



**Wellington Park**  
*Management Trust*

## MINUTES OF MEETING

9.30am Thursday 19 February 2026 | Riverview Room, Hobart Council Centre

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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

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### 1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

PRESENT:	Dr C Mucha	Chairperson
	Cr M Kendall	Glenorchy City Council (until 11.36am)
	Ms E Morris	Tourism Tasmania
	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 (from 9.52am)
	Ms A Russell	WPMT

APOLOGIES: Nil

The meeting opened at 9.40am.

The Trust acknowledges and pays respect to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people, all of whom have survived invasion and dispossession, and continue to maintain their identity and culture.

The Chair noted that non-essential Trust business had been deferred to the next meeting to enable the Trust to focus on the draft Wellington Park Business Case at this meeting.

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

New Trust member M Stretton advised that he had recently been appointed to the Board of Destination Southern Tasmania. Noted.

### 3. PRESENTATION – Draft Wellington Park Business Case

The lead consultant on the Wellington Park Business Case presented the draft consultancy outputs to the Trust and responded to member questions.

The Trust extended its appreciation to the consultant consortium and directed the General Manager to provide summary feedback to the lead consultant to enable documentation to be finalised.

The consultant left the meeting.

#### **4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING AND ACTIONS ARISING**

**Resolution:** The Trust endorsed the minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 November as a true record of that meeting.

#### **5. IN CAMERA SESSION**

Not requested.

#### **6. WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT**

A Work Health and Safety report was tabled. An allocation status report on Donations and Contract Liabilities was also provided.

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

#### **7. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

The Trust was presented with the financial reports to 31 January 2026.

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

#### **8. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

The General Manager provide a verbal report to the Trust.

- The General Manager has provided updated Question Time Briefs and assisted the Minister's Office in drafting prepared responses where relevant to Wellington Park.
- The TFS, Trust and Management Agencies are collaborating on a large, high-priority proposed fuel reduction burn on the northern side of the Park. This may occur as soon as April 2026.
- The Wellington Park Office has welcomed a new staff member to provide project, compliance and administrative support, bringing Trust staffing to 4 FTE.

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

#### **9. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION**

##### **9.1 WELLINGTON PARK BUSINESS CASE**

Trust members discussed the draft business case and supporting documentation, following clarification on issues provided by the consultant's presentation. The Trust recognised that the

consultancy output is a framework with further considerations and context to be addressed in a cover report to be prepared by the Trust.

The General Manager advised that the consultancy contract was almost completed pending edits and amendments requested at this meeting.

**Resolution:** The Trust resolved to:

1. Support the consultants' completion of the business case framework subject to further edits requested.
2. Note that the next step is the preparation of a Trust cover report to present findings with appropriate context.
3. Direct the General Manager to provide the final business case framework document and cover report to the Trust for consideration.
4. Disclose the draft business case report and supporting documentation to the Secretaries of NRE and State Growth.

### **9.3 CLOSURE OF JEFFERYS TRACK** (brought forward in agenda)

The Trust discussed changes in access to Jefferys Track arising since the Trust's November meeting. Members expressed the need to retain constructive relationships with the landholders and land managers, and acknowledge that the issues lie outside of Wellington Park. In the absence of an approved exit from Wellington Park on Jefferys Track and the White Timber Trail, the Trust notes the ongoing closure of the recreational 4WD permit season.

**Resolution:** The Trust resolved to:

1. Defer resolution of Jefferys Track closure matters to the agencies that are directly involved.
2. Seek legal advice on the Trust's ability to close Jefferys Track and the White Timber Trail to public access and instead bring these tracks under the permit system as per other fire trails within Wellington Park.

Cr M Kendall left the meeting at 11.36am

### **9.2 DRAFT BUDGET 26-27**

The General Manager presented a draft 2026-27 budget to the Trust for feedback in line with the Trust's annual work plan. It was noted that a final budget will be provided for endorsement at the Trust meeting on 30 April.

The Budget assumes a State Treasury Allocation identified in 25-26 forward estimates.

The Trust noted the deteriorating financial position, as forecast in 25-26. The General Manager advised that austerity measures had been built into the budget and reiterated that the Trust's forecast financial position was one of the catalysts for the Wellington Park Business Case. To conserve funding for essential duties, no budget has been allocated to:

- the completion of the Recreational Trails Strategy

- staff training other than that essential for WHS purposes
- Park signage
- printed collateral other than the Wellington Park bushwalking brochure
- specialist consultancies (eg for development of the next 5-year strategic plan, cultural heritage database, Palawa engagement facilitation, stakeholder engagement)

**Resolution:** The Trust noted the proposed 26-27 Budget and directed the General Manager to present a final Budget for endorsement at the next Trust meeting.

## **10. ITEMS FOR NOTING**

### **10.1 CORRESPONDENCE**

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

### **10.2 WPO WORK PROGRAM**

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

### **10.3 WPO SUMMARY**

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

## **11. GENERAL BUSINESS**

Nil.

### **NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING**

The next Trust meeting will be on Thursday 30 April February at the Hobart Council Centre.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.54am.