

Trelissick Park Group: Minutes of the 183rd meeting, held at Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, 9:30 a.m. Tuesday 20 February 2018

Abbreviations:

WCC	Wellington City Council	NCDRA	Ngaio Crofton Downs Residents' Association
GW	Greater Wellington Regional Council	WRA	Wadestown Residents' Association
F & B	Forest and Bird Protection Society	OMB	Old man's beard
DOC	Department of Conservation	VW	Volunteer Wellington
HPPA	Highland Park Progressive Association	VUW	Victoria University of Wellington
TPG	Trelissick Park Group	OHS	Onslow Historical Society
BotSoc	Wellington Botanic Society	WWF	World-Wide Fund for Nature

[Square brackets: subsequent to meeting.]

Present

Peter Reimann (TPG)	Frances Lee
Barry Durrant	Ian Shearer (HPPA)
Amanda Dobson (Enviroschools)	Stan Pillar (OHS)

Apologies

Jenny Lewis (WRA)	Tim Harkness (WCC Ranger) on leave
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Minutes

The minutes of the 182nd meeting, held on 7 November, were confirmed.

WCC Items

Fish Passage Improvement in Catchment - Daniela Biaggio's contractor has restored the fish ramp at the Kaiwharawhara/Korimako junction. She has asked that TPG make sure it remains clear of debris **TPG**

The exit from the tunnel under Churchill Drive looks reasonable. Frances Forsyth of Wildlands says "it looks good for climbers but those were summer low flow conditions. We should probably photograph it again in the migration season and see if it still looks negotiable." However, the exit of the Silverstream tunnel under the railway line looks to be a barrier. **Daniela Biaggio**

Ngaio Gorge Road Strengthening - The area opposite the section at 123 Ngaio Gorge Road (above driveway to debris trap) is complete. Planting will be needed there. **Tim Harkness**

Work on another section (Wall RW39) opposite # 89 - 91 Ngaio Gorge Rd is starting - completion due 10 August.

131 Silverstream Rd Development Siltation - Andrew McLellan on behalf of NCDRA has written to Brett Osborne (WCC) about the resource consent application for a variation, concerning the outfall, reserve vestings, northern open channel, Silversky connection boardwalk and removal of fencing requirement.

Ngaio Gorge Road Slips and Car Parking - Accumulated rubble was recently cleared. The containers/road diversions are expected to be in place for a long time.

Due to conversion of the layby to a traffic lane and parking congestion at the lower entrance, there is a strong case for the grassy area up-road from the lower entrance to be converted to a layby [item for WCC 10 year Plan submission?].

Forest Remnant Track Work - Due to WCC's safety concerns about the 'log' bridge across the gully below upper Ngaio Gorge Road and the track edge condition, the western section of the track has been closed by WCC. TPG have suggested that it is safe to cross without a bridge, with minor track re-routing. Any safety concerns are already addressed with the warning signs at the track entrances. TPG are concerned that WCC agreement on action is becoming protracted, this area of forest remnant being the most attractive in the Park. Peter Reimann will follow up again with Tim Harkness. **Peter Reimann/Tim Harkness**

Working Bee Pamphlet - Tim Harkness has arranged printing - copies awaited. Some copies were requested by Amanda Dobson and Ian Shearer. **Peter Reimann/Tim Harkness**

Pest Plant Control

On a recent Park walk-through with WCC's Illona Keenan, contractor Kaitiaki o Ngahere Ltd and TPG's Peter Reimann it was resolved that tradescantia control this year will be on the lower slopes adjoining the Northern Walkway below the Hanover Street entrance. [A further riparian area down from bridge 5 was added later]. Some Japanese honeysuckle will also be tackled at the lower part of the clearing below the western end of the Forest Remnant Track. **Illona Keenan**

[Kaitiaki's improved spraying technology was very effective last year in the Kaiwharawhara valley and along Trelissick Crescent, allowing planting this year].

TPG continue with manual control of tradescantia, OMB, Himalayan balsam, karaka seedlings, sycamore, bindweed and buddleia by individuals, working bees, Conservation Volunteers and corporate groups. **TPG**

Nursery/Planting Update.

Planting last year = just over 1,100, including many for 57 Kaiwharawhara Rd. Nearly all survived the dry summer conditions. 500 plants have been ordered from WCC's nursery. About 300 will be ready this year from Peter Reimann's nursery, including donations from Toni Allwood and Doug Tennant [- 200 smaller plants: 2019] **WCC and Peter Reimann**

Animal Pest Control

Benjamin Curran has joined Bill Hester's team. More bait has arrived from GW.

Trap Scores - Trap scores since 2008:185 rats,17 stoats (5 may have been weasels), 17 hedgehogs. There are now 24 traps in the Park.

Photographic Monitoring - VUW MSc student Olivia Carson's photographic monitoring study from 12 cameras over one month showed presence of 9 rodents, 68 rabbits, 56 hedgehogs and 30 cats. Her recording of 337 off-track dogs out of sight of owners is a concern for fledglings on the ground (eg kaka).

Map Revision - Map revision is to be completed (some inaccuracies in lower Kaiwharawhara). It is important that the WCC and GW maps are consistent for bait station, trap and track locations. **WCC/GW**

Park Access from Oban St

After comments from the owner of 112 Oban Street (adjacent to the legal right of way), TPG submitted a further revised draft of the consultation document to WCC and to the owners of 112/114.

TPG wrote a piece for 'Wellington Scoop' on the situation and history.

WCC's research team are finishing designing a survey, using some of the material prepared by TPG. WCC are aiming to be impartial. That survey is to go out in late February/early March with the aim of having all feedback in and analysed by April. **Myfanwy Emeny/Mike Oates/Cath Taylor**

TPG has asked for a draft of the survey for review before it is issued. Peter Reimann will follow this up again with Myfanwy Emeny. **Peter Reimann/Myfanwy Emeny**

Peter Reimann will give a further update of progress to Abseil Access. (They kindly designed a suitable footbridge over the Kaiwharawhara Stream and provided a cost estimate in 2016). **Peter Reimann**

Lower Kaiwharawhara Stream and Estuary/Reclamation

Sanctuary to Sea Walkway - WCC will change the description on the website, so that it commences at the 'Sanctuary' and proceeds to the lower end of the Trelissick Park. **Tim Harkness/David Halliday**

Kaiwharawhara Estuary and Point - CentrePort has reported that the Point is currently being used for temporary storage and crushing of demolition concrete from the port following the earthquake. The crushed material will be used back in the port for reconstruction. This is part of CentrePort's "sustainability" effort and it has put significant time and investment into funding this more environmentally sustainable way of operating. Regarding the letter of 8 May 2017 to C Laidlaw, Chair of GW, about public access to the area, CentrePort has said completion of the port's master-plan is not expected until 2019. Those members of the Kaiwharawhara Reclamation Working Group, who signed that letter, will need to discuss approaching CentrePort staff for part of the discussions with stakeholders - as mentioned by C Laidlaw - over those parts of the plan relating to the Point and estuary. **Frances Lee**

Meanwhile investigations into a multi-use of the ferry terminal are continuing and consultation will occur later in the year. This is likely to be within the Port's Environmental Consultative Committee. Options are dependent on KiwiRail's future decisions on replacement ferries.

Idea for Restoration of Estuary and Point - VUW MSc student, Eduardo Barros, has shown that there is a strong case for turning the Point into an attractive wilderness and wetland area - with public access - under the Gateway to Wellington City concept. However, for the wetland concept in the study to succeed, the tidal/brackish source from the Kaiwharawhara Stream and the elevation differences would have to be dealt with. The existing route of the stream at the estuary would be retained to deal with high waters from exceptional rain in the catchment. The plan was presented for Eduardo's MSc late last year and so far we have not heard from him about its status. Maybe we will hear at the next Sanctuary to the Sea meeting at Zealandia. **Frances Lee**

Climate Change - Ian Shearer reported that with climate change all of the above could be submerged (eg one scenario: 3.6C average temperature increase = 15 m sea level rise).

Submissions

128 Trelissick Crescent 17-unit Development - WCC late last year requested further details from the applicant before making a decision on notification. Peter Reimann will follow this up. **Peter Reimann and WCC Consents Team**

112 Churchill Drive BUPA Development - Notified local residents have lodged an appeal and the next step is mediation. The latest date for S274 parties to file a notice with the Court is 21 February. It was decided that TPG will not be an S274 party. The local residents are already taking TPG concerns for the Park into account.

GW Proposed Natural Resources Plan - GW advise that they are half-way through hearings of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan. Further hearings will occur in the first half of 2018. TPG's submission on the original draft was in 2015.

10-Year Plans - Peter Reimann will investigate the WCC and GW consultation situation, with a view to participation. **Peter Reimann**

Suggested items to include in TPG's submission: Oban Street entrance to Park, infill housing effects, cycling in the Park, stormwater effects, pest animal and weed control, rubbish dumping, plant supplies, track and bridge work, [extending parking on lower Ngaio Gorge Rd].

Correspondence

Emails

Recent web alerts, resource consents	WCC (WCC)
Nature Space email update	DOC Nature Space Team
Rubbish collection	John Curran /Tim Harkness (WCC)
Bell's Track newsletters	Des Smith (Bells Track Group)
Nature Space website updating	Tim Bailey (DOC)
FOOS newsletters	Janet Campbell (Friends of Owhiro Stream)
Volunteer Wellington news and workshops	Julie Thomson (VW)
Bait station and trap reports	Tim Harkness/Illona Keenan (WCC)
Sanctuary to Sea meeting	Pascale Michel (Zealandia)
Resource Consent Application 128 Trelissick Crescent	Nathan Keenan (WCC), various submitters
Kaiwharawhara Stream monitoring	Liz Gibson (Mountains to Sea), Christianna Wyrobek (GWRC), various volunteers
Plant order	Tim Harkness (WCC)
Conservation Volunteers work	Ed Tregidga, Aviva Stern, Natalie Jones, Aaron Jaggar (Conservation Volunteers)
Mulch	Tim Harkness (WCC)
Study on Animals and dogs vs fledglings	Olivia Carson (VUW), Daniela Biaggio (WCC)
131 Silverstream Rd development	Andrew Mclellan, Howard Moore, Brett Osborne (WCC)
Predator Free NZ survey	Rebecca Bell (Predator Free NZ Trust)
TPG presence on Predator Free NZ website	Emma Giesen, Chloe Callaghan (Predator Free NZ Trust)
Sanctuary to Sea Citizen Science workshop	Pascale Michel (Zealandia)
Access to Park from Oban Street, also Wellington Scoop article	Chris Ward (Walking Access Commission), Crs Andy Foster, Diane Calvert, Simon WoolfMyfanwy Emeny, Mike Oates, Cath Taylor (WCC), Genevieve Hancock, Clive Litt, Lindsay Shelton (Wellington Scoop)
Kaiwharawhara Point plans	Chris Laidlaw (GWRC), William Woods (CentrePort)
Working bee programme	Tim Harkness (WCC)
Paid dog walkers	Robin Simenaur
Plants available	Doug Tennant
Predator Free NZ newsletter	Rebecca Bell (Predator Free NZ Trust)
Sea Week beach clean-up	Amanda Dobson (Enviroschools)
Gene editing for pest animal control	Andres Cleland (Royal Society of NZ)
Triumph gel	Tim Harkness (WCC)
Forest remnant Track closure	Tim Harkness (WCC)
BUPA development at 112 Churchill Drive	Sonja Deely, Ian Turk
Ngaio gorge Rd strengthening	Dean Latham (BBR Contech), Tim Harkness (WCC)
Stream monitoring test kit volunteers	Liz Gibson (Mountains to Sea Wellington), Pascale Michele (Zealandia) and others
Tunnels for Kaiwharawhara Stream between Otari Wiltons Bush and Trelissick park	Frances Forsyth (Wildlands), Daniela Biaggio (WCC)
Sanctuary to Sea Iwi Day	Pascale Michel (Zealandia), Daniela Biaggio (WCC)
Additional area for weed control	Illona Keenan (WCC), Stu Whiterod (Kaitiaki)
Clearing around canopy species	Jonathan Anderson (WCC)
Kereru deaths	Jonathan Anderson, Daniela Biaggio (WCC)
Work in Park by Conservation Volunteers and Met Service	Natalie Jones (Conservation Volunteers)
Park walk-through with new Conservation Volunteers manager	Natalie Jones (Conservation Volunteers)

Inwards Letters

Newsletters - Otari Wilton's Bush Trust.

Finance

The bank balance at 2 February was \$1,482.61 It was resolved that the \$1,000 'gift' money, previously kept aside for initial Oban St track expenses, would now be used for general purposes.

Peter Reimann spent \$247.61 on potting mix, fertiliser and seed-raising mix over the past 12 months: 50c per plant for the resulting 500 plants. Reimbursement agreed.

Other

Zealandia's Sanctuary to the Sea Project - The last meeting for 2017 covered talks from group leaders and VUW MSc students and updates of the catchment issues (identified in the last TPG Minutes). Zealandia are supporting water monitoring and education. They propose eventually to have 8 schools in the catchment adopting patches, assisted by Enviroschools, the Zoo and The Whitebait Connection. The first school are to be Khandallah and Otari.

[For the RNZ 'Nine to Noon' interview with Danielle Shanahan, with Zealandia's mission for the catchment, listen on http://www.radionz.co.nz/audio/player?audio_id=2018630397]

Meeting with Local MP Greg O'Connor - Frances Lee and Peter Reimann provided information on the Park/TPG history and issues concerning the Park, catchment, Kaiwharawhara Point and estuary at a meeting with Greg O'Connor. He is keen to know more about the area.

Trials of upgraded NIWA Stream Health Monitoring Assessment Kit - Liz Gibson of Mountains to Sea Wellington has been seeking volunteers to trial this kit. She has had many offers, including 5 people from TPG. Liz proposes a training session in the autumn, when the kit will be ready. **Liz Gibson**

Groups in Park - Thanks to Conservation Volunteers (CVNZ) and Mobil NZ Ltd for their further riparian work beside the Kaiwharawhara Stream. Peter Reimann will take the new CVNZ Wellington manager on a Park walk-through on 23 February. CVNZ and Mobil plan to do further riparian work on monthly visits until mid-year.

Websites - There has been a change of host for the TPG website, kindly attended to by Bill Hester. TPG also now have a presence on Predator Free NZ's website.

Sea Week Beach Clean-up - Amanda Dobson is organising a clean-up of the Kaiwharawhara Stream estuary area on 4 March. It may extend to the Kaiwharawhara Point shoreline, subject to access approval. **Amanda Dobson**

Rubbish in Park - TPG extracted about 15 heavy black plastic rubbish bags dumped down a cliff below Waikowhai Street. Thanks to WCC for prompt removal afterwards.

Kereru Deaths - WCC's Jonathan Anderson reported a two kereru deaths in the Kaiwharawhara valley, one in the stream (dog? January) and one in the bush (stoat? 17 February). WCC's Daniele Biaggio says: "we are working with DOC and the Zoo to improve our data on what animals are dying of what causes and where through the city. To this end if you find any animals please contact the DOC [+64 4 470 8412](tel:+6444708412). I am working to collate data from them but really appreciate data being send to me directly since I am holding the database."

Large Tree Trunk in Stream - Barry Durrant reported on a large pine trunk washed into the Kaiwharawhara Stream. It originated from the recent Abseil Access railway slip repair work. There is a concern about it damaging stream banks and the debris trap structure, if it is washed further down. Peter Reimann will contact WCC. **Peter Reimann**

The meeting closed at 10.45 AM

The next meeting is to be at **9:30 a.m. Tuesday 22 May 2018** Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, 86 Khandallah Road.