

<b>Trustees</b>	Jo Morris	Chairperson and Trustee
	Tracey Alston	Trustee
	Vicki Crombie	Trustee
	Bessie Nicholls	Advisory Trustee - Phragmites
	Aaron Madden	Advisory Trustee - Biodiversity
	Cameron Reid	Advisory Trustee - Hydrology
<b>Manawatu District Council</b>	Erica Rowe	Community Parks and Property Officer
<b>Accounts</b>	Tracey Alston	
<b>Minutes:</b>	Dianne Wildbore	
<b>Apology:</b>	Erica Rowe	

**1. OPENING & APOLOGIES**

The Chair, Jo Morris, welcomed Bessie, Tracey, Vicki & Dianne and opened the meeting at 4.30pm.  
Apology: Erica Rowe  
MOTION: *that the apology be accepted*  
MOVER: Jo Morris     SECONDER: Vicki Crombie     VOTE: Agreed

**2. MINUTES / CORRESPONDENCE**

2.1 Corrections / Additions to the Minutes. Nil  
MOTION: *That the minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2026 be approved as a true and correct record*  
2.11 MOVER: Jo Morris     SECONDER: Bessie Nicholls     VOTE: Agreed  
2.2 Matters Arising: Nil

2.3 **CORRESPONDENCE INWARDS:**  
- Green by Nature report  
- Alison Towers, Accountant, resignation due to health issues  
- Tracey Alston resignation  
MOTION: *that the resignations of Alison Towers & Tracey Alston be accepted*  
MOVER: Jo Morris     SECONDER: Vicki Crombie     VOTE: Agreed  
Jo will send a letter of thanks to Alison, acknowledging her service to the Trust since July 2022. (Due to ongoing health issues Alison hasn't worked for the Trust since April 2025)

**CORRESPONDENCE OUT:**  
- Application for \$15,000 from Environmental Manawatu – *Source to Sea* for plants

2.3.1 MOTION: *That the correspondence received and sent be approved.*  
MOVER: Jo Morris     SECONDER: Tracey Alston     VOTE: Agreed

2.3.2	<b><u>Additional Motions:</u></b> Nil
<b>3.</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>
	There were no declarations of interest, financial or otherwise
<b>4.</b>	<b>FINANCIAL REPORT</b>
	<p><b>Accounts at 28 February 2026 tabled. Prepared by Tracey Alston</b></p> <p><u>Income:</u> \$ <b>\$43,032.13</b>                      <u>Expenditure:</u> \$ <b>\$17,689.95</b></p> <p><u>Current account:</u> <b>\$696</b>                      <u>On-call account:</u> \$ <b>85,780 as at 19/03/2026</b></p> <p><u>To Note:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MDC has been billed for Operations grant</li> <li>- The Kauwhata invoice is payable in April</li> <li>- Trustee insurance paid in February</li> <li>- Profit \$21,875</li> </ul> <p>MOTION: to accept all receipt of income and expenditure reports as presented  MOTION: to accept Bank transaction of \$ <b>\$15,430.04</b> scheduled for 20 March 2026  MOTION: to accept and approve all financial reports as presented  <u>MOVER:</u> Jo Morris              <u>SECONDER:</u> Bessie Nicholls              <u>VOTE:</u> Agreed</p>
<b>5.</b>	<b>GENERAL BUSINESS – GOVERNANCE</b>
5.1	<p><b><u>MDC Officers:</u></b></p> <p><b>Aaron Madden:</b> Nil</p> <p><b>Erica Rowe:</b> picnic table to be replaced in carpark area – MDC can action</p>
5.2	<p><b><u>Trustees:</u></b> Bessie</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Application for plants as above</li> <li>- Green by Nature – Dennis Emery incident - no further information</li> </ul>
5.3	<p>MOTION: <i>that Bessie’s report be approved as presented</i></p> <p><u>MOVER:</u> Jo Morris              <u>SECONDER:</u> Tracey Alston              <u>VOTE:</u> Agreed</p>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>OPERATIONAL – MANAGEMENT</b>
6.1	<p><b>Green by Nature –</b></p> <p><b>February 2026 Report:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>Total hours in Contract:</u> 138; <u>Actual hours worked:</u>124; <u>Variance:</u> -ve14 hours</li> <li>- <u>Contracted hours:</u> 25.25 hours behind of contract</li> <li>- <u>Health &amp; Safety</u> – Bonito stung by a wasp</li> <li>- <u>Trapping reporting</u> – none received.</li> <li>- <u>Additional chargeable activities:</u> Nil</li> <li>- <u>Highlights/ Issues:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <u>Phragmites Seminar</u> conducted by Aaron</li> <li>o <u>A few Paper Wasp nests</u> visible. May require eradication – Bliss Bees have done</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
6.2	<p><b><u>Biodiversity:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Need one more piece of information for the Air NZ report - Bessie</li> <li>- Fonterra report almost completed - Bessie</li> <li>- Wetland – now and end of June – plant care and management is the main focus</li> <li>- Main Forest is in maintenance mode</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Major push – Old Man’s Beard eradication. New seedlings coming up along the front of Forest from Henson’s Bush. Green by Nature has been given money by MDC, and under the direction of Horizons, is now dealing with it.</li> </ul>
6.3	<p><b><u>Infrastructure:</u></b> Nil</p>
6.4	<p><b><u>Health &amp; Safety Reports:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>Green by Nature:</u> wasp sting. Paper wasp nests have been removed</li> <li>- <u>Prime Contractors:</u> Nil</li> <li>- <u>Other Contractors:</u> Nil</li> <li>- <u>General Public:</u> Nil</li> <li>-</li> </ul>
6.5	<p><b><u>Volunteer Hours:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Trust members total: 28 hours</li> <li>- Independent Contractors: Nil</li> <li>- Other Parties: Nil</li> </ul>
6.6	<p><b><u>Education:</u></b>  <b><u>Phragmites</u></b> – adult education programme – in a report to Council due Monday</p>
6.7	<p><b><u>General Business Operational:</u></b>  <b><u>MOTION:</u></b> <i>The Board agrees to wind up the Trust before the end of the financial year and authorises the Chair to take all necessary actions to complete the process. This includes transferring funds, establishing a community advisory group, and developing a transition plan with the Manawatu District Council and stakeholders.</i></p> <p>The Chair shared a report outlining her experiences and reflections on the Trust since becoming a member in 2025. All trustees then offered their perspectives regarding the Trust and discussed what they believed would be the most appropriate path forward.</p> <p>The motion was put forward to dissolve the Trust. The majority of Trustees were in favour of the motion. However, as the Trust’s constitution requires unanimous agreement for any decision to be carried, the motion was not approved due to the absence of full consensus among the Trustees. The Board then explored what changes would be necessary for its continued operation. This included ensuring that both current and future Trustees are confident that the Trust remains aligned with its intended purpose as stated in the Constitution.</p> <p><b><u>Moving forward – what is needed - comments:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Need to look at how to refocus the Trust to make it more visible</li> <li>- Need to talk to MDC about starting the recruitment process of recently resigned trustees</li> <li>- The second phase of the Strategy has yet to be confirmed; however, it will likely focus on rarer, higher-value plants, including those that have been lost to the Forest</li> <li>- A draft 200-year plan is being prepared, this will need to be approved by the board. It was felt that considerable time and effort has gone into achieving the enhancements to the park, and the 200-year plan should be available to other key stakeholders to ensure that the intention of the board is considered in future developments of the park.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>The following was discussed and agreed:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Chair to talk to MDC Officers about starting the process for new trustees</li> </ul>

	- The Chair to provide an update to our MDC Officers about the future of the trust and any potential risks that could arise.
<b>7.0</b>	<b>CLOSURE &amp; NEXT MEETINGS</b>
7.1	<b>Closure:</b> The Chair thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting at 6.10pm
7.2	<b>Next meeting:</b> <u>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April</u> 4.30pm Venue: Manawatu Community Trust Committee room – TBC  <u>Advisory Trustees</u> Cameron & Aaron to be asked to provide an update for a meeting in the near future.



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 Jo Morris, Chairperson

22 April 2026

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 Date