



Diamond Harbour Reserves Committee

Unconfirmed minutes of the meeting on Monday 30 Sep 2024, 7pm to 9pm
Green Room, Diamond Harbour Community Centre

Present: Graeme Fraser (Chair), Paul Dahl (Vice Chair), Robert Goldie, Emma Kinnings, Tom Kuenning

Guests: Rodney Chamber (Regional Parks), Hannah Murdoch (Community Parks) – plus four guests for the public forum

Apologies: Pete Ozich, Richard Hill

Public Forum: Claire Fletcher, CCC Senior Engagement Advisor, and Angus Smith, Manager, Property Consultancy, presented the proposal for the Pūrau Reserve 4622 at 177 Pūrau Ave (to revoke its reserve status so that it can be handed over to Ngai Tahu/Ngati Wheke). They explained the consultation process and likely timeline, with possible decision in Jan 2025.

Meeting

- Declarations of interest? – Paul declared his interest in the Purau reserve issue, as he is employed by Ngati Wheke, and Emma declared that she is now working for CCC at the library.
- Health and safety issues or accidents?
- Minutes of previous meeting accurate? Unanimously passed as an accurate record.

Review of 2024 activities

The committee discussed this year's activities which mainly centred on watering/releasing the 1st area of School Gully, and then planting in the 2nd area:



- 1st area (next to Marine Drive) – 0.5 ha planted in 2023 – (850 plants approx. 5-10% losses)
- 2nd area (next to Ngatea Rd) – 1.0 ha planted this year (1800 plants approx)
- School kids planted along the main “school track” and may do watering from mid-Oct. They are also working on informational signs for the gully. Hannah has liaised with CCC design team.
- The fences have been removed from Marine Drive and Ngatea Road sides of the gully.
- Pete has cut new tracks across the both areas.

- Hare damage – is more evident this year than previously. We may have to look at putting mesh around the worst affected plants or using some kind of repellent spray.
- Graeme mentioned that watering has continued this year on Stoddart Point and in the Purau Pines area and that in both areas the vast majority of plants are doing well, though some in-filling may be required.
- Paul gave a short presentation on some of the work that has been taking place on the Ripapa headland (fencing, planting and track cutting as part of the Head to Head walkway programme)

Proposals for 2025 activities?

- Graeme had earlier circulated a draft plant list with possible locations for next winter. He suggested that although most plants might still be needed for School Gully (for the 3rd area of 0.8ha, and infilling in the other areas), some other locations could do with extension/consolidation:
 - Stoddart Point – in clearings beyond View Shaft, using improved water supply – 150-200 plants
 - Purau Pines – around same + new clearings, + next to Old Stock Rd – 200-300 plants
 - Cliff Track + other areas
- Graeme asked that members get in touch **by the end of this week** with any amendments, so that we can get our order in.
- Hannah suggested that they may get plants from a nursery in Hoon Hay this time, as it's cheaper than the Little River nursery. Graeme hoped the quality would be similarly good.
- Tom and Emma advised that they may have less need for new plants than before, however that Tom Adams has been planting more along the Cliff Track.
- Rodney raised the possibility that the Purau Pines area may need to be formally assessed, in particular due to the poor condition of some trees and the possibility of erosion. He also asked that we report any rogue mountain bike tracks via Snap, Send & Solve as there is now a CCC engagement policy for dealing with these.
- Tom asked that the trees just below Emerson Crescent be assessed soon as some also in poor condition overhanging the track.
- Robert said that he is collaborating with Pete on drafting a "Preferred Plant" list for the Reserve Committee (which would cover fire risk, drought-resistant, frost-tender etc)

Co-management + Planning

- On 12 August, Paul presented our schedule, work plan and budget to the Community Board. The Board resolved to endorse the Diamond Harbour Reserve Schedule without change and encourage the Diamond Harbour Reserve Committee to ensure adequate representation on the Committee from all residents.
- Graeme reminded that at our July meeting Paul Devlin had suggested arranging a meeting with a CCC planner to discuss our Work Plan in relation to 2013 Stoddart Point Reserve and Coastal Cliff Reserves Network Management Plan, and other CCC plans.

Other business

- Rodney had sent the committee details of a short exercise by the NZDF on Stoddart Point Reserve for communications training. (The exercise will be daytime only, 14-18 Oct 2024 between the hours of 0800 – 1700)
- The committee noted again the increasing encroachment into the Cliff Track Reserve by the owner of 27A Ranui Crescent including the construction of permanent stairway. Rodney asked that it be notified via Snap, Send & Solve.
- Emma noted that the cactus area (below Te Ara Crescent) is getting bad again.
- Volunteer hours – Graeme asked that volunteers send him approximate hours for their work on the reserves. Hannah said that there might be an app that people could use, but in the meantime we should start making this a standard item in our minutes.
- Rodney gave us the new timer for the nursery (as the old one had stopped working).

The meeting ended at 8.45. Next meeting: Monday November 25th.