



MINUTES OF MEETING

9.30am Thursday 9 July 2026 | Riverview Room, Hobart Council Centre

NOTE: MINUTES OF ALL TRUST MEETINGS ARE PUBLISHED ON THE WELLINGTON PARK WEBSITE FOLLOWING THEIR APPROVAL BY THE TRUST. INFORMATION IN THE PUBLIC MINUTES MAY BE REDACTED IF THE TRUST CONSIDERS IT IS EXEMPT UNDER THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT 2009.

1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

PRESENT:	Dr C Mucha	Chairperson
	Cr B Lohberger	City of Hobart
	Mr M Stretton	City of Hobart
	Mr S Fletcher	Dept of NRE
	Ms T Ross	PWS
	Ms F Smith	TasWater
	Ms A Russell	WPMT
	APOLOGIES: Ms M Kendall (Glenorchy City Council), Ms A Macdonald (Tourism Tasmania)	

The meeting opened at 9.36am.

The Trust acknowledges that it is meeting during the NAIDOC Week. For 50 years, NAIDOC Week has been a platform for truth-telling, a celebration of identity and a statement of continuity. We pay our respect to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people, all of whom have survived invasion and dispossession, and continue to maintain their identity and culture.

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND RELATED PARTY INTERESTS IN AGENDA ITEMS

Nil advised.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING AND ACTIONS ARISING

Resolution: The Trust resolved to:

1. Endorse the minutes of the previous meeting held on 30 April as a true record of that meeting.
2. Direct the General Manager to prepare formal correspondence to Minister Felix Ellis,

the Premier and other relevant stakeholders to express the Trust's disappointment and frustration with ongoing lack of communication on the progress and forecast timelines of the Our Mountain's Future review, noting that this is having a very real impact on Trust function. *(Action superseded by the release of the Our Mountain's Future Review)*

4. IN CAMERA SESSION

8.2 Performance Review – General Manager

5. WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

In the absence of any issues being reported, members sought information related to the recent Disappearing Tarn event. The General Manager advised that the City of Hobart had proactively deployed a modified Snow Day Response to deal with forecast congestion and that this had worked well. Council reported in the order of 600-700 walkers heading into the Tarn each day over the course of the event. Trust Rangers had also been in attendance at The Springs and at the Tarn. There were only a small number of third party reports of people swimming, with general awareness of this restriction due to drinking water sensitivities appearing to be high.

Resolution: The Trust noted the report by the General Manager.

6. FINANCIAL REPORTS

The General Manager reiterated that end-of-year adjustments had not yet been applied to the Trust's financial records and that these would be provided once returned from the contracted accountant.

Resolution: The Trust noted the report by the General Manager.

7. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

The General Manager provide a verbal report to the Trust.

- No response to date on request for amendment of the Wellington Park Regulations.
- Another Right To Information request was fielded in May-June.
- Dark Sky Park application has received first tranche of feedback from a Dark Sky International panel member and adjustments are being made. Sky quality data is within Dark Sky Park accreditation thresholds.
- Pakana Rangers are working in conjunction with Trust and PWS Rangers to undertake track maintenance works in the south east quadrant of the Park. The first of regular scheduled meetings with the Pakana Ranger Coordinator will occur on 16 July.
- The proposed Humphreys Rivulet burn did not proceed as the required weather window did not present. The burn is now deferred to next Autumn.

The General Manager drew the Trust's attention to the illegal MTB track cutting activity in Wellington Park as outlined in the Wellington Park Office summary, and the negative response from some sections of the MTB rider community directed towards the Trust's Education and Regulations Coordinator, including the threat of further retributive track construction.

The Chair noted that a Letter to the Editor recognising the improved congestion management response deployed by the City of Hobart would be submitted to The Mercury.

It was suggested that the lattice tower ice fall risk be used as a focus for a future communication on reasons for closure of Pinnacle Rd to underscore the diversity of safety issues on the mountain during periods of ice and snow.

Resolution: The Trust noted the report by the General Manager.

8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION

8.1 WELLINGTON PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW

The General Manager noted the significant amount of work that had already gone into the revision of the Management Plan prior to deferral due to the ongoing Our Mountain's Future (OMF) review.

The last meeting that had considered revised content was in February 2024, and there had been a turnover in Trust membership since that time. Agency consultation that was endorsed at the February 2024 meeting was not completed owing to the announcement of the OMF review.

The Trust agreed to convene a member workshop to refresh Trust member awareness of proposed revisions to date as prepared by the Wellington Park office. Revisions would then be taken forward to recommence agency consultation.

Resolution: The Trust resolved to:

1. Convene a member workshop to discuss Management Plan revisions proposed to date.
2. Make proposed Zone revisions available to agencies through LISTmap.
3. Following the member workshop, recommence agency consultation on proposed Management Plan revisions.

8.3 REVIEW OF HR POLICIES (BIENNIAL)

The General Manager provided the Trust with revised HR policies and a summary of updates. The Trust discussed the inclusion of paid Community Service Leave, which is currently available in an unpaid capacity.

On questioning, the General Manager advised that an AI policy was in draft, however a scale-appropriate template was still being researched. M Stretton offered the draft City of Hobart AI policy to the General Manager for reference.

Resolution: The Trust resolved to:

1. Endorse the revised HR policies as provided by the General Manager.
2. Provide for staff to take three days of paid Community Service Leave to for bonafide emergency services volunteering.

8.4 REVIEW OF PROCUREMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURES (BIENNIAL)

The General Manager provided a revised Procurement Policy and Procedure document and a summary of updates.

Resolution: The Trust resolved to endorse the revised Procurement Policy and Procedures.

8.5 DRAFT 2025-26 ANNUAL REPORT

The Trust reviewed draft 2025-26 Annual Report content, excluding financial statements that will be reviewed following audit, to avoid last minute edits in the lead up to statutory deadlines.

The Trust was advised that the final draft of the Annual Report would be tabled for review at the September Trust meeting.

Resolution: The Trust resolved to:

1. Approve content updates for the 2025-26 Annual Report.
2. Direct the General Manager to circulate the Financial Statements 2025-26 when available.
3. Endorse the Chair to sign the Financial Statements 2025-26 on behalf of the Trust.

9. ITEMS FOR NOTING

9.1 WELLINGTON PARK BUSINESS CASE

The General Manager advised that there had been no further work on the Business Case as the Our Mountain's Future review had not yet been released.

A list of Frequently Asked Questions had been compiled following media coverage and public commentary during June.

The Trust requested that the General Manager prepare a step-by-step procedure that could lead to implementation of the Business Case, including performing due diligence on the consultants' recommendations, a practical implementation plan, authorisations required and regulatory controls.

Resolution: The Trust resolved to direct the General Manager to prepare a practical implementation plan for the Wellington Park Business Case.

9.2 SECRET HUT RENEWAL AND RESTORATION

The General Manager presented an overview of conservation works completed on one of the secret huts in Wellington Park, noting that this was a direct application of the Trust's new Bush Huts Management Policy released in 2024.

Resolution: The Trust noted the report by the General Manager.

9.3 REVIEW OF PERMIT PROCEDURES (PERIODIC)

Resolution: The Trust noted the report by the General Manager.

9.4 TRACK COUNTER SUMMARY

Resolution: The Trust noted the report by the General Manager.

9.5 CORRESPONDENCE

Resolution: The Trust noted the report by the General Manager.

9.6 WPO WORK PROGRAM

Resolution: The Trust noted the report by the General Manager.

9.7 WPO SUMMARY

Resolution: The Trust noted the report by the General Manager.

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

The Chair advised that the Tourism Tasmania deputy member had resigned from her position as she was leaving Tourism Tasmania.

The City of Hobart members raised the timelines of the upcoming Local Government elections and the likely impact on Trust membership.

S Fletcher advised that he would be an apology for the next meeting.

B Lohberger queried the condition of the Octopus Tree noting that there is currently temporary exclusion signage in place. The General Manager confirmed that there were concerns about the health of the tree and the continued trampling of the exposed root zone as visitors depart the track and move around the tree. The Trust was in discussions with the City of Hobart and Pakana Rangers about suitable protection methods that would likely include a new spur track and signage.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next Trust meeting will be on Thursday 24 September at the Hobart Council Centre.

A member workshop would be convened before the next meeting to progress the Management Plan review.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.17am.