



Wellington Park
Management Trust

MINUTES OF MEETING

9.30am Thursday 23 February 2023 | Rm 206, Hobart Council Centre

NOTE: MINUTES OF 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 INFORMATION UNDER THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT 2009

1. IN CAMERA SESSION

Not required.

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

PRESENT:

Dr C Mucha	Chairperson
Mr E Reale	Glenorchy City Council
Ms K Ward	PWS
Ms J Crisp	NRE
Ms R Warrener	Tourism Tasmania
Ms A Russell	WPMT
Ms E Sorensen	WPMT, secretariat

OBSERVERS: Cr M Kendall (Glenorchy CC), LM Cr Anna Reynolds (City of Hobart)

APOLOGIES: Ms F Smith (TasWater), Mr C Attfield (TasWater), Cr B Lohberger (City of Hobart nominee), Mr Stuart Fletcher (NRE nominee)

The meeting opened at 9.40am.

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this island, we would like to acknowledge the Muwinina people, the traditional owners of the land upon which we gather. We acknowledge and pay respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people, all of whom have survived invasion and dispossession, and continue to maintain their identity and culture.

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

None declared.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING AND ACTIONS ARISING

Resolution: The Trust resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 24 November 2022, previously circulated to meeting attendees via email and included in Trust papers, be signed as a true record of that meeting.

The Trust noted progress against Actions Arising.

5. WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT 25 NOVEMBER 2022 – 16 FEBRUARY 2023

A Work Health and Safety report was tabled. The Trust was briefed on a verbal threat towards a staff member.

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

6. FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Trust was presented with the financial reports to 31 January 2023 and a draft Finance Policy and Procedure Manual.

Members noted the possibility of including appropriate paid advertising in the Trust's Bushwalking brochure as a means of recovering printing costs.

The Trust was advised that the 2023-24 budget was currently in preparation with a view to presentation at the May meeting.

Resolution:

The Trust noted the report prepared by the General Manager

The Trust resolved to:

- approve the Finance Policy and Procedure Manual, to be reviewed in six months following the 2022-23 audit, and then annually as part of the Trust Work Plan.
- amend the Procurement Policy and Procedures to require only unbudgeted expenses over \$100 to be reported to the Trust.
- direct the General Manager to investigate paid advertising in the Bushwalking brochure.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION

7.1 VISITOR AND RECREATION STRATEGY

The General Manager provided a report on the outcomes of the draft VRS public consultation process, noting forty-five submissions from individuals and groups/associations. To assist in the integration of feedback, the General Manager requested further direction on whether the Trust goal was to limit, sustain or grow visitation in Wellington Park.

Discussion highlighted the need for visitor growth forecasts and an appropriate investment strategy.

There was agreement that rather than reworking and continuing to consult on the document, feedback be integrated where appropriate, including ensuring identified shortcomings are addressed by new or existing actions identified in the Strategy. This will then allow implementation of the Strategy to proceed.

The Trust requested that all parties providing valid feedback be provided with a response.

Resolution: The Trust resolved to:

- revise the VRS in line with the identified Suggested Actions and additional actions discussed.
- direct the General Manager to ensure that a response was provided to all parties submitting valid feedback.

7.2 COMMERCIAL OPERATOR LICENCE ARRANGEMENTS

The Trust noted the current state of Commercial Operator Licence arrangements, whereby only six of 240 operators licenced to conduct business in Wellington Park have a licence directly through the Trust. As a result, the Trust receives no licence income, does not have a central database of commercial operator contacts, and therefore limited engagement with the majority of operators using the Park. Operators are also experiencing protracted delays in obtaining multi-reserve licences through the 'one-stop-shop' arrangement administered by PWS Property Services.

Resolution: The Trust resolved to direct the General Manager to:

- prepare a business case for the return of Commercial Operator Licencing functions for Wellington Park to the Trust, including consideration of advantages, disadvantages and budget implications.
- make contact with the CEO of the Tourism Industry Council of Tasmania to discuss proposed changes to Commercial Operator Licence arrangements.

7.3 PROPOSED ACT AMENDMENTS

The Trust discussed the draft Minute to the Minister prepared by the General Manager. It was noted that advice had been received from NRE indicating that the Minute would need to come from the department, not the Trust as per government protocol. The Trust therefore considered the content of the draft Minute to confirm the Trust's position on proposed amendments.

Resolution: The Trust resolved to:

- endorse the content of the draft Minute as the Trust's position on proposed amendments to the Wellington Park Act 1993.
- direct the General Manager to confirm communication protocols with the Minister's office.
- direct the General Manager to prepare correspondence to the Minister's office and request a meeting between the Trust Chair and the Minister to present the Trust's position on Act amendments.

7.4 COLONIAL TIMBER HERITAGE PRECINCT

The Trust discussed the compilation of heritage site information within the Junction Cabin and Guy Fawkes Rivulet areas. All identified sites in the Junction Cabin area were noted as already being listed in the Trust's heritage database.

Of the thirty-five identified sites in the Guy Fawkes Rivulet area, only seven are currently recorded in the Trust's heritage database. The Trust discussed the recommendation to declare a heritage precinct in this area due to the number, proximity and attributes of the features.

Clarity was requested on the impact of declaring a colonial timber heritage precinct on existing infrastructure in the area, or if other priority values such as Aboriginal heritage features are identified

in the same area.

Resolution: The Trust resolved to:

- include colonial timber heritage information in the Information and Interpretation Plan to be prepared under the Visitor and Recreation Strategy.
- direct the General Manager to seek robust information and define the implications of declaring a precinct.
- direct the General Manager to prepare the required information package to declare a heritage precinct in the Guy Fawkes Rivulet area, including a communications plan, and present this to the Trust for decision.

8. ITEMS FOR NOTING

8.1 NATURAL VALUES DATABASE

The Trust received a report on action underway to create a natural values inventory for the Park.

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

8.2 REMOVAL OF SMITH'S MONUMENT

The Trust received a report on the planned extraction of Smith's Monument, which will be gifted to the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery by the City of Hobart for restoration and display. An Initial Conservation Plan for Smith's Monument has been prepared. The extraction will be followed by the development of an alternative marker and interpretation content for installation on site.

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

8.3 NEW TRUST MEMBERSHIP

The appointment of five new members, two new deputy members and one member reappointment will be tabled in Parliament on 7 March.

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

8.4 WELLINGTON PARK LOCK AND KEY SYSTEM

The Trust was briefed on the roll out of the new Park-wide lock and key system planned for mid-March.

Resolution: The Trust noted the report provided by the Education and Regulations Coordinator.

8.5 MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Resolution: The Trust noted the minutes of the February MAC meeting.

8.6 WPO ACTIVITY SUMMARY

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

8.7 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was noted.

9. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

The Trust received a verbal report from the General Manager. Discussion included:

- Planned cultural awareness training – 5 April 2023
- Trust Management Plan Review workshop arrangements – proposed dates to be circulated
- 2022-23 audit process
- Investigation of not-for-profit registration
- Upcoming significant works and project proposals

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

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

No general business

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next meeting is Thursday 4 May.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.30am.