

Trelissick Park Group: Minutes of the 152nd meeting, held at Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, 9:30 a.m. Tuesday 5 April 2011

Abbreviations:

WCC Wellington City Council
GW Greater Wellington Regional Council
NPA Ngaio Progressive Association
HPPA Highland Park Progressive Association
DoC Department of Conservation
F & B Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society
TPG Trelissick Park Group

Square brackets – subsequent to meeting or other relevant information.

Person to action is shown in bold italics after each item.

Members Present

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Peter Reimann (chair) | Stan Pillar |
| Frances Lee | Olaf John |
| David Grace | Dorothy Douglass |

In Attendance

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Paulo Fuiono, WCC Ranger | Justin McCarthy, WCC Pest Plant Officer |
| Stacey Tampi | |

Apologies

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| Deidre Burke | John Morrison, WCC Councillor |
| Megan Banks, GW Biosecurity Officer (Plants) | Robyn Smith, GW Team Leader, Community Environmental Projects |

Barry Durrant

Minutes

The minutes of the 151st meeting, held on 8 February 2011, were confirmed.

WCC Items

Scott Kirkland - The recent passing of Scott Kirkland was noted with sadness. He was very helpful in liaising with TPG on the Ngaio Gorge Road earthquake strengthening work.

Ngaio Gorge Road Strengthening Restoration - Peter Reimann and Justin McCarthy visited the restoration sites and David Calcinai has sprayed some of the buddleia in the course of his tradescantia spraying below Ngaio Gorge Road. Justin will be getting another contractor to do the rest, probably at the end of April.

Justin McCarthy

Poplar Tree Removal below Crofton Downs Station - WCC planted these some years ago as a temporary measure for slope stabilisation. Joby Mills forwarded an email of 14 February from David Spenser (WCC) to William Melville (Ontrack) [now on-forwarded to Paulo Fuiono]. Paulo will expedite. ***Paulo Fuiono***

TransPower Pylon Foundation Upgrade - The pylon foundation next to the Northern Walkway below Trelissick Crescent is to be upgraded. Joby Mills met TransPower on site. There should be no significant effects. The work does not appear to have started yet.

Liquid Fuel Pipeline Vegetation Clearance (Tanks off Kaiwharawhara Road down to the Ferry Terminal) - An on-site inspection was carried out, Exxon Mobil and Downer EDI explaining the work to be done to representatives from WCC, The Body Shop, Boffa Miskell and TPG.

Date for 500 Trees Delivery - TPG had heard via Anita Bendbrook that delivery is scheduled for Tuesday 14 June, with 100 plants for the estuary added. Paulo Fuiono will check with Nikki OliverSmith. ***Paulo Fuiono***

TPG Five-Year Plan - TPG have now updated the May 2009 Five-Year Plan. It is on the Trelissick Park website.

Signage Upgrading - Joby Mills installed one pictogram on a bollard for Marilyn Hester's "flood plain" restoration site down from the debris trap. Frances Lee thinks it is too far away from the track to read it. Paulo Fuiono will see whether it can be re-sited closer to the track. ***Paulo Fuiono***

Peter Reimann will give details to Paulo of locations for the other two bollards (below Hanover Street and at the gorse-cleared area below Trelissick Crescent). ***Peter Reimann***

Brochure Holder - Paulo Fuiono will install a brochure holder at the map-board by bridge 6. TPG will then keep this topped up. ***Paulo Fuiono***

Encroachments - TPG is grateful for the removal of the upper two garages on Ngaio Gorge Road. A letter has been sent to WCC to see if the garages further down Ngaio Gorge Road can be removed (if they are not being used for vehicles). ***Raewyn Picken***

Funding Application for 2,000 more Park Brochures - Lodged under the Environmental Grant round that closed on 31 March, in accordance with a quotation from Fitzbeck Creative (\$1,512.25 incl. GST under HPPA umbrella).

Fish Spotlighting - In one hour on Thursday night 31 March (Frances Forsyth (GW) with Bill Hester and Peter Reimann): 6 eels above debris trap, 10 trout and 6 red-finned bully on both sides of the trap, 1 inanga below trap - all small. Compared with a similar exercise 5 years ago, the score was disappointing, but Frances pointed out that there are many variables and more surveying might give a more accurate picture. However, the debris trap certainly presents more of an obstacle than it did then (downstream boulders washed further down). Could a load of large boulders be dumped in the stream bed just below the debris trap to lessen this obstacle for fish? Or perhaps the ropes trialled by Environment Waikato (Alton Perrie's email 15/12/09) or a fish passage to one side of the trap would help? Amber Bill is looking at what work could be possible in relation to the budget. **Amber Bill**

Fallen Tree near Waikowhai Street Entrance - Paulo Fuiono will see what can be done about cutting the large fallen tree on the slope between the track and the stream a short distance after the first "zig" from the Waikowhai Street entrance, to allow access to people walking along the side of the stream. **Paulo Fuiono**

Zoning Changes - Frances Lee has received a reply to her suggestions to obtain consistency of zone changes to areas adjacent to the park (eg road reserves). These would be looked at by WCC in the next zoning "clean-up" operation. The reply stated that the strip for the track between bridge 1 and Wightwick's Field is designated as an esplanade strip in the land-owner's title. Other designations, such as QE2 covenanted land could not be incorporated in the District Plan.

GW Items

Large-scale Spraying of Tradescantia/honeysuckle - Justin McCarthy/Megan Banks advised that the second abseil contract is being processed. Large areas have been sprayed at the top of Trelissick Crescent, Ngaio Gorge Road and the northern entrances. Japanese knotweed will also be targeted.

Take Care Fund - TPG are doing some manual removal of small outbreaks of tradescantia and montbretia, subsequent to the spraying by Mark McAlpine and previous large-scale spraying.

As suggested by Robyn Smith, TPG have lodged an application for an increase in funding to \$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).

Honda TreeFund Delivery - 60 plants in PB3s were delivered from Berhampore nursery last Friday. 410 plants in root trainers are due from Taupo Native Plant Nursery today or tomorrow. Peter Reimann will pot these on into PB3s, using the 10 bags of potting mix recently purchased from PowerGro Products Ltd in Porirua. **Peter Reimann**

Planting Plan

Supplies

Honda Treefund: 60 ready now, 410 ready late winter/early spring (after potting on from root trainers).

Berhampore Nursery: 500 ready 14 June (?) + 100 for estuary infill

Peter Reimann home nursery: 100 already planted, 380 ready now.

Marilyn Hester home nursery: various grasses.

Areas to Plant

50 m2 below Trelissick Crescent and 50 m2 down from old Tararua Tramping Club site (below bridge 5) - application made to Volunteer Wellington for corporate group (100 plants).

400m2 reparation site on railway land between bridges 3 and 4 (400 plants) - 200 to plant shortly and 200 from Honda Treefund later. Possibly via corporate groups.

Gorse-cleared slope below Trelissick Cres - 400 infill via working bees.

Blackberry sprayed site across stream from the track "triangle" below Wightwick's Field - 50

Infill elsewhere (eg adopt a spot sites, St Benedict's School) - 400.

Estuary infill - 100.

Oban St Track (and alternatives)

Barry Durrant advises that there has been no progress with Andy Foster obtaining agreement to the Oban Street track proceeding along the right of way between the houses on Oban Street.

Denis O'Neill has shown Peter Reimann the 1.2 ha area he is proposing to gift to WCC on the slopes below 117 Sefton Street. He has a track cut down to the tripod monument erected in memory of his wife and suggested that it may be feasible to continue the track down to the valley, crossing the railway line above the tunnel down from the rail loop. However the lower end is extremely steep (may not be feasible).

David Halliday has asked Chris Horne to meet him to look at another possible route from Fort Buckley to School Road. Chris Horne will report back to TPG.

The favoured route is the one from Oban Street. This has been thoroughly investigated over the years, uses a legal right of way between the houses, traverses a new part of the park and gives access to the bad weed infestations there (eg climbing asparagus and tradescantia). This route is in the 1995 Park Management Plan. Peter Reimann will draft a letter to Amber Bill in this vein. **Peter Reimann**

Animal Pest Control

Bait is still being emptied consistently from several bait stations – probably by rats. Since September 2008, 61 mustelids/rats and 6 hedgehogs have been caught in the 15 traps.

Rabbit night shoot results: 1 shot below the Trelissick Crescent entrance, 1 other seen. Justin McCarthy has asked for a return visit in April. Peter Reimann advised that a rabbit had been sighted on the grass by the Waikowhai Street entrance.

Project Kaiwharawhara

Minutes of last meeting received. Date of next meeting to be advised. **Myfanwy Emeny**

Kaiwharawhara Estuary/Reclamation

TPG is awaiting a reply from Boffa Miskell on progress concerning the study, as TPG has to report to WCC Grants Committee by the end of April. The study has to be approved by CentrePort before it will provide its grant of \$15,000. Meanwhile, the WCC grant has all been paid out to Boffa Miskell. **Boffa Miskell/Frances Lee**

Submissions

Frances Lee attended a "meet the councillor's meeting" and raised various issues in connection with the Park, such as stormwater and the estuary study/ecological corridor. Notes on the meeting are awaited. **WCC**

Environment Court

Kilmarston Developments

Outstanding issues have been resolved, but Cottier has not signed. As TPG is a Section 274 party, Frances Lee will draft a letter to WCC lawyers, expressing concern. **Frances Lee**

Correspondence

Emails

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

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| Honda Treefund plants | Robyn Smith (GW) |
| Seat with plaque between bridges 4 and 5 | Buzz/Ruth Graham (WCC) |
| Liquid fuel pipeline vegetation clearance | Blair Hiscoke (Downer EDI), Ansonia Todd-Smith (Body Shop) |
| NPA website update | Robin White (NPA) |
| Stormwater issues - coordinated strategy | Viv Chapple, Mary Munro (NPA) |
| Poplar tree removal below Crofton Downs station | Joby Mills (WCC) |
| Branch Out, Issue 36, Autumn 2011 | Webcentre (WCC) |
| Kaiwharawhara estuary study | Boyden Evans/Leigh Bull (Boffa Miskell) |
| ACC volunteers in Trelissick Park | Nicole Vipond (ACC) |
| Care groups umbrella | Richard Sadleir |
| Fish passage at debris trap | Amber Bill (WCC), Murray McLea (GW) |
| WCC grants | Joby Mills (WCC) |
| Secondment to sports fields | Joby Mills (WCC) |
| Rubbish removal | Paulo Fuiono (WCC) |
| BNZ "Closed for Good" volunteer work application | Via website |
| Wasp nest | Paulo Fuiono (WCC) |
| Rabbit shooting | Justin McCarthy (WCC) |
| Mulch for BNZ day | Paulo Fuiono (WCC) |
| Project Kaiwharawhara minutes | Myfanwy Emeny/Amber Bill (WCC) |
| Asiatic knotweed | Justin McCarthy (WCC) |
| Green forum talk | Peter Hunt (F & B) |
| FOOS newsletter | Janet Campbell (Friend of Ohiro Stream) |
| Community planting dates | Myfanwy Emeny (WCC) |
| Bait station reports | Bruce Brewer (GW) |
| Weed eradication and planting after Ngaio Gorge Rd strengthening | Allan Moul/Justin McCarthy (WCC) |
| BNZ closed for good day | Jim Gifkins (BNZ) |
| Spraying update | Megan Banks (GW), Justin McCarthy (WCC) |
| Link to GW community environmental projects newsletter | Robyn Smith (GW) |
| TPG content for GW web page | Robyn Smith/Jo Fagan (GW) |
| Web alerts | Wellington City Council |
| Potting mix purchase | Robyn Smith (GW), Warren Thurston (PowerGro Products) |

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| Stream pollution from Woods Waste | Myfanwy Emeny (WCC), Boyden Evans/Leigh Bull (Boffa Miskell) |
| Application for Environmental Grant | Phil RailtonJacks (WCC) |
| New round of GW "Take Care" funding | Paulo Fuiono (WCC) |
| Stormwater issues | Peter Hunt (F & B) |
| Restoration information workshop | John Sawyer (DoC) |
| Scott Kirkland (WCC) passed away | Paulo Fuiono (WCC) |
| Fish spotlighting | Murray McLea (GW) |
| Gareth Hughes (Green MP) visit | Simon Tapp |
| Invitation to Restoration Day workshop | Louise Odlin (GW) |
| Greening Wellington article | Nikki Macdonald (DomPost) |
| Delivery of plants from Berhampore | Paulo Fuiono (WCC) |
| Collection of rat's ear or tail for DNA tests for study on rodenticide resistance among rats | James Graham (GW) |

Letters

Inwards

- 1 February - Julie Thomson (Volunteer Wellington) - membership fee
- 18 February - Megan Duncan (WCC) - replies to TPG comments on zoning
- 4 April - Louise Odlin (GW) - Acknowledgement of Take Care funding application
- Taupo Native Plant Nursery - catalogue
- Otari Wilton's Bush Trust - newsletter

Outwards

- 29 March - Raewyn Picken (WCC) - Garage encroachment - Ngaio Gorge Road

Finance

The bank balance as at 4 March was \$2,795.83. The balance excluding the seat money and the \$1,000 gift would be \$820.83.

The following cheques were approved:

- \$190.95 for potting mix purchases by Peter Reimann.
- \$57.50 for printing flyers for David Grace.
- \$30 for use of the Onslow Historical Society rooms for meetings for Frances Lee

Some of this will come from the \$1,000 gift money, but TPG members suggestions for other uses is awaited.

TPG

Other

Website - Many thanks to Bill Hester for taking over the website and to Lindsay Bonnett for helping with the transfer.

Stormwater Issues - NPA will advise whether they want to become involved with an umbrella group proposed for stormwater issues in connection with the approved GW Consent by WCC for discharges, after they have had their meeting. **NPA**

Publicity Flyer - David Grace has printed simple small leaflets to hand to park visitors and for public places for volunteer recruitment and is organising distribution. **David Grace**.

Seat on Railway Land - The seat has been installed.

A seat "unveiling" ceremony will be held, where the contributing parties could be acknowledged. Ontrack is also to be invited, as the seat is on land leased from them. David Grace will organise the ceremony. Barry Durrant advises that the Wadestown Residents Association will be donating \$368. **David Grace**

Estuary Clean-up - David Grace advises about a dozen bags of rubbish were picked up. Interislander have been also cleaning this area, as agreed.

BNZ Closed for Good Volunteer Day - A successful day over the fence at the lay-by half-way up the Ngaio Gorge Road: rubbish removal, weed removal, 50 plants put in and mulch applied. Thanks to Paulo Fuiono for arranging the mulch and rubbish removal and chain-sawing a dead tree.

Ferns along Forest Remnant Track - Olaf John mentioned that some uncommon ferns are to be found along this track.

CentrePort Environmental Consultative Committee - Frances Lee will apply for TPG to be formally represented on this Committee. **Frances Lee**

Umbrella Group to Represent Restoration Groups in Wellington Area - Peter Reimann will decline the invitation from Richard Sadleir for TPG to become involved, one of the reasons being lack of time/resources. **Peter Reimann**

Harbourside Development - Frances Lee, observing new housing sites and lack of trees, is concerned about WCC monitoring of the agreed conditions for this development. She will investigate this further with WCC.

Frances Lee

Parking at Lower Entrance - David Grace is concerned about lack of parking space by the lower entrance. One suggestion is that the grassed lay-by could be used for this. [Suggest David drafts an email for WCC on this]. **David Grace**

TPG 20 Year Anniversary - First meeting was on 17 June 1991. TPG members to think about appropriate celebration/publicity. **TPG**

Park Name Change - The observation was made that "Reserve" seems more appropriate than "Park".

Next Meetings

The next meetings are to be at **9:30 a.m. Tuesday 14 June and Tuesday 9 August**, Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, 86 Khandallah Road.

The meeting concluded at 11.45 a.m.