

Trelissick Park Group: Minutes of the 184th meeting, held at Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, 9:30 a.m. Tuesday 22 May 2018

Abbreviations:

WCC	Wellington City Council	NCDRAN	Ngai 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 (TPG)

Ian Shearer (HPPA)

Jenny Lewis (WRA)

Barry Durrant (TPG)

Stan Pillar (OHS)

Apologies

Karin Wiley (F & B)

Tim Harkness (WCC Ranger)

Minutes

The minutes of the 183rd meeting, held on 20 February, were confirmed.

WCC Items

Fish Passage Improvement in Catchment - The exit of the Silverstream tunnel under the railway line looks to be a barrier. There are other barriers in the catchment eg the waterfall from the tunnel exit next to the 'tip face' upstream of Otari Wilton's Bush. When and how will all the barriers in the catchment be fixed? Peter Reimann will follow this up with Daniela Biaggio (WCC) and Pascale Michel (Zealandia). **Peter Reimann**.

Ngai Gorge Road Strengthening - The area opposite the section at 123 Ngai Gorge Road (above driveway to debris trap) is complete. Tim Harkness is ensuring the area is planted - to be followed up. **Tim Harkness**

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

Ngai Gorge Road Slips - According to an article in a recent Independent Herald, WCC propose in its Draft 10-Year Plan to spend \$9m over the next 3 years to secure the gorge rock bluffs and \$1.65m over the next 5 years to strengthen retaining walls. "The Council expects to start work on the main slip later this year."

Car Parking - Lower Ngai Gorge Road - There has always been parking congestion at the lower entrance. This is aggravated by conversion of the layby further up the road to a traffic lane. There is a strong case for the grassy area up-road from the lower entrance to be converted to a layby. This has been included in TPG's submission on the WCC 10-year Plan.

Large Tree Trunk in Stream - The large pine trunk washed into the Kaiwharawhara Stream has moved a little further downstream (refer previous minutes). WCC contacted GW and then Wellington Water, but no action yet. The concern is damage to stream banks and ultimately the debris trap. Tim Harkness to follow up again with Wellington Water. **Tim Harkness/Wellington Water**

Possible Future Bridge for Stream Crossing on Forest Remnant Track - An unknown member of the public illicitly chain-sawed the deemed unsafe log 'footbridge' over the stream below upper Ngai Gorge Road and cut a new section of track down to the stream bed. This allowed easy crossing without a bridge and re-opening of the track. After the extent of the possible housing development is decided, WCC may install a small footbridge there. **Tim Harkness/David Halliday**

Forest Remnant Track Maintenance - There is a need for minor re-benching along the Forest Remnant Track to improve safety. [TPG volunteers could do this]. **Peter Reimann**

Truck Fallen into Park - The large truck which overturned while descending the steep access track above the debris trap to service the sewer system has been removed. Tim Harkness will be working with Wellington Water on reinstatement of the area. There could also be some fencing and planting done in the area but this is still to be worked out. **Tim Harkness**

Spraying of Historic Walls - TPG cleared weeds from the walls down from the lower entrance. WCC will spray them periodically. **WCC**

Gate to Sewer System opposite Fish Passage - The two padlocked chains are not attached to the ground, so the gate can be opened by anyone. **Tim Harkness/Wellington Water**

Broken Lid of Sewer Manhole - Barry Durrant reported that the corner of a concrete sewer manhole beside the vehicle track is broken off and stuffed with a rag. May have been fixed - Peter Reimann to check. **Peter Reimann**

Pest Plant Control

WCC's contractor Kaitiaki o Ngahere Ltd has been doing follow-up spraying below Trelissick Crescent. Other areas: the lower slopes adjoining the Northern Walkway below the Hanover Street entrance and a riparian area down from bridge 5 - not done yet. Peter Reimann will ask for an update from Illona Keenan (WCC).

Peter Reimann/Illona Keenan

Climbing asparagus is getting worse on the slopes below Oban Street. Peter Reimann will ask if Illona Keenan can include this in the contractor's programme. **Peter Reimann/Illona Keenan**

Some Japanese honeysuckle has also been tackled at the lower part of the clearing below the western end of the Forest Remnant Track and next to the Northern Walkway on the Ngaio side of Bridge 6.

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**

Tradescantia Leaf Spot Fungus - Information requested from Illona Keenan. **Illona Keenan**

Nursery/Planting Update.

302 planted so far this year, including infill, the Trelissick Crescent verge and Kelvin Hastie's 'spot' below Waikowhai Street. Planting on-going. Sources: 500 plants from WCC's nursery (most delivered 11 May including more rimu), about 300 from Peter Reimann's nursery. Peter Reimann yesterday picked up 100 grasses (missing from 11 May delivery). He will pick up an extra 80 plants on 9 July **Peter Reimann**

Richard Grasse (TPG) says F & B are moving their nursery and may have some plants available. **Richard Grasse**

TPG are planting densely growing species along the Trelissick Crescent verge to discourage dumping of rubbish and garden waste. More needed. **Peter Reimann**

Animal Pest Control

Trap Scores - Trap scores since 2008: 213 rats, 17 stoats (5 may have been weasels), 17 hedgehogs. The rat score may have included some mice caught in the new A24 traps.

Rabbits - More this year and some plant damage. Protection is being employed. GW has introduced a new rabbit virus on 30 sites across the region. It will eventually spread via flies.

Map Revision - Map revisions showing bait stations and traps locations are under discussion between TPG's Bill Hester and GW's Bruce Brewer. **Bruce Brewer/Bill Hester**

Park Access from Oban St

WCC's research team are finishing designing a survey, using some of the material prepared by TPG. That survey is to go out (widely publicised) in late May. **Myfanwy Emeny/Cath Taylor**

TPG is waiting for a draft of the survey document for comment, was due mid-May - not received yet. Peter Reimann to pursue. **Peter Reimann/Myfanwy Emeny/Cath Taylor**

WCC has consulted with the owners of 112/114 Oban Street and they have agreed to abide by the survey outcome.

Barry Durrant reported that for the second time, tree branches and vegetation have been piled at the lower end of the legal right of way, impeding/preventing access to the slopes below for pest animal/pest plant control. [Cleared by Barry 23 May, but access confrontation occurred. Myfanwy Emeny was given details of the agreed route and history and asked to sort out the confrontation/blockage]. **Myfanwy Emeny**

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 - The crushing operation on the reclamation is likely to last for up to 5 years, making any actual development there virtually impossible. However, this does not stop planning for it. The paper produced by the MSc student (mentioned at the February meeting) has been shown to various ecological groups who have raised some concerns. It is, therefore, being suggested by Zealandia that a workshop be held to bring together all relevant authorities and ecological groups to discuss the future of this important entrance/exit of the whole Kaiwharawhara catchment, under the umbrella of the Sanctuary to Sea Project. **Frances Lee**

Submissions

128 Trelissick Crescent 17-unit Development - WCC advise the application is still 'in suspend' but that the developer will be followed up in the near future on the request for further information. **WCC Consents Team**

Peter Reimann will examine land ownership in the area, as there may be a case for asking owners if they could covenant portions of their areas to the QE2 Trust. **Peter Reimann**

112 Churchill Drive BUPA Development - Notified local residents have lodged an appeal and the next step is mediation.

WCC 10-Year Plan - TPG lodged a submission concerning risky and extravagant growth initiatives, more investment in green spaces, stormwater and housing concerns, 'streamlined' consenting, new entrance and

track from Oban Street (funding of upper portion and maintenance), extra parking on lower Ngaio Gorge Road, walking tracks and links, retaining cycling prohibited status for the Park.

Kilmarston Development - The land use consent part of the resource consent of 2012 for the development below the Crows Nest has lapsed. A new application has been made for approval of the subdivision plan - received by WCC on 29 September 2017. Frances Lee is liaising with John White of NCDRA to discuss this further with Jonathan Anderson, WCC Team Leader for Earthworks & Subdivision Certification. **Frances Lee/John White**

Correspondence

Emails

Recent web alerts, resource consents	WCC (WCC)
Volunteer Wellington news and workshops	Julie Thomson (VW)
Rubbish collection	John Curran /Tim Harkness (WCC)
Bait station and trap reports	Tim Harkness/Illona Keenan (WCC)
Sanctuary to Sea meeting reports, agenda, minutes	Pascale Michel (Zealandia)
Resource Consent Application 128 Trelissick Crescent	Nathan Keenan (WCC), Rachel Calvert
Garden aste dumping below Trelissick Crescent	Tim Harkness (WCC)
Plant order	Tim Harkness/Brian Thomas (WCC), Chris Logan (Outsiders Ltd)
Conservation Volunteers work and contacts for other organisations	Natalie Jones/Kellie Benner (Conservation Volunteers)
Restoration Day 26 May	GW
Sea Week estuary cleanup	Amanda Dobson (Enviroschools), Pascale Michel (Zealandia)
WCC Long-term Plan feedback form and submission	WCC
Citizen Science symposium and workshops on monitoring	Monica Peters (NZ Landcare Trust)
CentrePort environmental meeting minutes and agenda	Justina Tupangaia (CentrePort)
Log jammed across Korimako Stream at Bridge 4	Tim Harkness (WCC)
Access to Park from Oban Street	Chris Ward (Walking Access Commission), Andy Foster/Diane Calvert/Simon Woolf/Myfanwy Emeny (WCC)
Historic walls next to vehicle track from lower entrance - WCC spraying	Tim Harkness (WCC)
Kakariki in Park	Ellen Irwin (Zealandia)
Rabbits in Park and new virus	Illona Keenan (WCC)
Kilmarston development	John White (NCDRA)
Predator Free NZ newsletter	Rebecca Bell (Predator Free NZ Trust)
Gene editing for pest animal control	Andres Cleland (Royal Society of NZ)
'No Parking' yellow lines at lower Ngaio Gorge Rd entrance	Tim Harkness (WCC)
Forest Remnant Track stream crossing	Tim Harkness (WCC)
BUPA development at 112 Churchill Drive	Sonja Deely and other affected residents
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
Planting in Trelissick Park	Jonathan Anderson (WCC)
Plant and weed lists	Patrick Enright, Jonathan Anderson (WCC), Chris Horne (BotSoc), Lea Robertson
Additional area for weed control	Illona Keenan (WCC), Stu Whiterod (Kaitiaki)
Clearing around canopy species	Jonathan Anderson (WCC)
Membership invoice	Debra Roche (VW)
Work in Park by Conservation Volunteers and Met Service	Natalie Jones (Conservation Volunteers)
Survey questions	Julie Thomson (VW)
Tree planting event	Gerald Dreaver

Tradescantia leaf spot fungus query	Illona Keenan (WCC)
Bait-safe station concerns	Illona Keenan (WCC), Bruce Brewer/Paul Horton (GW)
CommunityFinder link to TPG	CommunityFinder
Planting for Thorndon School	Oliver Vetter (Sustainable Coastlines)
Spare plants and missing grasses	Anita Benbrook/Diego Evans (WCC)
Truck fallen into Park	Tim Harkness (WCC)
Te Puna Reo visit	Amanda Dobson (Enviroschools)
Ngaio Brownies (Girl Guides) visit	Caroline Woods (Ngaio Brownies), kelvin Hastie
Plants for 'spot'	Kelvin Hastie
Two corporate group work-visits to Park	Barry Young (BNZ)
Monitoring discussion	Pascale Michel (Zealandia), Katherine de Silva (VUW)
MSc Report on Kaiwharawhara Point and Estuary	Eduardo Barros (VUW)

Inwards Letters

Newsletters - Otari Wilton's Bush Trust.

Finance

The bank balance at 4 May was \$1,184.95. This includes \$50 for Volunteer Wellington membership fee.

It was suggested that TPG could canvass for donations for such expenses as use of the meeting venue, bait lures, potting mix - item for next newsletter. **Peter Reimann**

Other

Zealandia's Sanctuary to the Sea Project - The April meeting covered updates (Khandallah School, CentrePort, fresh water monitoring) and talks on reconnecting Taranaki Whanui to the Kaiwharawhara, fresh water mussels, fish passage and fish survey results.

Trials of upgraded NIWA Stream Health Monitoring Assessment Kit - Continuing (see previous Minutes).

Ongoing stream monitoring discussion - VUW student Katherine de Silva in conjunction with Pascale Michel of Zealandia are looking for suggestions on implementing a long-term monitoring programme for Kaiwharawhara catchment water quality/habitat condition/fish and macro-invertebrate presence - eg the first years of data to represent the current 'baseline state' of the catchment; and monitoring thereafter would inform trends or changes. Peter Reimann has contacted TPG's interested parties for feedback. **TPG's interested parties**

Groups in Park - Thanks to Conservation Volunteers (CVNZ), Sathya Sai Service Organisation, Lyall Bay Girl Guides and Ngaio Brownies for their work in the Park. Visits from Te Puna Reo tamariki, Thorndon School/Sustainable Coastlines and BNZ are being organised. A 50th birthday riparian weeding/planting celebration is happening on 27 May in the Kaiwharawhara valley. **Peter Reimann**

Restoration Day 26 May - Two people are going.

Rubbish in Park - Much rubbish was extracted from below Trelissick Crescent, exposed after spraying of tradescantia by WCC. New volunteer Brenton Early is removing stream rubbish. Thanks to WCC for prompt removal afterwards.

Plant and Weed Lists - After a query from Lea Robertson, these lists have been compiled, with input from Patrick Enright, Olaf John, Chris Horne, Barbara Mitcalfe, Richard Grasse, Anita Benbrook, S Myers, Geoff Park and the Inaturalist website, Bill Hester has put the plant and weed lists on the TPG website.

The meeting closed at 10.30 AM.

The next meeting is to be at **9:30 a.m. Tuesday 21 August 2018** Khandallah Automatic Telephone Exchange, 86 Khandallah Road.