

Trelissick Park Group: Minutes of the 150th meeting, held at Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, 9:30 a.m. Tuesday 7 Dec 2010

Abbreviations:

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

Square brackets – subsequent to meeting or other relevant information.

Members Present

Peter Reimann (chair)	Stan Pillar
Frances Lee	Barry Durrant
David Grace	

In Attendance

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

Apologies

Deidre Burke	Dorothy Douglass
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Minutes

The minutes of the 149th meeting, held on 5 October 2010, were confirmed.

WCC Items

Seat on Railway Land - Frances Lee advised that the \$1400 price excludes gst, so with the 15% gst added it is \$1,610. Donations to date: \$875. Wadestown Resident's Association have agreed to donate half of the remainder, ie \$735/2 = \$368. Group members will be donating the rest.

Words for the plaque agreed as follows: "Gifted by members of the local community" with a quote in smaller lettering at the bottom of the plaque: "What would the world be, once bereft of wet and wildness (Gerard Manley Hopkins)". Barry Durrant has cleared a spot where the seat should go. It is expected that the seat would be installed early in 2011. Frances Lee will now ask WCC to proceed. **Frances Lee**

It was suggested that a seat "unveiling" ceremony could be held, where the contributing parties could be acknowledged.

Ngaio Gorge Road Strengthening - The latest strengthening has been completed. At a meeting on site with WCC and Opus and later correspondence with Julia Williams of NPA, the following has been agreed:

[As one ascends the road;

Grassed area - gravel to be removed, topsoil spread and grass seed sown (in autumn?)

1st excavation - buddleia to be cut/poisoned and suitable species (see below) planted in the wire mesh

2nd excavation - as for 1st

3rd area - Thanks to Joby, who has cut the wattle and broom (still buddleia?)

4th area - Willows and weeds to be removed then suitable species (see below) planted in the wire mesh

5th area - No action - successfully re-planted

6th area - Strengthening work just completed. To be planted with similar "reveg" species as for 5th, next autumn.

7th area - (Below bend to left near top of hill). Still in planning/discussion - major effect on mature native trees eg titoki, tree fern, tree fuschia.

Planting ideas for the meshed areas: small-leaved tight-knitting shrubs and ground covers such as divaricating coprosmas, mingimingi (*Cyathodes fasciculata and/or juniperina*), ground cover muehlenbeckias (eg *M.axillaris* or *M. complexa*).]

Justin McCarthy has not yet received a request to cut/poison the buddleia/willows/weeds on the 1st, 2nd and 4th areas. Peter Reimann will write to Scott Kirkland (WCC) to expedite. **Peter Reimann**

Reserves Classification - Frances Lee has provided Mike Oates (WCC) with copies of its letters of 2005 and 2007 regarding both reserve classification and relevant changes to District Plan maps relating to the Park, so that he can consider these during the next classification review. **Mike Oates (WCC)**

Resealing Kaiwharawhara Road Entrance - TPG have requested that machinery used keep clear of adjacent plantings **Joby Mills (WCC)**

Poplar Trees below Crofton Downs Station - WCC planted these some years ago as a temporary measure for slope stabilisation. Native trees have since grown amongst the poplars. TPG has written to WCC suggesting removal of the poplars, before they become too big. Joby Mills will check with Ontrack to see if they are

happy for these to be removed now, given the influence on slope stability of the native trees now growing under the poplars. **Joby Mills**

Working Bee Pamphlets - Joby Mills will arrange for 300 copies of the 2011 working bee pamphlet - marked up version given to him. **Joby Mills**

Dogs - Joby Mills asked that volunteers take with them a mobile phone so that any attack by dogs can be reported to Joby immediately (eg on humans or ducklings). [Joby's mobile number: 021 227 8392]

Health of Streams for Swimming - With more people using the park there is concern about children swimming in the streams in summer, due to pollution events from stormwater or sewer leakage. [Frances Lee subsequently contacted GW's Summer Warr, who says GW does not recommend going into the water, as it is an urban stream. GW will look into whether notices should be provided.] **Summer Warr (GW)**

Northern Walkway Signage Upgrade - Joby Mills is working with David Halliday (WCC) on upgrading signage and bollards for the Northern Walkway in and adjacent to the park.

TransPower Pylon Foundation Upgrade - The pylon foundation next to the Northern Walkway below Trelissick Crescent is to be upgraded. Joby Mills is meeting with TransPower on site shortly and will keep TPG informed of the programme and any issues. **Joby Mills**

Liquid Fuel Pipeline Upgrade - Joby Mills advised that Mobil has been in contact with him about work being done along the length of the liquid fuel pipeline from the tanks off Kaiwharawhara Road down to the ferry terminal. Possibly plantings may need to be dealt with to safeguard the future of the pipes (eg roots). There are also some willows that need to be removed behind the commercial units (near where the stream goes underground). Joby will contact the Body Shop, as they have working bees along the stream outside their building to look after their plantings (originally provided by GW). He will also keep us informed of the programme/any issues (may involve TPG in a site meeting). **Joby Mills**

Frances Lee will advise Leigh Bull/Boyden Evans of Boffa Miskell, as this traverses some of the area covered by the Kaiwharawhara estuary/reclamation study they are doing. **Frances Lee**

Rubbish - Joby has arranged for rubbish removal from Trelissick Cres in the next few days - Joby Mills to liaise directly with Bill Hester. **Joby Mills**

The 2 new dog litter bins at the Ngaio Gorge and Kaiwharawhara Road entrances are working well and being emptied regularly - thank you WCC.

GW Items

Weed Spraying Update Megan Banks has advised as follows:

Large-scale spraying of tradescantia/honeysuckle - Contract awarded to Dave Calcinaï (including abseiling work on steep faces). The first hit of the tradescantia is to be done before Christmas with the follow up in March. Japanese honeysuckle sites are also to be followed up with new areas to be near Hanover St. The abseil work is for 2 days at this stage with funds available for a day follow up early next year. The areas include all the larger infestations on the true left of the stream as per marked up map provided by TPG, including the gully below the main Trelissick Cres entrance. So far Megan has consent from four of the major landowners for control of tradescantia on private land in this gully, and she is waiting to get hold of the other. All neighbouring residents will receive a letter advising of the work.

Megan Banks/Justin McCarthy

Reparation spraying of blackberry on railway land by Dave Williams - Completed last Friday, using Tordon. David advises planting should not be carried out there for 4 months. They were not requested to do another follow up spray prior to planting but Megan is happy to arrange that if needed - TPG to advise.

P. Reimann (TPG)

Take Care Fund - Mark McAlpine has completed the spray along the stream strip and the Northern Walkway down from Trelissick Crescent. There is still some tradescantia plus cape ivy along the top of Trelissick Cres which he ran out to time to control. A day's worth of follow up is scheduled for February, which Robyn has kindly offered to assist with paying for. Megan intends to help Mark on the day and get the cape ivy too. This follow up in the same season is important to keep on top of the sprayed areas. TPG will do further manual removal of these areas as necessary. **Megan Banks/Peter Reimann**

The next year of the funding commences on 1 July 2011, for further spraying by Mark McAlpine and home nursery requirements (to be advised). Robyn Smith suggested applying in February for an increase in funding to, say, \$2,000 per year, to allow more comprehensive follow up spraying. (There are 2 more years of funding to go, currently at \$1,500 per year). **Peter Reimann**

"Encore" Award - TPG won the Community Partnerships Award jointly with the Rimutaka Forest Park Trust. Many thanks to DoC, GW and the Wellington Hawke's Bay Conservation Board - and to all the TPG volunteers and community groups.

Frances Lee will write to GW to thank them, enclosing a receipt for the \$250 award money. Peter Reimann will also reply to the congratulatory letter received from Fran Wilde. **Frances Lee/Peter Reimann**

GW Website - David Grace has drafted information about TPG for the GW website detailing Care Groups. He will condense this and check for the "tone" of the writing - [Robyn Smith has subsequently provided an

example from another Care Group]. Peter Reimann will provide 2 or 3 photographs. **David Grace/Peter Reimann**

Plants/Planting

The WCC annual 500 allocation - ordered (fast-growing "reveg" species for gorse-cleared areas below Trelissick Cres and infill elsewhere). Delivery date/arrangements for next winter to be advised. **Peter Reimann (TPG)**

Honda TreeFund - ordered (approx \$400 worth) [of 25% swamp flax, 25% toetoe and 50% fast-growing "reveg" species] for the sprayed blackberry areas on railway land (between bridges 3 and 4 and opposite the track "triangle" below Wightwick's Field). Jo Fagan (GW) to advise species/numbers and delivery arrangements. **Jo Fagan (GW)**

Oban St Track

Barry Durrant has agreed with David Halliday (WCC) the proposed route of the track through the bush, from below the houses to the valley, after a site visit on 2 December.

However, David Halliday is not in favour of the track going down the right-of-way between the 2 houses (112 and 114 Oban St), due to strong aversion from affected parties. Barry Durrant has subsequently discussed this with Andy Foster, who will in turn discuss with David Halliday a solution with the affected residents. This will need to include an accurate designation of the right of way and road reserve boundaries. Joby Mills considers that there should be ways to negotiate an amicable arrangement with the residents, considering road reserve/encroachment issues and minimising effects on the residents. **Andy Foster/David Halliday**

David Halliday requested details of the resident's survey by David Grace. David Grace will provide Barry Durrant with this to pass on to David Halliday. **David Grace**

The Wadestown Resident's Association have said they are willing to provide volunteers to help with track building.

Frances Lee mentioned that the Oban Street track was forseen in the Trelissick Park Management Plan.

Also mentioned was that a further advantage of the track is that it will give access to a new forested part of the park (a Key Native Ecosystem) and also to bad weed infestations of climbing asparagus, tradescantia and other weeds.

The alternative of a track from Fort Buckley was considered impracticable.

Animal Pest Control

Bait is still being emptied consistently from several bait stations – probably by rats. Since September 2008, 50 mustelids/rats and 5 hedgehogs have been caught in the 15 traps. Two new bait stations have been installed along the forest remnant track, following rat sightings there.

Barry Durrant has checked mustelid traps 1 - 8 for freedom of operation (one was stuck) and replaced the lid screws. Peter Reimann will ask Bill hester to do likewise for traps 9 - 15. **Peter Reimann**

Rabbits are still causing problems. Bruce Brewer of GW advises that some extermination may occur soon, in conjunction with a similar problem at Crofton Downs. Peter Reimann will ask Bruce Brewer for an update.

Peter Reimann

Robyn Smith advised that a cage trap for rabbits is not feasible. However, rabbits are averse to long grass and suggested weeding around plants only around the stem area.

Project Kaiwharawhara

Frances Lee will ask Myfanwy Emeny for the minutes of the last meeting. **Frances Lee**

Kaiwharawhara Estuary/Reclamation

WCC have agreed to extend the time frame of their grant for 6 months to end of April 2011. Boffa Miskell has provided an update of their tasks and programme to achieve completion of their report on the estuary by then.

Frances Lee and Peter Reimann met Interislander staff on site - Interislander will periodically remove rubbish down to the estuary from the north end of the vehicle marshalling area, also restore and move forward the timber bulwarks protecting the plantings and mapboard. TPG will periodically weed the area.

The Hon. Peter Dunne visited Frances Lee, who provided background detail. Since the visit, he has written to CentrePort, GW and WCC regarding CentrePort's plans for developing the area. So far, replies have been received from CentrePort and GW, which do not give such details, just that the area will be used for port development.

Submissions

Resource Consent Application - Stormwater Discharge - WCC/Capacity have applied to GW for a resource consent to discharge stormwater and contaminants into the Coastal Marine Area for a 10 year period. Open streams such as the Kaiwharawhara, Owhiro and Ngauranga were not covered by the application. TPG lodged a submission on 5 August asking for these streams to be included and generally opposing such discharges for up to 10yrs, specifically into the harbour. It was subsequently discovered that the reason for the exclusion is that the application only applies to piped discharges directly into the marine area, not those via streams. Discharges into streams is already permitted, subject to conditions. Frances Lee attended two pre-hearing meetings, also one by Forest and Bird.

TPG has confirmed that they will not be attending the formal hearing.

Environment Court

Kilmarston Developments

Still awaiting resolution of a fencing issue raised by McGuire.

Correspondence

Emails

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

Newsletter	Janet Campbell (Friends of Owhiro Stream)
McGuire/NPA vs Kilmarston appeal	Andy Foster (WCC)
Thanks to park volunteers	Chris Johnson via NPA website
Honda TreeFund	Robyn Smith/Jo Fagan (GW)
Stormwater discharge consent hearing	Paul Glennie (Capacity), Jim Mikos (Wellington Recreational Fishers Assoc.), Kirsty Knowles (Forest and Bird)
Rubbish disposal	Joby Mills (WCC)
Fallen trees	Joby Mills (WCC)
More bait stations/mustelid traps	Bruce Brewer (GW), Justin McCarthy (WCC)
Ngaio Gorge Rd strengthening	Scott Kirkland/Joby Mills (WCC), Julia Williams (NPA), P. Brabhakaran/Siva Arumugan (Opus)
Excessive mulch delivery	Joby Mills (WCC)
Planting too close to tracks	Deane Virtue/Joby Mills (WCC)
Extension for grant period for Kaiwharawhara estuary study	Barbara Franklin (WCC)
Working bee participation	Rachel Davis (St Benedict's School)
Debris trap clearing	Sam Lister (Capacity)
Rope work checks for spraying	Justin McCarthy (WCC)
Comments on draft report on estuaries in Wellington/Hawke's Bay Conservancy	Helen Kettles (DoC), Jim Mikos (Wellington Recreational Fishers Assoc.),
Bait station reporting/bait	Bruce Brewer (GW)
Garages in Ngaio Gorge Road	Joby Mills (WCC)
Resealing Kaiwharawhara Road entrance	Joby Mills (WCC)
Draft Integrated Catchment Management Plan for WCC stormwater consent	Amy Holden (WCC)
Fish ladder design	Murray McLea (GW), Robin White (NPA)
Volunteer Christmas party	Jenny Roberts (WCC)
Kaiwharawhara estuary/reclamation	Boyden Evans/Katie Bailey/Leigh Bull (Boffa Miskell), Neville Hyde (Centreport), David Shepherd (Interislander), Stephanie Cook/Andy Foster (WCC), Paul Bruce (GW), Peter Dunne (MP), Project Kaiwharawhara members
Plants from WCC	Joby Mills (WCC)
2010 "Encore" Environmental Awards	Shelley Martin (GW)
Wellington Conservation Board Annual Report	Bronwyn Bell (DoC)
Creating restoration plan update	Matt Barnett (DoC)
Bikes in Trelissick Park	Joby Mills (WCC)
WCC agenda/paperwork electronically	Natalie Jacobson (WCC)
Community Conservation Fund final report	Robyn Smith (GW)
Spraying update	Megan Banks (GW)
State of streams/swimming	Joby Mills (WCC)
Pre-hearing meeting 6 October - stormwater discharge	Amy Holden (GW)
Free plants for community groups	Joby Mills (WCC)
GW web page	Robyn Smith (GW)
Poplar tree removal	Joby Mills (WCC)
Congratulations on election to Mayor	Celia Wade-Brown (WCC)
Ducklings caught by dogs	Joby Mills (WCC)
Volunteer secretary	Julie Thomson/Judy Kerr (Volunteer Wellington)
Christmas get-together for community leaders	Katrina Shanks (MP)
Recommendations and suggested stormwater consent	Amy Holden (GW)

conditions for hearing panel	
Web alerts	Wellington City Council

Letters

Inwards

- 8 Oct - Julie Thomson/Pauline Harper (Volunteer Wellington) - Invitation to celebrate International Volunteer Managers Day
- 11 Oct - Mike Oates (WCC) - Reserves classification revisions adopted
- 26 Oct - Katrina Shanks (MP) - Invitation to Christmas get-together of community leaders
- 3 Nov - Katrina Shanks (MP) - Invitation to use Bellamy's restaurant for group's Christmas function
- 17 Nov - Peter Dunne (MP) attaching letter from Blair O'Keefe (CentrePort) confirming Kaiwharawhara estuary study support
- 17 Nov - Fran Wilde (GW) to Peter Dunne (MP) confirming Kaiwharawhara estuary study support
- 24 Nov - Fran Wilde (GW) - congratulations to TPG on winning Community Partnerships Encore Award
- GW take Care Team - Community Environmental Projects Newsletter No. 2 for distribution
- Taupo Native Plant Nursery - Catalogues

Outwards

- 19 Oct - Neville Hyde (CentrePort) - signed Kaiwharawhara estuary study agreement
- 26 Oct - Barbara Franklin (WCC) - Request for 6 month extension of grant period for Kaiwharawhara estuary study
- 12 Nov - Helen Kettles (DoC) - Comments on Wellington/Hawke's Bay draft report on Kaiwharawhara estuary
- 16 Nov - Mike Oates (WCC) - Request for reserves classification changes adjacent to Trelissick Park (TPG letters of 16 August 2005 and 14 March 2007 attached).

Finance

The bank balance as at 5 October was \$1,197.56. If the seat donations are ignored, the current balance should be \$622.56 (subject to confirmation when the latest statement arrives).

A cheque for \$250 was received from GW for the Encore Award.

A cheque for \$206.73 to David Grace for the Christmas party for TPG members/volunteers was ratified.

Peter Reimann gave \$20 to Stan Pillar for the Onslow Historical Society, for use of the room for the TPG Christmas function.

It was agreed that the Charities Commission Annual Return Fee of \$75 for the Kaiwharawhara Estuary study to be paid by HPPA will have to come out of the funding for that study.

Other

Website - Lindsay Bonnett and Bill Hester have agreed to collaborate on TPG website updating. **Bill Hester (TPG)**

Recruiting more Volunteers - It was agreed that a small A5 leaflet could be produced for TPG members/volunteers while talking in the park to members of the public - a one on one contact possibly being more effective than other methods. This could include a few short words and a photo or sketch. **David Grace/Peter Reimann**

Next Meeting

The next meetings are to be at **9:30 a.m. Tuesday 8 February, Tuesday 5 April** Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, 86 Khandallah Road.

The meeting concluded at 12.20 p.m.