

Trelissick Park Group: Minutes of the 157th meeting, held at Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, 9:30 a.m. Tuesday 7 February 2012

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

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
Dorothy Douglass Barry Durrant
Alison Melling

In Attendance

Matt Robertson, WCC Ranger

Apologies

Robyn Smith, GW Stacey Tampi
Frances Lee

Minutes

The minutes of the 156th meeting, held on 13 December 2011, were confirmed.

Alison Melling

Alison Melling was welcomed. She has kindly offered to assist with specific secretarial projects, such as submissions.

[Resignation

David Grace apologised retrospectively for missing the meeting and is resigning from the committee. However, he will be continuing with the working bee notifications via his email list, and with his “patch” above the magazine building. Many thanks to David for his contributions over the last couple of years.]

WCC Items

Ngaio Gorge Road Strengthening Restoration - Restoration planting – cutting to be done now, planting to be done this winter. Photograph opportunity. Harnesses needed because of steepness. Will need to cut wire mesh to plant - no reply yet to confirm OK. **Matt Robertson**

No date set by Opus for Site 7 strengthening. A study is underway to see if there are more areas to strengthen. **Matt Robertson**

Fish Passage - Robyn Smith of GW has given Matt Robertson some rope to assist with fish passage. With David Moss of DOC, he has carried out a Kaiwharawhara catchment stream survey. 4 potential barriers to fish passage were found within Trelissick Park and down to the estuary: the concrete culvert near the fuel tanks, the detritus trap, the speed of water in the tunnel under the railway line and the tunnel for the Silverstream (from Crofton Downs) under the railway line. They also found a dearth of invertebrates, probably a legacy of pollution/sedimentation/stormwater run-off.

This may become the subject of a discussion document, including potential solutions, need for monitoring and funding in collaboration with GW - to be presented at the March Project Kaiwharawhara meeting, **Matt Robertson**

Fishing - Barry Durrant saw someone catching what appeared to be a small trout recently. [Matt Robertson confirms a collection permit is required. WCC are not so concerned about trout, but would want to know if people were eeling.]

Stream Pollution for Crofton Downs - Matt Robertson found sewage leakage into the Silverstream at the tunnel under the railway line (fixed by WCC last Friday). He also found pollution in the stormwater outlet from Crofton Downs into the Korimako Stream (downstream of Bridge 1), thought to emanate from Mitre 10 and/or Shell - subsequently visited by Matt. [TPG members have been asked to keep an eye on this outlet when passing and to report any pollution]. **TPG**

Trelissick Cres Park Entrance Improvement - Extra bollards have now been installed, the middle one removable but locked.

Planting by Beaurepaires – Myfanwy Emeny advises that the revegetation site by Beaurepaires is on WCC regular revegetation maintenance schedule, which means that it should have been visited within 3 months of planting. A check yesterday shows a need for weeding. Peter Reimann will advise Myfanwy. **Peter Reimann**

Seed Collection Permit - Matt Robertson will renew seed collecting permit for Peter Reimann, via Myfanwy Emeny. **Matt Robertson/Myfanwy Emeny**

Blocked Drain from Hanover St - Barry Durrant reported that he tried to clear the blocked stormwater drain from Hanover St into the Park (by the entrance), which was eroding the track. Matt Robertson will arrange full clearance. **Matt Robertson**

Track Maintenance – Scraping leaf litter to get back to gravel layer, clearing weeds/branches and clearing side drains for water flow drainage: completed by WCC in December on Northern Walkway, Te Araroa Track and Sanctuary to Sea Walkway.

- WCC will continue to maintain the Te Araroa Track and Sanctuary to Sea Walkway bi-annually and the Northern Walkway annually in a similar manner to that carried out in December, avoiding clipping dianellas, bush rice grass, ferns and native tussock grasses where they are doing their job covering track edges, shading out weeds. (Matt advised that track workers have undergone an NZQA course on plant identification).
- TPG will carry out maintenance (weed clearance) of minor tracks, unless specific noxious weed eradication has been contracted to WCC/GW. WCC call these "reactive" tracks, in that WCC will only work on these tracks in the event of major problems, such as slips or fallen trees.

Pest Plant Officer - Until a replacement for Justin McCarthy is appointed, TPG should contact Matt Robertson, Amber Bill or Myfanwy Emeny concerning pest plant problems.

GW Items

Large-scale Spraying of Tradescantia/honeysuckle - Megan Banks advises a significant amount has been done throughout the lower valley. A second phase of control will be made towards the end of February through March. She is working with new contractors to complete the abseil areas in this time also. **Megan Banks**

Take Care Fund - Mark McAlpine has completed the first hit of tradescantia and montbretia along the streamside, with the second hit to be done in mid-Feb and the third final hit to be from mid-March to April. It has been noted there is a lot more montbretia now than previous years. **Megan Banks**

Monitoring of Tradescantia Leaf Beetle - The first tradescantia leaf monitor will take place next summer - after the beetles have been through a winter and are considered established. Megan Banks will keep us updated with what is happening then. **Megan Banks**

Planting Update/Plan

Honda Tree-fund Peter Reimann has applied for 400-500 mainly fast growing "reveg" species, for recently cleared Japanese honeysuckle and gorse areas, and infill elsewhere. Robyn Smith is awaiting a response from Taupo Native Plant Nursery.] **Robyn Smith/Jo Fagan**

WCC Supplied Plants - 500 mainly fast growing "reveg" species, together with some heritage species, have been ordered from WCC for next year.]

Home Nurseries - [Currently about 450 mostly fast growing "reveg" species at various stages of growth and 130 toetoe ready to plant.] About [90] nikau seedlings collected by Peter Reimann from under a magnificent specimen (said to be 150 years old) below Overtoun Terrace, Hataitai.

Animal Pest Control

Bait is still being emptied consistently from several bait stations – probably by rats. Since September 2008, 77 mustelids/rats and 8 hedgehogs have been caught in the 15 traps. Rabbit meat suspended from "Z" hooks has been added to supplement the eggs.

Matt Robertson has been contacted by a student from Victoria University to install a live rat catch trap in Trelissick Park. He is conducting research on rat urine, which could possibly be used to make a rat attractant. **Matt Robertson**

Bridge from Oban St Track

Peter Reimann will source a registered/chartered civil engineer and contact DOC to see if they could provide one of their standard footbridge designs to the engineer for price estimating purposes. **Peter Reimann**

Project Kaiwharawhara

Myfanwy Emeny will advise the date of the next meeting. See also above under "WCC Items - Fish Passage". **Myfanwy Emeny/Matt Robertson**

Frances Lee has been following up with VUW student Jackson Shanks concerning removal of the stormwater monitoring boxes and issue of the hydrology report. [Jackson said the report was due in January - not seen yet.] **Frances Lee/Myfanwy Emeny**

Kaiwharawhara Estuary/Reclamation

Frances Lee has circulated papers about titles/ownership, Maori interests, statutory regulations (National, WCC and GW) and public recreational access to relevant companies/organisations/authorities for discussion. **Frances Lee**

[The final objective, in conjunction with WCC and GW, is to see a Strategic planning exercise carried out for the lower Kaiwharawhara valley including the reclaimed land on either side of the Kaiwharawhara estuary. This activity would involve key people from WCC, GW, and the wider community (including business and Iwi) and aim to establish that future development of the area ensures that this important ecological corridor is

protected, public access enabled including a route for the Great Harbour Way, and that the estuary is restored to a fully functioning ecosystem.]

Environment Court/Submissions

Kilmarston Developments - No advice available yet on outcomes. **Frances Lee**

WCC Long-term Plan - Alison Melling will draft a submission, assisted by Frances Lee/Peter Reimann (due around April/May). Matt Robertson mentioned that this will be discussed at the next NPA meeting, which will be attended by Andy Foster and Iona Pannett - details from NPA secretary, Robin White. **Alison Melling**

Correspondence

Emails

Fish passage through Trelissick Park	Matt Robertson (WCC)
Fish passage in Kaiwharawhara	Robyn Smith (GW)
Tradescantia leaf battle release	Megan Banks (GW)
Barriers to fish passage – Wellington region	Anna Burrows (GW)
Works on Railway above Trelissick Park	Matt Robertson (GW)
Plantskydd rabbit repellent	Mywanfy Emeny (WCC)
Kaiwharawhara project – Maori interests	Liz Mellish
Trelissick Park track maintenance and fish ladders	Matt Robertson (WCC)
Rubbish dumping below Ngaio Gorge road	Matt Robertson (WCC)
Possum bait stations report January 2012	Matt Robertson (WCC)
Knotweed in Trelissick Park	Matt Robertson (WCC)
Debris Trap	Sam Lister
Kaiwharawhara Estuary Project – Statutory rules	Tim Porteous (GW), Brett McKay (ex WCC)
Leaking Sewer	Maasoama Fasavalu (WCC)
Rubbish picked up	Matt Robertson (WCC)
Harbourside subdivision monitoring	Amber Bill (WCC)
Nature Space user manual	Matt Barnett, Amy Brasch (DOC)
Possum Bait stations and traps	Bruce Brewer, Henri Heyns (GW)
FOOS Newsletter February	Janet Campbell (FOOS)
GW Updates for 7 Feb TPG Meeting	Megan Banks, Robyn Smith (GW)

Letters

Inwards

21 Dec 2011 - Bob Barber (WCC) - Harbourside Sub-division monitoring (see below)

31 January 2012 - Fran Wilde (GW) - Kaiwharawhara/estuary study - limited subsequent role

1 February 2012 - Julie Thomson (Volunteer Wellington) - membership fee

Taupo Native Plant Nursery catalogue/news

Newsletters: Wellington Botanical Society, Volunteer Wellington, Otari Wilton's Bush Trust

Finance

The bank balance as at 4 January 2012 is \$1,799.75. This includes the \$1,000 "gift" money, being kept aside for initial Oban St track expenses.

Cheque for Peter Reimann for \$47.20 for potting mix and photocopying approved.

Cheque for Volunteer Wellington subscription for \$45.00 approved

Other

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 has sent a letter to WCC, following vetting of draft/comments from NPA/HPPA. Bob Barber/Amber Bill are following this up. **Amber Bill/Bob Barber**

Wadestown Fair - 10 March - Peter Reimann will attend, with display stand. **Peter Reimann**

Beach Clean-up - 24 March at the Kaiwharawhara estuary. **David Grace**

Next Meetings

The next meetings are to be at **9:30 a.m. Tuesday 3 April, and Tuesday 5 June 2012**, Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, 86 Khandallah Road.

The meeting concluded at 10.40 a.m.