environment)
Kilmarston GW consent	Andy Foster (WCC)
Rabbits more prevalent in the park	Bruce Brewer (GW), Justin McCarthy (WCC)

Letters

Inwards

- Newsletters - Volunteer Wellington, Otari Wilton's Bush Trust
- Offices of Kate Wilkinson, Nick Smith, Prime Minister, Peter Dunne, Simon Power - Kaiwharawhara estuary and reclamation study support.
- Jeff Lee (St Luke's Anglican Church) - donation
- Amber Bill (WCC) - Thanks for work in park and Memorandum of Understanding
- Volunteer Wellington - annual subscription
- Robyn Smith (GW) - Take Care Funding application
- Environment Court - Decision on appeals concerning Plan Change 61 (properties adjacent to Huntleigh Park).

Outwards

- Jeff Lee (St Luke's Anglican Church) - donation
- Robyn Smith (GW) - Take Care Funding application
- David Benham (GW) - Kilmarston Developments Limited - concerns over resource consent process.

Finance

The bank balance as at ?? February was \$??.

Incoming

Donation from St Luke's Anglican Church, Wadestown: \$325.30

Note: The final payment of \$500 from DoC for the railway riparian restoration below bridge 5 will come on completion, around October.

Outgoing payments approved

Volunteer Wellington - annual subscription: \$50

Peter Reimann for 2 bags potting mix, 4 bags compost and 1 grubber (to replace broken one): \$101.45.

Other

New Secretary – No suitable response yet from Volunteer Wellington.

Website - Support from Wellington Community Network (WCN) closes in June. There may be various means to ensure our website is retained in some form with other hosts and WCN is providing some guidance, such as an on-line tool, a blog and a free workshop on Thursday 15 April at Massey University.??????

Help for Marilyn - David Grace has contacted Volunteer Wellington, seeking someone to work in the park in similar fashion to Marilyn Hester.

Ontrack Access - David Grace has requested a key to the barrier on the bridge by the magazine building, for access to the planting on railway land.

Next Meeting

The next meetings are to be at **9:30 a.m. Tuesday 8 June** and **Tuesday 3 August**, Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, 86 Khandallah Road.

The meeting concluded at 11.35 a.m.