

# LYTTELTON RESERVES COMMITTEE

## COMMITTEE MEETING

2 October 2023 at 7:00pm. Trinity Hall, Recreation Centre, Lyttelton

### Unconfirmed Minutes

#### **Members (present):**

Rewi Couch  
Kirsty Brennan  
Joshua Merriam (Secretary)  
Hamish Fairbairn  
Helen Shaw (Acting Chair)  
Daryl Warnock  
John Garrett  
Bianca Woyak

Welcome to new committee member, Bianca Woyak (co-opted).

#### **In attendance:**

Paul Devlin (CCC)

#### **1. Apologies**

Andrew Turner

#### **2. Opening Karakia**

Time of opening: 7:13 - Rewi

#### **3. Presentations from the public**

None

#### **1. Health & Safety**

- The recent high wind event has caused a number of branches and trees to fall causing hazards. Josh put a message on the MTB Club Facebook page as a warning. CCC will assess the situation and take action when safe to do so.
- A person was found preparing to camp, and remains of a fire were discovered in the reserve. There are no camping and no fire signs at entrances to the reserve; if a person is discovered, they should be advised that this is not permitted, and the Park Ranger (Paul Devlin) should be contacted.

#### 4. Membership

- The committee sadly acknowledged the passing of Flo MacGregor and agreed to send condolences to Ngati Wheke (via Andrew Scott). **Action: Helen**
- The committee welcomed new member, Bianca Woyak. Co-opted to the committee as the biodiversity representative.

#### 5. Minutes of the previous meeting

- No minutes from September meeting as no quorum present
- August minutes adjusted and confirmed, to be re-communicated to board along with October draft minutes
- Confirmation of August Minutes (John/Helen)

#### 6. Actions arising

- Refer running actions list below

#### 7. Election of New Chair

- Andrew Turner advised at prior meetings and via email that he is stepping down as chair.
- Helen Shaw was elected Chair (Josh/Hamish)
- Kirsty Brennan was elected Deputy Chair (Helen/Daryl)

#### 8. Weeds in Urumau Reserve

- Correspondence shared with Urumau neighbours regarding targeted spraying of Old Man's Beard in Urumau Reserve resulted in a number of submissions to the Community Board (some positive, some negative), and commentary on local social media.

The committee utilised the GROW model to discuss the weed issue and correspondence (Goals, Reality, Options, Way forward)

- Goals:
  - Native plantings thrive
  - Biodiversity flourishes
  - Pest plants are removed
- Reality
  - There are large areas of notifiable noxious weeds in the reserve
  - Application of chemicals by hand, and hand removal has been undertaken over many years, but the battle is being lost
  - The Old Man's Beard is particularly an issue, is spreading fast and will be flowering soon, exacerbating the problem.
  - There is an obligation to take action under Environment Canterbury's Regional Pest plan
  - A site visit by CCC experts has confirmed that the dense mats of Old Man's Beard present contain many rhizomes.
- Options (including information)
  1. Multi-pronged approach, using a knapsack for targeted spraying of OMB in approximately 5 identified open grass areas combined with manual removal of other weeds, and manual approach to killing OMB in trees (eg cut and paste).
    - Chemicals suggested will not kill surrounding grass,

- Will result in roots of the plants- dying and dessicating over time.
- Can be conducted with an expert on site
- Will only be undertaken if plant and weather conditions permit (ie prior to flowering, not in windy conditions or if rain forecast)
- Targeted spraying will be needed over a number of growing cycles to ensure complete coverage.

## 2. Manual removal (no chemicals)

- Will require large numbers of volunteers
- Needs to be conducted before November/December before plants flower
- Will have difficulty locating extent of root system as they are throughout the grassy area.
- Low level of effectiveness if volunteers cause stem breakages
- May delay planting in reserve if longer timeframes required to attend to weeds (and if intervention unsuccessful)
- Will mean volunteers are not necessarily available to help with other work in the reserve (eg planting etc)

## - Way forward

- Committee agrees that CCC's suggested multi-pronged approach of targeted spraying followed by manual intervention / maintenance is necessary to manage the current OMB situation, and requests that:
  - The spraying is very targeted (restricted to specified areas of OMB)
  - There is an expert on site to ensure conditions are appropriate, native plantings are avoided and contractors remain within approved areas
  - Spraying is conducted during calm conditions only and when the OMB is not in flower.

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## - Resolution (voted on and agreed by all present)

- The Lyttelton Reserves Committee and CCC staff have discussed and agreed on a multi-pronged approach to tackle a significant Old Man's Beard infestation in Urumau Reserve.
- As we work to continue to implement the plan developed for the reserve by past committees, we encourage greater participation from the energetic locals willing to assist in activities.
- The Committee is keen to identify community members willing to help with work in the reserve (contact the reserve at [Lytteltonreserves@gmail.com](mailto:Lytteltonreserves@gmail.com))

## 9. General Business / Actions

### ○ Triennial Plan and budgets

- Discussion deferred until next meeting
- All required to read draft that Kirsty has developed for operational plan Action: Kirsty to circulate link

### ● Tracks

- See action table below. Discussion deferred to next meeting

### ● MOU with Mountain bike club

- The MTB Club has agreed on an MOU to assist with track maintenance in the reserve. Needs to be completed/signed - Refer actions below.

- **Planting and weeding**
  - See discussions re OMB. Other issues deferred.

Ongoing Actions (updated October 2023)
<p><b>Action: Status of Whakaraupō Reserve biodiversity report (Helen)</b> Awaiting information from Project Lyttelton on the status, availability and scope of work for the Whakaraupō Reserve biodiversity report.</p> <p>Update (Oct): Helen to follow up with Andrew <i>Andrew to determine whether report is under way, whether funds have been transferred to project Lyttelton, when the report is expected to be ready, and where this is intended to be reported to. We expect it to go to the LRC and the BPCB.</i></p>
<p><b>Action: Gary Broker Seat (Helen)</b> Committee members to seek information about whether there is still interest in the Gary Broker Memorial Seat</p> <p>Update (Oct): Helen to follow up with Andrew <i>Action: Andrew, to make contact with Gary's family and report back.</i></p>
<p><b>Action: Committee funds whereabouts (CCC Staff - Philipa / Governance)</b> Philipa to ask staff about next steps regarding previous committee's funds. The funds are in a private bank account set up by the previous committee. It is understood that council will communicate with previous committee members and request any residual funds to be transferred to council. Council Staff were to provide an update at Sept meeting.</p> <p>Update (Oct): Helen to follow up with CCC Reserves Governance to close out actions for committee</p>
<p><b>Action: Diagonal Track Consent requirements (CCC Staff - Paul)</b> Paul to seek information about whether the proposed track requires a resource consent Update (Oct) - defer to next meeting</p>
<p><b>Action: Track names (Rewi)</b> Rewi to check with Ngati wheke and provide advice on track names for Urumau Reserve- likely to be a template with bird and/or native tree names suggested.</p>
<p><b>Action: Plants for this year</b> Hamish to source approximately 300 plants for this year</p> <p>update: from 3 eco sources, going to plant above diagonal track this year. Lots of old-mans-beard to cleared.</p> <p>Update (Oct): Action complete - to be removed from actions list</p>
<p><b>Action: Community planting day</b></p>

Hamish to set dates for committee/CCC prep day and community planting day

update: Planting day: Saturday 2 September. Prep the week before. BBQ afterward.

Update (Oct): Action complete - to be removed from actions list

**Action: Appointments to the committee from the community. (Andrew)**

Andrew to contact *Bianca Woyack* and co-opt to the committee.

Update (Oct) - Action complete - to be removed from the actions list

**MOU with MTB club (CCC - Paul- / Josh & John)**

Action: Paul to provide Josh with template for MOU. Josh/John to then fill in and return to committee/CCC.

**Meetings / board room booking (Josh)**

Action: Josh to book the Lyttelton board room for the first Monday of November and December.

**Action: Communication plan**

The committee wish to develop a plan for communicating actions and upcoming opportunities for participation in the reserve.

Action: Josh to add to November agenda.

**10. Date of next meetings**

Agreed by all that meetings will be held first Monday of each month. Set for 6 November and 4 December. No meeting in January. refer actions.

**11. Closing Karakia**

Rewi closed the meeting at 8:51. Nga mihi.