

Trelissick Park Group: Minutes of the 205th Meeting, held at Ōtari Wilton's Bush Visitor Centre, 9:30 a.m. Thursday 4 July 2024



[Actions in ***Bold Italics***. Abbreviations: WCC Wellington City Council; O-WB Ōtari-Wilton's Bush; TPG Trelissick Park Group; GWCR Greater Wellington Regional Council; OMB Old Man's Beard; H&S Health and Safety; FB Facebook; NCDRA Ngaio Crofton Downs Residents Association; PFW Predator Free Wellington]

Welcome and Introductions

Martin McCrudden's work as our ranger for the past year was acknowledged. Adam Groenewegen was welcomed back into the role. Rick Holmes was welcomed to the working group.

Apologies:

Diane Calvert (Western Ward Councillor), Tim Harkness (WCC), Adam Groenewegen (WCC), Tim Park (O-WB), Martin McCrudden (WCC), Susan Timmins, Bill Hester.

Present:

Anne Tuffin (Chair), Peter Reimann, Ian Duncan, Angus Napier, Ian Shearer (Secretary/Treasurer), Nate Rigler (Zealandia), Jonathan Anderson, Rick Holmes.

WCC Reports

Weed control - update required - ***Illona Keenan***

Tracks - Tim Harkness reported (by email): Hanover track hand rail - Subject to contractor availability will be done in July or August. Stream side track – Part of track we worked on recently. WCC are planning to gravel this over the next 6 months. Erosion of vehicle track – there has been very little further erosion and WCC has no plans to do any work here currently due to funding issues. WCC will monitor & re-assess if more erosion occurs.

Tim is keen to know what the TPG priorities are for WCC to start working their way through on the track network.

Discussion - Track work priorities: Angus reported track edge protection areas need steady work, particularly near Wightwicks Field where better stream bank protection is needed. Has been discussed with WCC (Adam) who will supply materials. Adam requests an estimated material budget for the year. Anne asked for root protection for the large Ngaio tree at the Crossroads. Wet area - where the recent leak occurred near Bridge 7 - needs gravel; slip on track around wooden steps on track below Bridge 7; low ground near old magazine building; Jonathan suggested a track audit sheet. **Anne** to send the final TPG priority list to Adam by August.

GWRC

Fish passage improvement in catchment:

Anne reported GWCR is in the process of a consent application for works in several regional streams/rivers. The works may involve the removal of structures, replacement of structures or in-situ remediation options. The structures that will be getting removed or replaced will be those that are posing a barrier to fish passage. It is not known whether the Kaiwharawhara will be one of the streams affected. The consent has currently not been processed until certain aspects of the application have been addressed by the applicant. **Anne** will follow up with Ashley Webby (GWCR).

Discussion: Nate reported that GWCR (Ashley Webby) is keen to support Kaiwharawhara stream fish developments.

Check aquatic species reported during the Northern Gateway project in the 1990s/2000s. Interest in Māori use of flax fibre for spat ropes. **Nate** and **Anne** to follow up.

Kia Mauriora te Kaiwharawhara Sanctuary to Sea

Nate reported that the TPG pledge of a grant of \$25k has triggered implementation of this project. Issues include the trees on DoC land shading the spawning site. Wattles have been removed. Plan to restore the stream in the “Spotlight” area will start with planting beds in the stream (first 150 plants). Then there will be a pause for another hui with iwi reps. It will be a small restricted team, and is presently not suitable for public involvement from a H&S position. Nate reported that he had only spent \$15 so far – so the knowledge that there is some money has triggered action without the need to draw down on the funds yet. Vic Uni research is also involved.

TPG Activity

Weed Control

Jonathan has marked a number of pest species and Puriri. Below Bridge 3 large trees were removed. Large willow also needs to be poisoned along the stream banks. The weediest area is around Hanover track and the scout hall, which have cherry in hard to access cliffs. **Anne & Jonathan** to draft email to Ilona (WCC).

Angus noted that some of the infestation is coming from private property, OMB etc.

Nate noted that Māori input into weed control is something to be aware of for the future with an upcoming wānanga with Victoria University on the topic.

Animal Pest Control

Bill Hester reported via email: TPG currently has 30 bait stations (using poison/block bait), 16 DOC200s, 11 A24 devices, 20 bait safe stations for possum prevention and 10 tunnel traps. The bait stations are looked after by Steve Mackle, Andy McIver, and (soon) Jim Nicolson. The DOC200s are looked after by Richard Grasse and Warrick Fowlie. The A24s are looked after by Finnigan Illsley-Kemp. The Bait Safe stations are serviced by the Regional Council. The tunnel traps are looked after by Shelley Kininmonth (under Briony Ellis of Predator Free Khandallah). TrapNZ has details on predators eliminated by the DOC200s, the A24s and the tunnel traps.

2024 Planting – Planting is progressing well.

2025 Plant Order

Jonathan will develop the TPG plant order in November in conjunction with Angus and Tim P (O-WB).

Memorial Trees

There are two kahikatea for Mike Lear and Dot Catchpole that need to be ceremonially planted at times that suit the families. **Peter Reimann** to invite families.

Working Bees

Angus and Ian D noted that it is hard work to get volunteers to return for weeding work. Angus reported that the regular Tuesday time is not working. Angus will try some other times to see whether more people will come. Needs further discussion on this aspect.

Approach to weeding may evolve in response to new research and iwi input.

A special celebratory working bee will be organised at 128 Trelissick Cres on the Frances Lee land. **Anne & Angus** to organise.

Signage Plan

Anne met with Tim Harkness (WCC) on 15 May to discuss a refresh of the signs in the park. WCC is responsible for wayfinding signs; TPG can help design and fund interpretative signs. **Anne** will put a funding application into Trans Power (due 30 July) to match the \$15k we have put aside from the Frances Lee donation for signage.

Website & Facebook

Bill Hester reported via email: The TPG website has changed its host from a private (free) piggy back arrangement to a more sustainable commercial NZ host. The Domain Registration is via (donated) Freeparking registration - the named servers there have been changed to point to the new host. No issues are anticipated, though it may be prudent to have the new host arrangement consolidated with the domain registration at some stage in future. Nothing need be done now - maybe can be revisited prior to the next domain renewal. The new hosting arrangement is with MyHost secure.myhost.nz | myhost.nz

Anne Holmstead has taken over the Administrator role for the TPG Facebook page. Any items for FB, now contact Anne H aeholmstead@gmail.com

Volunteer hours 2023/24

Return submitted to WCC at the end of June - 2,283 hrs, an increase over the 2022/23 hours.

Park mapping

Anne, Bill, Ian D and Angus met with Finn Illsley-Kemp on 27 June to discuss Finn's offer to help with GPS-mapping key features in the park. It was decided that the first map will be an audit of all signs in the park, requested by Tim Harkness (WCC). We agreed to send Finn photos (from our phones) of signs - front, side, back, close-up & further away. **Anne** will cover the Hanover Track; **Finn** will cover the Oban Track; **Other TPG people** will cover the Ngaio-side tracks.

Gorge Gazette newsletter

Peter published the July 2024 issue of the newsletter on 29 June.

Discussion: The issue of dogs damaging the sides of the stream led to ideas for remediating the damage. **Angus** and **Adam** will experiment with possible solutions.

Finance

Account Balance: \$1,823.80 in Acct with NCDRA holding balance of trust fund

Payments Approved: \$111.16 reimbursement to Bill Hester for web services. **Ian Shearer**

Other

Plastic Collection Boom – **Jonathan** to follow up.

KiwiRail emergency bridge

Jonathan reported WCC has been approached by KiwiRail to replace the emergency bridge across the Kaiwharawhara near the Magazine site. **Anne** to send email to Sherilyn Hinton (WCC) to encourage access via the new bridge to this part of the park and the beautiful waterfall.

New land added to Park - The parcel of land donated to WCC by Frances Lee is having its boundary with 128 Trelissick Cresc surveyed to ensure we know where we can do weed and pest control. **Anne** to follow up with WCC.

TPG "membership" – To be discussed at next meeting.

Te Reo name for the park - To be discussed at next meeting.

Next meeting: 9.30 a.m. Thursday 7 November 2024 – Ōtari-Wilton's Bush Visitor Centre

Appendices

A. Correspondence with External Parties

| | |
|--|--|
| Request for Community Group Volunteer hours | WCC (Adam Groenewegen) |
| Volunteer Day at Trelissick | Kiwibank (Jenny Cheng) |
| Group Volunteers (various) | Volunteer Wellington |
| Updating our VW adverts | Volunteer Wellington (Amanda Ashby) |
| Fast-track Approvals Bill | Parliament Select Committee |
| Hanover track – new hand rails | WCC (Tim Harkness) |
| Te Hononga – various | Eugene Doyle; Lynne Cadenhead; Kate Littin |
| Khandallah Cubs talk on weeds | Ant Comerford |
| Te Araroa Trail section in Trelissick Park | TA Trust (Matt Claridge) |
| PFW biosecurity campaign | Briony Ellis |
| Community Care Fund | Transpower |
| QE2 National Trust – Hanover St covenants | Rob Cross |
| Conservation Calendar, Green Cloak | Keryn, Green Cloak |
| Westpac, change of signatories | Hemant Yadav |
| Ngaio & Wadestown Libraries – request to display certs | Eirini Antonogiannaki |
| Ngaio Community Picnic | Stephanie Hamilton |
| Tyers Stream submission | Lynn Cadenhead |
| Wellington City Archives – TPG collection | Prayash Chhetri |
| Kia Mouriora te Kaiwharawhara Sanctuary to Sea Community Hui Invitation | Nate Rigler |
| NCDRA – Frances Lees’s donation | Ian Turk |

B. Newsletters received

- PFW
- Te Hononga Wellington Catchments Collective
- Old Man’s Beard Free Wellington
- Tawatawa S.E.A
- Ōtari-Wilton’s Bush Trust

C. Volunteer hours 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025

(approximate; updated at every committee meeting; reported to WCC annually)

| Activity | Hours |
|---|-------|
| Attending committee or group planning hui for your mahi | |
| Attending training or workshops related to your volunteer mahi | |
| Trapping (note: time taken to check traps is calculated by our Biosecurity Specialist) | |
| Trap NZ administration | |
| Other | |
| Restoration working bees – planting, weeding, community/corporate planting | |
| Trails working bees - building, maintenance | |
| Other activities – eg. rubbish collection / beach clean-ups / submissions / community advocacy | |
| Total since 1 July 2024 | |
| Running total | |

D. Submissions

| Submission | Key points | Sent | Oral |
|--|---|-------------|-------------|
| WCC's 2024-2034 Long Term Plan | Focused on the long-term sewerage leak at the north end of OWB contaminating the Kaiwharawhara Stream through Trelissick Park; other sewer leaks; and the need for stronger measures to slow down stormwater. | 16/04/2024 | 14/06 2024 |
| Fast Track Approvals Bill, Environment Select Committee (Parliament) | Focused on historic infrastructure, done without environmental protections, and that continues to detrimentally affect the Park – railway, sewer line, stormwater drains, electricity pylons, and land-fill. | 10/05/2024 | 20/05/2024 |

E. Community

| Event | Date |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Ngaio Community Fair - Table | 7/04/2024 |
| Khandallah Cubs – Park weeds | 13/06/2024 |