

Garden of Tane RMC meeting minutes
Tuesday May 10, 2022
Grand Hotel

Present: Suky Thompson, Alan Hemsley, Nigel Ferguson, John McIlroy, Marie Rhodes, Patsy Dart, Lynda Wallace

In attendance: Nigel Harrison

1 Apologies

Steffan Kraberger, Leigh Hickey, John Fitch,

2 Minutes of the previous meetings

The minutes of the meeting on February 8 2022 are approved.

Dart/Ferguson

3 Pest Control talk from Pest Free Banks Peninsula Urban Ranger

- PFBP Urban Ranger Ollie Rutland-Sims gave a presentation covering the Pest Free Banks Peninsula objectives as a whole and the plans for urban Akaroa.
- PFBP is made up of 14 different agencies and community groups and is community led with agency support
- By 2025 they intend to work on Kaitorete Spit and the extended Wildside (Eastern Banks Peninsula from the Timutimu head to Okains Bay) eliminating possums and suppressing feral cats and mustelids.
- This will generally be achieved through broadleaf poisoning and trapping. Broadleaf poisoning will not be used near water supplies and accidental poisoning of pets is treatable by vets.
- Work in Akaroa will be done in conjunction with the school.
- Plans for the Garden of Tane are a 3 week pulse operation with bait pre-feeding and rat traps and cage traps at the end of May. The school's kids will assist, with Ollie Rutland Sims overseeing and servicing cage traps.
- The existing committee traps are to be left in place.
- After discussion the following resolution was passed.

Garden of Tane RMC approves the PFBP plan to carry out the Urban Pulse in the Garden of Tane – understanding that this is a 3 week pulse using TREF, BPT 220 and cage traps, cage traps baited with fruit, target species possums, rats, mustelids and hedgehogs. The traps to be checked by Ollie Rutland-Sims from PFBP with assistance from School pupils in the locations presented, and results of the trapping programme are to be shared with the RMC.

Dart/Hemsley

4 Behaviour issues in Garden of Tane

- Marie Rhodes to discuss with Community Parks staff the reason for the rocks in the carpark

ACTION RHODES

- An Oregon Tree in the carpark needs to be felled by arborists and the timber left in 3m lengths at the carpark. Once this is done Alan Hemsley will remove and retain re-use in the park.

- Graffiti on the old toilet block is to be reported to Council for removal.

4.1 Bikes in the Garden of Tane

- Local children on mountain e-bikes have been worrying pedestrians on the existing tracks and constructing unauthorised cut-through tracks in the park.
- The concrete guttering around the Grotto has been obstructed with wood to create jumps putting drainage at risk
- The committee agreed with the suggestion from Ranger John Fitch that the unused area above the carpark could be used by kids on bikes, but nowhere else.
- Marie Rhodes agreed to take up the matter and address the school.

Marie Rhodes is to speak with school, having first sent her messages to the committee for comment, Matters to be addressed are that the RMC has received complaints from the public that bike riding is putting other users at risk. The RMC understands that children benefit from creating their own challenges an activities and would be happy for this activity to take place above the car park area, but not elsewhere in the Garden of Tane, and that if this behaviour continues in the rest of the Garden then it will put the RMC in the position of asking the Council to ban bikes from the Garden of Tane. Tāne Carving update

Thompson/Dart

ACTION RHODES

5 Financial report

- Steven Gray was thanked for sending through the latest financial report.
- Remaining funds in this financial year of approximately \$9k are to be used to improved disabled and elderly access. Suky Thompson and Steffan Kraberger to prepare a proposal to improve access from Onuku carpark, a handrail on the steps up from the Yacht Club and other minor improvements that will assist the elderly or those in wheelchairs to access the Garden.

ACTION KRABERGER/THOMPSON

- Funding for FY23 commencing 1 July is to be used for the Nature Playground and Tane carving installation, and no further projects commissioned until the final costs of these two projects are known.

6 Nature Play area

- Consultation has concluded, and the Council has requested that the RMC indicate how disabled access to the new play area is to be provided.
- The RMC supported Steffan Kraberger's proposals that a compacted Teddington chip path is used to provide access from the Onuku carpark to the Folly Hut ramp, and that the soundchimes are moved to be accessed from the ramp.
- The committee noted that hearing birdsong and feeling the textures of the timbers and Maori carvings provide for visually impaired
- The RMC will request that the Nature Play area is presented to the Community Board as soon as possible to enable contracts to be let, and that the combined opening event for this and the Tane carving will be held at Labour weekend in October.

ACTION THOMPSON

7 Tane Carving

- The carving is complete and carver Simon Rogers has been paid,
- The carving will remain at his work area until the Nature Play area is nearing completion and then installed.
- Patsy Dart was thanked for her work on the fundraising.
- A method of mounting the carving has been prepared by Council engineer Simon Gifford. This will involve a concrete base and a tannelised timber round post affixed to the back of the carving.

8 Interpretative map panels

- There was agreement that surplus funds of \$3,400 from Patsy Dart's donation toward the Tane carving would go toward map panels.
- These are to indicate the areas suitable for wheelchairs. Lynda Wallace to work with Suky Thompson to revise the existing maps.

ACTION THOMPSON/WALLACE

9 Heritage Benches

- Nigel Ferguson and his team of volunteers were thanked for installing three new heritage benches
- Former DOC ranger Robin Burleigh has the remains of an original bench from the Garden which he has offered back. Suky Thompson to uplift so that this can be used to create a new bench. This will be placed at Big Pine Lookout.

ACTION THOMPSON

- Steffan Kraberger will install better posts when he does the playground.
- Bryn Thompson is donating another bench to go near the Tane carving. This will be appropriately located once the carving is in place.

10 Weed work

- Any budget remaining in the current financial year is to be used to deal with Climbing Asparagus and the Periwinkle above the Grotto.

11 Maintenance agreement with Council

- Suky Thompson to speak with Council Parks department about ongoing maintenance to protect the Council's 10 year capital investment.

ACTION THOMPSON

12 Hospital entrance

- Marie Rhodes to ask Paddy from Community Parks to deal with periwinkle, weeds and small oaks at hospital entrance.

ACTION RHODES

- Nigel Fergusson to ask Council to deal with channel in roadside which is a trip hazard, but critical to diverting stormwater from Lighthouse Road away from Garden.

ACTION FERGUSON

13 Any Other business

- Alan Hemsley to provide specifications for gutter guard for the old toilet block and Suky Thompson to then order through Steven Gray.

ACTION HEMSLEY/THOMPSON

14 Date of Next meeting

- Scheduled date is Aug 8=9, 5:30 .