

Titahi Bay Community Group - Meeting Minutes

Meeting Type	Meeting Location	Meeting Date	Start Time	Finish Time
AGM	Titahi Bay Bowling Club, Titahi Bay	7th November 2020	1030am	1158am
Chair	Leanne Leelo			
Minute Taker	David Brett			
Attendees	Brenna, Leanne, Gail, John, Geoff, Amanda, Robyn, Joel + 6 Community members			
Apologies	Abbe Holmes, Mike Duncan, Michelle Lawrenson,			
Previous Minutes				
Matters arising				

Item	<p>1) Welcome housekeeping and apologies</p> <p>2) How to become a member? Promo for Newsletter</p> <p>3) Chairs Report - Leanne</p> <p>Chair Report for Titahi Bay Community Group 2020 Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa. Nga mihi nui ki a koutou katoa.</p> <p>The Titahi Bay Community Group's kaupapa is to provide a platform for discussion on local issues, community consultation, and promoting local initiatives.</p> <p>We have over 100 registered members and we administer the Titahi Bay Community Noticeboard that has 3.3 thousand members. Our committee in 2020 is made up of 7 volunteers who were voted in last year.</p> <p>The areas that we have concentrated our efforts on this year are: The Bay Drive (Nixon block) – after the Council run meetings regarding their plans for this area in February 2019 created a backlash from the public due to the lack of consultation... We were able to assist with a local</p>
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meeting at the surf club in May 2019 to discuss options. The Council have now begun the process of a transparent consultation process as of October 2020

The Tireti Hall lease opened for Proposals of Interest in September 2019. The Titahi Bay Community Group represented some local groups to help secure the use of the hall for community use instead of solely for private. We proposed creating a space for workshops, interest groups, and social interactions to increase community ties when the hall was vacant. Council sadly decided to continue with the status quo for another couple of years. We will begin a new proposal in the upcoming months, with new knowledge.

We hosted and advertised The Meet the Candidates at Titahi Bay Primary School in September last year before the local elections. There was a good turnout, informative and a successful evening.

The Council asked our group to consult our members and the public about the proposed flagstaff that the RSA wanted to erect in December 2019. Due to a short timeframe we couldn't consult far and wide and it became apparent that social media alone was an ineffective method of consulting due to the many heated opinions. However there was overall public support for the flagstaff and it was erected into place.

It was quiet during Covid time – After our separation – the Executive team met to discuss improving communication for our members and supporting local groups. Among ideas was to create a newsletter. We published our first issue last month in October.

We hosted the water issues meeting on 6 July – with guest speakers from Wellington Water, Veolia and Titahi Bay interest groups including Your Bay Your Say. This helped to inform us of the water treatment and contamination issues affecting Titahi Bay...check out the minutes published on our website.

Future plans...

Helping to facilitate the Community Patrol meeting on Thursday November 12 th with concerned locals after the current spate of security issues in the Bay. We have invited our previous Community Patrol Officer to come and talk to the group.

There are a series of local emergency preparedness workshops proposed by WREMO in March and April 2021, they will go through...

	<p>what to do in an emergency, what the Community Hub is and having an earthquake drill. We'll promote this in the new year.</p> <p>We are endeavouring to improve our links with interest groups in the Bay to help promote their good work; this will require regular check-ins with you people! We have also said that we will do a blast out on our noticeboard to ask people if they have anything they want to create public discussion around and facilitate these meetings in hopes of resolution.</p> <p>If you would like to become a member...sign up sheet...</p> <p>Ngā mihi nui Abbe Holmes (Chair) and Leanne Leelo (Co Chair)</p>
Motion/s	
Matters arising	
Action Items	

Item	<p>Treasurers report – Brenna</p> <p>The unaudited report was present for year ending 31st March. Put together by newly appointed Treasurer Brenna Tume. They were available for viewing and questions. After being audited these will be passed at the next TBCG meeting.</p>
Motion/s	
Matters arising	
Action Items	

Item	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Kohatea Stream update – Rebeka – Not present 2) Pest Free Update – Joel – Joel provided a brief update – Pestfree Titahi Bay purpose is to activate the people of Titahi Bay to eliminate rodents from our peninsula.
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Our principles are:

Accessible Actions

Strategic Cooperation

Clear Communication

We use FB as your main point of engagement. We get about 150 views per post and have 290 FB members.

In August we got to 250 traps in the community - the target is 500 - 1 in every 5 houses, so we have about 1 in 10 at present.

The key is ensuring people are trapping. One initiative we have been using is the longest rat competition - this seems to be really useful with an increase in rats being caught during those times.

We gave away about 10 traps and tunnels on Conservation Day, an initiative done by other Pestfree Porirua suburbs - there are about 10 suburbs activity running pestfree groups in the city.

The Beach Festival has been a great way to disturb traps and engage and educate the community.

We have distributed about 250 traps from July 2017 to July 2020. We have removed about 750 pests including mice, rats, hedgehogs and wessels.

So we can keep the momentum going we will continue to do letter drops over the coming months and years. After 3 years we should have completed 2500 - 3000 households in the bay. The first lot of about 100 letters resulted in 5 requests.

3) **Whitireia restoration group update** – Robyn Smith - Robyn provided a brief update

Background

Since 2006 we have been working on restoring some biodiversity values back to Whitireia Park. Whitireia Park sits on the southern headland of Te Awarua o Porirua (Porirua Harbour) and covers around 180 hectares of mainly grassland with some substantial areas of gorse. A tiny remnant of coastal kohekohe forest, some spectacular coastal escarpments, a small estuary, coastal sand dunes, stony beaches, seeps, a permanent and some intermittent streams and freshwater and coastal wetlands provide a diverse range of ecosystems to work with within the park.

The restoration project began its planting programme with restoring a grassy slope below the remnant bush. Our initial vision was to link the bush to the coast via a very wet gully which flattened out and was separated from the beach by a carpark. Over the following five years we planted the wetland at Onehunga Bay and extended the remnant bush down to the

Restoration Projects

The north-western edge of the peninsula has an escarpment and rocky coast open to the Tasman Sea. The remaining coastline falls within Te Awarua o Porirua and alternates rocky points with sandy bays. A large part of the park interior drains to Te Onepoto stream which enters Te Awarua o Porirua through a wetland and estuary. The suburb of Titahi Bay is adjacent to the southern boundary.

Much of the park was grazed by cattle until a small area around Onehunga Bay was fenced off from cattle in 2005. This allowed The Whitireia Park Restoration Group (formerly known as the Onehunga Bay Restoration Group) to begin restoring some native vegetation to the Park. The group's initial vision was to link the bush to the coast. Our group, with help from DOC and GWRC officers, carried out its first planting day in the

winter of 2006 planting the side of the gully below the bush remnant.

For the next four years we continued to plant the sides of the wetland and began work on the wet areas and the dunes at the eastern end of Onehunga Bay. Swamp flax, cabbage tree, manuka and toetoe have replaced open grassy paddocks. The manuka, kanuka, tree daisy and ngaio on the gully sides now provide enough cover for natural regeneration to occur. Under this canopy kohekohe, māhoe, titoki, kaikomako and pigeonwood seedlings are germinating and growing. Kereru which used to pass over this area now stop and visit as more and more food is available to them. Tui largely absent prior to our restoration efforts are now everywhere, particularly when the flax is in flower.

The marram and kikuyu grass dunes have given way to spinifex and pingao. Behind the dunes, sand coprosma and shore spurge have been planted. Finding the right zone where these plants will become self-sustaining has been trial and error. Over a period of three years we carried out trials in partnership with the Coastal Restoration Trust of New Zealand and have found where these plants do well.

It has been difficult to establish plants. The climate here is harsh. Strong dry salt winds come from the north and the north-west and cold southerlies are strong enough to rise over the top of the park and blast down the valleys. The summers are usually very dry and any rain that does fall in summer is quickly evaporated. During our first years we discovered that even though we were planting plants grown from local seed adapted to the local conditions, many would die or sulk for years before they finally adapted and started to grow. Even ngaio and Hebe stricta would have half their leaves drop from salt burn. Those that survive the first three years go on to be vibrant strong plants.

Each year seed is collected and sent to the Forest and Bird nursery in Wellington to grow on for the following years plantings. Much of the seed was collected on-site, but because there was a limited number of naturally occurring plants of many species wanted there was concern about the limited genetic spread of these species. Now seed is collected from several local sources around coastal Porirua.

Funding for the project came from the Park Board in the first year and the Titahi Bay Lions club in the second year. We also applied for funding from two charitable Trusts (Hutt Mana Community Trust and Mana Charitable Foundation) in the Porirua area and for five years were funded by the now discontinued "Take Care" programme at Greater Wellington Regional Council. Currently we are funded by the Greater Wellington Regional Council Biodiversity programme was established by GWRC, the Key Native Ecosystem Programme and the GWRC Parks Department. We often need to apply for external funding to top-up funds.

Following the fire which destroyed most of the vegetation in the park in 2010, no fences were re-built and the park became cattle free and the group were able to begin work on sites outside of Onehunga Bay.

Behind Onehunga Bay we planted a wetland and ephemeral stream which runs down to the Onehunga Bay wetland and also on the other side of the track ,to provide a vegetative link between the remnant bush and the Onepoto stream catchment.

Our efforts have also extended to Kaiua Bay, a ten minute walk along the coast east of Onehunga Bay. This is a dune site which has been transformed from a flat grassy resting spot for cattle (one of their favourite spots) into a fully functioning dune. Hundreds of spinifex and pingao have been planted on the foredune and the dunes have grown into beautifully rounded natural dunes. This site is a strange place for sand to accumulate as it is nearly 1.5 kilometres from the open coast however large waves, after a few days of north-westerlies, push sand up the harbour neck from a bar at the harbour entrance. Behind the foredunes, bidi bid, native spinach, sand tussock, sand Coprosma, twiggly tree daisy,

flax, toetoe are thriving. Around 5,000 plants have been planted in this area.

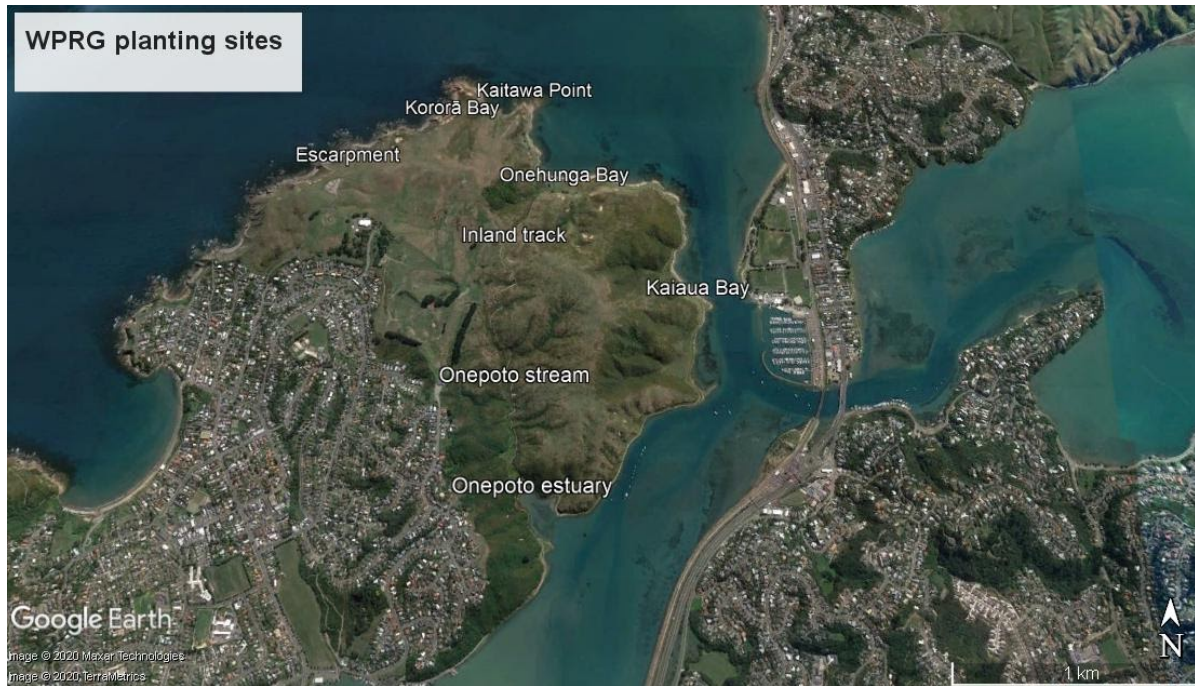
On the coastal escarpment surveys have discovered a large population of northern grass skinks and common gecko and fewer copper skinks. There are historic records of spotted skink on the escarpment but these have not been detected recently. Much of the escarpment is grassy, however there are good numbers of mingimingi, thick-leaved mahoe and some coastal flax. Many other species were grazed out so we are returning some of these to the escarpment. Too large to plant the whole escarpment, we are planting nodes or large groups of several species and over time these will provide more suitable habitat and food sources for the lizard species.

The group has also partnered with Goodnature and GWRC to trial the use of A24 resetting traps to control mice. Mice, hedgehogs, cats and mustelids are the main predators of lizards here and some lizards have only been able to survive because of refuges between rocks and by hiding amongst driftwood. The DOC200 traps along the escarpment provide some protection from these predators however mice are difficult to control and numbers usually increase when populations of their predators such as weasels are reduced.

The WPRG also run the predator trap network over the whole of the park and commonly catch stoats, rats and weasels.

At Kororā Bay, we have penguin nesting boxes installed and business groups come and tackle weeds and rubbish which washes up regularly in this bay.

More recently we have been removing weed species and planting the margins of Onepoto estuary to help buffer wetland bird species feeding in the estuary from dogs. Ideally the estuary will have a dense vegetation around reducing the opportunity for dogs to chase the birds.



4) Your Bay Your Say Update – Michelle

Please advise the community:

Your Bay Your Say is working with Owhiro Bay, Wellington Water and Greater Wellington Regional Council to bring better access and current data so people are safe swimming, surf life-saving and participating in water activities in Titahi Bay and Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour. We continue to seek transparency from local authority and awareness in the community of the Treatment Plant re-consent and submission process. We still await public notification. We have met with Ngāti Toa as well to inform them of this work.

We appreciate the good work the Titahi Bay Community group does in our community.

Many thanks

Michelle and Marie

5) Amanda from Ngā hua ō Titahi–

Ngā hua ō Titahi - The Fruits of Titahi

The goal proposed last year by Food Is Free Porirua, to Porirua City Council (via the Titahi Bay Village Plan), was to create a central community orchard near the Whitehouse Road shops. The project is intended to help the community meet, engage, share, and learn - bringing different groups and individuals in our community together to achieve a collaborative goal.

This mahi was initiated by Food is Free Porirua's Amanda Joe, and Porirua School's Gardens Club founder, Alicia Rich. These two also

spearheaded the first Titahi Bay Beach Festival in 2015 along with Dave Brett, who has carried on leading the successful beach event.

On Tuesday 25 August, the first fruit trees were planted around the Titahi Bay Library, in the Whitehouse Road shopping area. Level 2 guidelines created a barrier to including all local groups, but a healthy turnout of 60 people included school and pre-school groups, representatives from Titahi Bay Horticultural Society, Whitford Brown Community Trust, Titahi Bay Bowling Club, Titahi Bay Community Garden, and a number of interested local members of the public - all keen to dig in and start this project for our community.

With support and advice from Porirua City Council, Food is Free Porirua look forward to continuing to work with these groups, as well as those who were unable to attend the first planting, as the project extends to other sites around Titahi Bay. The Titahi Bay Library site will remain the central point for the project with fruit trees also planted on Tireti Road and Pikarere Street in the last fortnight to be cared for by street residents. There are workshops and resources also being planned, starting with a free Seed Library which was installed at the library entrance soon after the planting day.

Any queries regarding getting involved with this project to go to fifporirua@gmail.com or <https://www.facebook.com/groups/fifporirua>.

Ngā hua ō Titahi - The fruits of Titahi, is the name given to this project by Wiremu Grace (Ngati Toa). "This encompasses both the fruits of people, and the fruits of trees and whatever other things bear fruit - relationships, gardens etc".

6) **Village Planning Update**

Village Planning

Signage re Whitehouse Road to Beach

This is an upgrade of the signage giving direction and walking time from the shopping Centre to the Beach. All new signage to be in both English and Te Reo.

It has been discussed as to the possibility of improving the signage of walkways connecting streets through the Bay.

There are several of these and if you are unaware where they are, with better signage new adventures are waiting.

Water Fountains:

Water fountain and water bottle refiller installed at Arnold Park and, also at Onepoto Park.

The fountain at Onepoto Park also has pet drink access.

BBQ:

At Arnold Park a, Urban Effects 'all accessible' BBQ has been installed.

This serviced by PCC staff.

Fitness Equipment

A group of four different pieces of fitness equipment has been installed at the north end of Onepoto Park.

This is adult equipment rather than children's playground equipment.

Harvest trees:

Apple and Fejoa not sure of others planted behind the Library in Whitehouse Road.

Project now complete thanks to Amanda Jo, Alicia Rich, the Council's Parks team and community working together.

It is a shame there has been some minor vandalism behind the library, but it is good the Council Park's Team has replaced stolen plants.

Possible potential for plantings in other areas, maybe considered in future.

Work in process:

Heritage/History Trail for Titahi Bay.

We are working through the planning and identification of sites of Heritage and Historical significance in Titahi Bay.

The map shows possible sites so far in this project.

A start to this project was the replacement of a removed panel on the gun emplacement at the beach entranceway Bay Drive. And now we need to continue this project to completion.

Dune restoration - southern section of Titahi Bay Beach (multi-year project):

This project relates to dune restoration works at the south end of Titahi Bay Beach – to include development of the previously-discussed cross-sections and ideas into a draft proposal for community and stakeholder engagement, consenting (if/as required) and possible implementation of a 'trial'.

Developing a dune restoration proposal for community feedback.

Presentation to a community meeting(s) and subsequent refinements to the proposal (if/as required in response to feedback).

Have added new seating but ruling is that to add new seats then need to remove a seat within the Bay as the seating stock is to remain static and not to increase.

Ongoing interaction with PPC re matters re Titahi Bay.

Some of the other actions the Village Planning Group have been involved both as a group and as individuals in Titahi Bay;

The original Village planned walkway to Porirua. Now changed to a shared walkway discussion.

The repair to the eroding of the roadside between Titahi Bay and Porirua.

The "Nixon" block of land in Bay Drive.

The continued walking path along the beach south of the Surf Club now a discussion re a trial sand dunes on part thereof.

The sewerage in the Bay.

Stormwater and sewerage pipes in our area.

Please excuse me if I have missed some.

- 7) **Web site update** – The web site has been re organized– John looks after content – Trying to get the Facebook and website joined

	<p>www.titahibay.org.nz. It is to link in organisations and groups around the bay. Joh is looking for updates to be added. Ongoing progress – Good to have link to it on the website. Good to have feedback from the community on what’s missing etc.</p> <p>8) PCC Update – Geoff gave a brief update, mainly asking for questions from the floor.</p> <p>There was a request from some community members for Council to follow up on” no cars from this point sign on the beach”. Geoff is following up on this. There are a few aspects to consider. Community shared that there are people now driving up and down the beach at all hours and this is a safety issue.</p> <p>Geoff explained that he is on the board for the water treatment plant and landfill - Geoff shared his worry about the diminishing amount of cells at the landfill. Solid waste Is going to be an issue if not dealt with shortly. As a community we should be supporting local initiatives to reduce waste. For example, a Local Toothpaste group. Solid oral waste. Think global, act local.</p> <p>There was some discussion around processing organic waste to sell from the landfill. And why has this not been done already. Basic answer was that there is no money. Geoff explained that there was a need to increase levies to fund this.</p>	
Motion/s		
Matters arising		
Action Items		

Item	<p>1) Election of Committee – List of proposed committee members.</p> <p>2) With that the following to motions need to be passed:</p>	
Motion/s	<p>1: “That the following people be elected TBCG Committee members for the 2020-2021 Term: Abbie Holmes, Dave Brett, Brenna Tume, Leanne Leelo, Jenny Jakobs, Gael McRoberts, John Pettigrew” Moved Leanne. Seconded Gael CARRIED</p> <p>2: “That the 2020-21 TBCG Committee be delegated the responsibility to appoint a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer at the first meeting”. Leanne moved, . seconded, Brenna CARRIED</p> <p>Thank you to the committee for the work you have all put in for the last year. From a community member.</p>	
Matters arising		
Action Items		

Next meeting date	7 th December 2020
Approved by	
Signed	

