

**SUBJECT** Whitireia Park Board Minutes 27 October 2023

**WHEN** Friday 27 October 2023, at 9.30am

**WHERE** Titahi Golf Club, Gloaming Hill, Titahi Bay, Porirua

**Present**

Caleb Ware (Presiding Member)

Sharli-Jo Solomon

Quentin Duthie

Hikitia Ropata

Caleb Ware presided at the meeting in the absence of the Board Chair.

Caleb Ware welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened the meeting with a karakia.

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**1 Apologies**

*Moved: Hikitia Ropata / Sharli-Jo Solomon*

*That the Board accepts the apologies for absence from Jenny Ngarimu and Chris Kirk-Burnnand.*

**2 Conflict of interest declarations**

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

**3 Whakawhanaungatanga**

New people to the meeting introduced themselves.

**4 Public participation**

Robyn Smith, spoke on the increased fire risk that El Niño poses.

**Noted:** The Board requested the fire management plan for Whitireia Park and requested a report on what staff are doing to prevent fires and manage fire risk, and to include what community engagement has and will be undertaken.

**5 Confirmation of the minutes of 26 May 2023**

Quentin Duthie provided an update on agenda item 8 from the meeting on 26 May 2023 regarding Jobs for Nature funding. Jimmy Young, Catchment Manager – Te Awarua-o-Porirua Catchment, provided an update on the progress for continuing the partnerships and work when funding ceases under the Jobs for Nature programme. Jack Mace, Directory, Delivery,

provided an update that this is an issue for all regional councils, and to roll the partnerships into day-to-day jobs/other contract work.

The Board discussed what its aspirations are for managing the park, and what skills, and contracts are needed. The Board confirmed that it would set timeframes and expectations, with Ngāti Toa agreement, on further Ngāti Toa management of Whitireia Park.

*Moved: Hikitia Ropata / Quentin Duthie*

*That the Board confirms the minutes of the meeting of 26 May 2023.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

**Noted:** The Board requested that it receive advice on how to develop and put into effect a transition plan, including any statutory requirements.

## 6 **Whitireia Park Board Accounts**

*Moved: Sharli-Jo Solomon / Quentin Duthie*

*That the Board:*

- 1. Receives the report.*
- 2. Approves the content.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

## 7 **Whitireia Park Board Representation Letter from the Auditor-General**

*Moved: Quentin Duthie / Hikitia Ropata*

*That the Board:*

- 1. Receives the report.*
- 2. Approves the content.*

*Moved: Sharli-Jo Solomon / Hikitia Ropata*

*That the Board:*

- 3. Agrees that a Board Member representative from Te Rūnanga o Toa and Board Member representative from Greater Wellington sign on Page 5.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

## 8 **Whitireia Park Board FY2022 Financial Statement**

*Moved: Sharli-Jo Solomon / Quentin Duthie*

*That the Board:*

- 1. Receives the report.*
- 2. Approves the content.*

*Moved: Sharli-Jo Solomon / Quentin Duthie*

*That the Board:*

3. *Agrees that two Board Members sign on page 9.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

## 9 **Whitireia Park Board Auditor's Unmodified Opinion**

*Moved: Hikitia Ropata / Quentin Duthie*

*That the Board:*

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Approves the content.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

## 10 **Whitireia Park Restoration Group update – June to October 2023**

Robyn Smith, Whitireia Park Restoration Group, spoke to the report.

The Board acknowledged the mahi that goes into caring for the Park.

Robyn advised the Board that some plants have received salt burn due to the high winds coming off the sea.

Robyn advised that the extra line of traps at Onehunga Bay appear to be working, as rare species have been observed in the area.

Robyn provided an update on the lizard monitoring programme. The programme has been revised as there were not enough control sites for a statistically robust study.

Robyn advised the Board that the Restoration Group would like the Board to consider spending some funds on dog control measures. The Board discussed the best measures for dog management measures, and noted that the Board will receive and approve the budget for signage by email and requested that this be reported back to the Board at its next meeting.

*Moved: Hikitia Ropata / Sharli-Jo Solomon*

*That the Board:*

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Approves the content.*

*Moved: Quentin Duthie / Caleb Ware*

*That the Board:*

3. *Agrees in principle to fund a sign at Onepoto Estuary to educate users about the values of the estuary.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

**Noted:** The Board requested a report for the next meeting on options for dog control and management at the park and noted that any decision will need to be carefully communicated to the public.

## 11 Work Programme Update

Gary Wheaton, Park Ranger, spoke to the report.

Gary advised the change in hours is at request from park users for extended “summer” hours for recreational purposes. Changes to park hours are intended to align with New Zealand Day Light Saving time annually.

The Board discussed how to manage requests for memorial trees and benches and confirmed that requests would not be specifically granted but advised that a planting intention could form part of a planting day.

*Moved: Sharli-Jo Solomon / Hikitia Ropata*

*That the Board:*

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Approves the content.*
3. *Approves a change to the park opening hours to allow for increased recreational access to the park:*
  - a. *6am-9pm during Daylight Saving Time (Summer)*
  - b. *8am-6pm during New Zealand Standard Time (Winter)*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

## 12 Whitireia Park Board Meeting Dates 2024

*Moved: Hikitia Ropata / Sharli-Jo Solomon*

*That the Board:*

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Resolves its meetings schedule for 2024 as outlined in Section 2 of this report.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

**Noted:** The Board requested that the Park Management Plan development be a standing item on the agenda.

## General Business

### 13. Fish passage at Titahi Bay Golf Course

Sharli-Jo advised the Board that the fish passage tīma has met with Lynell Huria, President of the Golf Club, to provide for fish passage in the creeks. This would also involve beautification including new planting around the creeks.

### 14. Natural Resources Plan – Plan Change 1

Quentin Duthie advised the Board that Greater Wellington Regional Council has approved for consultation the Plan Change 1 to the Natural Resources Plan. Quentin acknowledged the

contribution of Ngāti Toa into this mahi. Quentin advised that this plan change has immense significance for the management of fresh water. Quentin acknowledged Hikitia's involvement in this process from her position on Te Awarua-o-Porirua and Te Whanganui-a-Tara Whaitua committees, alongside her previous role on Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resources Plan Committee.

**15. Establishment of a Māori Constituency by Greater Wellington Regional Council**

Hikitia Ropata advised the Board that Greater Wellington Regional Council agreed to the establish a Māori Constituency for the 2025 triennial local government elections. Hikitia acknowledged the support from Council's six mana whenua partners, and advised that Council passed this decision unanimously. Hikitia acknowledged Ngāti Toa support for this decision.

In response to Caleb Ware's invitation, Luke Barnsley closed the meeting with a karakia Whakamutunga.

The meeting closed at 10.46am.



Jenny Ngarimu

Chair, Whitireia Park Board

Date:

