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## WELLINGTON PARK MANAGEMENT TRUST

### Meeting Minutes

#### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WELLINGTON PARK MANAGEMENT TRUST HELD AT 1:40 PM ON THURSDAY 3 DECEMBER 2020 IN THE "RIVERVIEW ROOM" OF THE HOBART COUNCIL CENTRE

This was an unscheduled meeting to address 4 items

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#### 1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

PRESENT: (in person) Dr C Mucha (Chairperson)  
 Alderman D Thomas (HCC)  
 Alderman J Briscoe (HCC)  
 Ms R Warrener (Tourism Tasmania)  
 Ms F Smith (TasWater)  
 Alderman M Carlton (GCC)  
 Mr B Goodsir (DPIPWE deputy)  
 Mr T Ross (GCC deputy) (observer)

(via videoconference) Mr C Colley (PWS)

APOLOGIES: Ms L Wilson (DPIPWE)

## **2. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS AND RELATED PARTY INTERESTS IN AGENDA ITEMS**

Alderman Carlton (GCC) declared an interest in agenda Item 4 but remained in the meeting room during discussion of this item. No interests in any other agenda items were declared.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Item for discussion**

### **3. FIRST DRAFT OF THE VISITATION AND RECREATION STRATEGY (VRS)**

The content of the report was discussed.

The Project Manager VRS provided Trust members with an overview of the draft VRS.

The Trust Manager explained that the purpose of the report and presentation was to introduce the first draft of the Visitation and Recreation Strategy for Wellington Park (VRS) to members for discussion and to provide feedback to the Project Manager VRS.

The following matters were noted:

- The VRS is built around a 'co-design' method, where importance is placed on process. The process of developing the VRS emphasised engaging community and stakeholders to identify issues and develop priorities and possible solutions to those issues in a participatory manner.
- The VRS needs to balance the requirements of locals and visitors and set a clear direction.
- Protection of Park values, particularly drinking water catchments, needs to be considered in the VRS.
- More consideration needed of dispersal of visitation pressures away from the eastern slopes of kunanyi / Mount Wellington.
- VRS needs a short clear policy/strategy statement with the remaining material as supporting information. Suggestion that this should be written by a consultant experienced in strategic planning.
- Agencies need to have ownership of the VRS. Consensus needed on strategic direction and actions prior to Trust decision on public exhibition of the draft VRS. Trust Manager to organise briefings for Glenorchy and Hobart councillors prior to Trust decision on public exhibition of the draft VRS.
- Further discussion with the steering committee needed.
- The VRS should not be limited by the resources currently available.

RESOLVED

That the report be received and noted.

#### **Items for decision**

### **4. REQUEST FOR ENDORSEMENT OF THE GLENORCHY MOUNTAIN BIKE PARK MASTERPLAN**

The content of the report was discussed.

The Glenorchy City Council (GCC) deputy member provided members with a short presentation on the Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park Masterplan noting that Council is seeking Trust endorsement of the masterplan to enable it to seek funding for detailed planning and implementation. He noted that it was important for Council to have Trust endorsement rather than just support.

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Item No. 4 continued

The Trust Manager noted that prior to preparation of the masterplan the Trust had, in response to a request from Glenorchy City Council, provided it with a list of the issues it wished to see addressed in the Masterplan. Completion of these issues had been discussed at a meeting between the Trust Manager, Project Manager VRS, and Council officers where it was agreed that the issues that could be addressed in the Masterplan had been satisfactorily covered. However some matters, particularly impacts on Park values, will need to be addressed during detailed design of the proposed new tracks and facilities.

The following matters were noted:

- The masterplan process included extensive consultation by GCC and it has broad community support.
- GCC approved the Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park Masterplan at its meeting on 26 October.
- The draft Visitation and Recreation Strategy (VRS) for Wellington Park includes Tolosa Park as one of 4 proposed visitor “hubs”.
- Impacts of the proposed new tracks (individually and collectively) will be assessed during the detailed design phase of the project.
- Tracks and other facilities within the Park will require Trust approval after detailed design.

RESOLVED

- That:
1. The report be received and noted.
  2. The Trust endorses the Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park Masterplan noting that the location and design of proposed new tracks and other facilities, including assessment of impacts on Park values, will be addressed during detailed design.

**5. PARK ACTIVITY ASSESSMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NEW TRACKS 1a & 1b IN THE “RIDING THE MOUNTAIN” PLAN**

The content of the report was discussed.

The Trust Manager advised that Hobart City Council had submitted a Park Activity Assessment for two new tracks (1a and 1b). These tracks are part of the “Riding the Mountain” plan prepared by Council which aims to improve track accessibility, connectivity and navigation for mountain bike riders in the area below the North-South Track. Track 1a is proposed as a shared use track linking the O’Gradys Falls Fire Trail with Shoobridge Bend. Track 1b is proposed as a downhill only, mountain bike only track running roughly parallel to Track 1a. Both tracks would be constructed to an ‘easy’ grade to provide a loop ride for beginner riders. Track 1a would meet a well-established need for a shared use climbing track to take walkers, runners and riders off Pinnacle Road.

The Trust Manager noted that the Wellington Park Management Plan 2013 only permits new tracks in the Recreation Zone “when endorsed in a Recreation Strategy, Walking Track Strategy or Bike Strategy prepared in accordance with the Management Plan”. Track 1a is listed in the Wellington Park Bike Strategy (as Tracks 149 and 149A). Track 1b is a new proposal not included in the Bike Strategy.

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Item No. 5 continued

The Trust Manager advised that there is a potential issue with locating a loop track for beginners in this location as all the access routes (fire trails and bike tracks), with the exception of the Bracken Lane Fire Trail from the end of Pillinger Drive, are rated as intermediate grade for bike riders. Accessing the proposed new 'beginners loop' on an 'easy' grade track suitable for beginner riders would require users to park on Pillinger Drive or Bracken Lane, where there are already parking issues.

The Trust Manager noted that there was a long standing and accepted need for proposed Track 1a but suggested the Trust needed to consider if this was the appropriate location in the Park for a 'beginners loop' given the access issues and other possible locations for this type of facility within and outside the Park. If the Trust considered this to be a suitable location, it would need to approve an amendment to the Wellington Park Bike Strategy to include Track 1b.

The Trust Manager also noted that the draft Wellington Park Visitation and Recreation Strategy (VRS) recommends planning recreational facilities and visitor services around a number of "hubs". These include external hubs at Halls Saddle and Tolosa Park and an internal hub at The Springs. The VRS proposes that the Tolosa Park hub, with its emphasis on family-friendly mountain biking, will provide a slightly different range of services and facilities to Halls Saddle and The Springs.

Members agreed that:

- Track 1a was required and would improve safety by taking walkers, runners and riders off Pinnacle Road.
- There needs to be more discussion regarding the need and function of Track 1b and the proposed "beginners loop", as well as consideration of alternative locations, before the Trust will consider including it in the Bike Strategy and issuing a permit for construction.

**RESOLVED**

- That:
1. The report be received and noted.
  2. The Trust approves proposed Track 1a subject to resolution of a number of minor design matters noted in the report.
  3. The Trust authorises the Trust Manager to approve the PAA and issue a permit for the works to construct Track 1a when the issues noted in the report are resolved to his satisfaction.

**6. REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR HOBART CITY COUNCIL'S PROPOSAL TO ADDRESS TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ISSUES ON PINNACLE ROAD**

The content of the report was discussed.

The Trust Manager explained that the Trust had received a request from the Lord Mayor for Trust support for a Council proposal to address traffic management Issues on Pinnacle Road.

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Item No. 6 continued

Hobart City Council's Manager, Bushland, provided members with a short presentation on Council's proposal for improving traffic management on Pinnacle Road. This includes 3 measures; a parking area and bus interchange at Halls Saddle (outside the Park), a roundabout on Pinnacle Road at the Park entrance and improved access to the Park from Halls Saddle. The proposed roundabout would include CCTV and a variable message sign. The Halls Saddle car park would also service the surrounding Ridgeway Park and take pressure off parking at Fern Tree.

The Trust Manager noted that the draft Visitation and Recreation Strategy recommended that the measures most likely to reduce the occasional traffic congestion on Pinnacle Road are decreasing the overall volume of traffic and spreading the load to avoid sudden peaks.

The following matters were noted:

- The proposed roundabout would be partly within the Park. It would require Trust approval and is allowable under the Wellington Park Management Plan. The other parts of the proposal are outside the Park.
- The proposed roundabout would assist with turning vehicles in an orderly manner when Pinnacle Road is closed at the Park entry, but would need to be large enough to turn a 12.5 metre tourist bus.
- The draft VRS proposes Halls Saddle as one of 4 'hubs' where visitor facilities and services are congregated to provide efficiency in both the provision of services and infrastructure.
- A variable message sign at the junction of Pillinger Drive and Huon Road may also be effective in reducing traffic congestion on both Pillinger Drive and Pinnacle Road and would be easy to trial before finalisation of the roundabout option.

RESOLVED

- That:
1. The report be received and noted.
  2. The Trust provides a formal letter of support for Hobart City Council's application for funding for the studies and planning required to progress the proposals.
  3. The Trust Manager discusses with Council the feasibility of installing a variable message sign at the junction of Huon Road and Pillinger Drive to advise visitors of road closures as an interim measure.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4:20 pm.