

Lyttelton Reserves Committee

MEETING MINUTES UNCONFIRMED

Notice of Ordinary Meeting:

An Ordinary meeting of the Lyttelton Reserves Committee will be held on:

Date: 10 February 2025

Time: 7:05 pm

Venue: Community Boardroom, 25 Canterbury Street,
Lyttelton

1. Meeting Opening with a karakia

Meeting opened at 7:05pm.

Present

Joshua Merriam, Hamish Fairbairn, Cliff Mason, Kirsty Brennan, Daryl Warnock, John Garrett,
Bianca Woyak.

CCC Staff: Paul Devlin

2. Apologies

Rewi Couch

3. Whakaraupō Reserve botanical plan

Melissa Hutchinson attended to discuss the results of the botanical survey and plan. Di Carter (CCC) attended in support and provided additional information on the weed management work being undertaken in this reserve. Notes from the presentation are in Appendix 1, the main

take away being that weed management and natural regeneration should be key priorities for this reserve. **Action:** Hamish to thank Melissa and Di for their time and sharing their expertise.

4. Declarations of Interest

Nil.

5. Public Forum

Brian Downey present.

6. Confirmation of Minutes

Resolution: That the Minutes of the Reserve Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024 be confirmed with the edit to the action under section 10.5:

CCC will advise the committee about the maintenance and assessment of the feature
~~CCC will not add this feature to their asset list and it will be up to the MTB club to arrange for CCC to assess it's condition annually. Action: Kirsty to add assessment of this feature into the Triennial Plan.~~

Moved: John and Daryl confirmed.

7. Health and Safety

none to report.

8. Matters Arising

Actions from previous minutes

Actions:

CCC to investigate options and feasibility of water storage at the top of the 4WD track. (CCC)	In Progress - see Paul's comments below.
Whakatauki to be created for Triennial plan (Rewi)	In Progress
Communication plan - Kirsty to discuss approach to communication with CCC	In Progress - have been in contact with CCC about an article.
Assess the feasibility of track development as per the Triennial Plan. Specifically loop track on LPC land. (Kirsty)	In Progress.
Assess the feasibility of track development as per the Triennial Plan. Specifically the Timeball walking track. (CCC)	In Progress. CCC progressing feasibility of timeball loop. Will add Gilmour track feasibility to list.
Communicate to MTB club that the committee do not want people spraying in the reserve without approval. (Josh)	Complete
Weed and planting workshop - investigate whether Di Carter might attend a meeting (Hamish)	In progress

Implementation of XXX signage in Urumau Reserve in locations where track features are more difficult than the grade of the track. (CCC)	Complete
Add the annual assessment of the log feature to the Urumau Reserve Triennial Plan under track maintenance (Kirsty)	CCC to decide on assessment process of this feature
Develop a list of native plant species currently growing under the pine canopy as a starting point for replanting (Bianca).	In progress
Investigate the tent found in Urumau Reserve (CCC).	Complete
Oil for the Gary Broker seat (Hamish).	CCC to follow up

9. Correspondence

CCC have asked for correspondence from reserve committees on areas from our triennial plan that may require additional funding over what is provided in operational budgets. Submissions due 15 Feb.

Action: LRC will submit for additional support for weed control as well as a botanical survey for Urumau Reserve and an invertebrate survey for Whakaraupō and Urumau reserves.

10. Staff Financial and/or Operational Report

Update on water supply for Urumau. Connection on Foster Terrance on number 12 there is a water supply. Paul has provided a hose to get the water up. Next steps are to check pressure and to fill up a water tank and gravity feed from there. Hoping to set up a relay system to be ready for increased planting efforts. Mountain Bike log- advanced warning has been provided for features that are more advanced. We need to make sure there is no further development of this area. Paul has asked CCC signage team for a map panel with the layout of the area. The walking loop would be a good addition to the reserve and area.

11. General Business

11.1. Native Planting

11.2. Pest Plants

See Melissa's report above.

11.3. Pest Animals

128 pests have been recorded in traps in Urumau. 2750 across all the sites as part of the WOPP project.

11.4. Track Development

Loop track still being discussed.

11.5. Track Maintenance & drainage

11.6. Fire prevention

No update

11.7. Erosion & Sediment Control

11.8. Signage

11.9. Pine & Eucalyptus Plantation

11.10. Engagement

Cliff's article on the Gary Broker seat was published in the Bay Harbour news and on CCC community board webpage.

Conservation Volunteers NZ received funding for a stall at the market on Saturdays. He will invite other interested parties to discuss plantings, weeds, pests and to recruit volunteers for engagement and training, will use Urumau Reserve as a site. The dates are being determined.

Bianca talked to Jenny, Principal at Lyttelton Primary School. They are very interested in having more to do with the reserves both maintenance, planting and education.

Action: Bianca to follow up on what school engagement looks like for Urumau.

12. General business

Next Meeting -

3rd of March 7pm.

Meeting closed with a karakia at 8:38pm.

Appendix 1: Notes of the presentation by Melissa Hutchinson relating the the Whakaraupō Reserve and the LRC discussion

Discussed the survey of Whakaraupō Reserve completed at the end of 2023. Focus on weeds and drew on from a previous survey in 2008. There are more weeds and native vegetation recorded than from the 2008 survey. Hutchinson's recommendation is to allow native plant regeneration without active planting. This is due to the high risk of the wrong species being planted unintentionally. Extreme care is to be taken when planting a mix of natives to ensure they are the right species for location and from appropriate seed sources.

There has been a large amount of Scotch Broom when grazing was stopped. It is being suppressed now by natural die off and growth of other plants. Could also be due to broom mite. Rocky outcrops and where it is dry Scotch broom is still a problem. Further seed source from native plantings seen. Spur valerian and other weeds are well beyond control in Melissa's opinion. Native grass is being swamped by introduced species.

Special botanical features within the reserve include a small patch of kanuka on the west side, harakeke in the wetter gullies, steep south facing rocky bluffs key sites for native threatened plants, prostrate kōwhai in a number of locations (now nationally at risk - declining), native meadow rice grass, and Grassland hypericum was a rare find in the reserve.

Weeds: Need to plant specific plants that are endemic to this area (not Karo). Some native NZ plants are not from this area and should not be planted. Hawthorn and Ivy are a problem.

Note the threatened plants are mainly in the rocky outcrops higher up in the reserve. Not the gullies. Spur valerian and fern polypody are major weeds threatening the rocky outcrop areas. Boneseed is in the dryer eastern ridge, ivy and old man's beard are also a problem. Recently, the old man's beard is by the pipeline.

Planting: Make sure the right plants are picked for the right areas. Many people go wrong with planting the wrong plants in the wrong area. Don't plant by natural vegetation, you disrupt the ecosystem. A big problem is planting hybrids unintentionally.

Discussion

Paul: A good idea would be planting for fire resilience. Pipeline committee is strong on removing some rocks, some of these have not been approved.

Melissa: Most species are fire resistant that are suitable. Key message is that there are key risks and benefits to planting. There is a debate on what eco sourcing is. For anywhere on Banks Peninsula, you need to look wider as there is not much left original.

Cliff: What about the composition of plantings? I wonder about the loss of the character of local areas.

Melissa: We ended up getting into species that are drought resistant, frost tolerable, fast growing in plantings.

Di: We are channeled into the ones that are going to survive to knock down the grass, then plant the more diverse species. It has been a challenge.

Paul: We are under pressure to plant. We need to make sure we keep a balance. There are appropriate places to plant.

Di: We need to take things that are seasonal to pinpoint the areas that need to be targeted on. Could target spur valerian when it is in flower.

Melissa: My number 1 priority is to defend what you have already with weed control. Many times people walk away from plantings and then the weeds come back in. Another issue is it is hugely expensive. Pick some sites down the bottom away from rocky outcrops to plant. Target weeds are prioritised in the report. Native aniseed is a locally uncommon species that you could protect the habitat of. It would be good to concentrate on areas with threatened plants.

Di: Smothering vines are the biggest problem. Old Mans Beard is one of the bigger threats.

Paul: We need the weed species and the species at risk in order to support some level of control.

Kirsty: If Melissa could send the GIS files and we could map the key areas.