

## **Kepa Bush Meeting with Sam Murrell and Ventia 30 October 2017**

As agreed I met with Sam Murrell this morning at Kepa Bush but the Ventia representative was too busy elsewhere. Sam was able to contact Trudi from Landscape Solutions to come and meet us.

Despite The Council letter dated 27 June from Rod Sheridan, General Manage Community Facilities advising that from 1 July 2017 the Council would *“launch the new model which will see a single supplier managing all aspects of full facilities maintenance work in your area”*, we will have to deal with a range of contractors at Kepa Bush. However I do have to say how co-operative and helpful Sam Murrell is. He wants to involve us in letting him know about any issues and giving us a chance to meet the contractors. This is a welcome change from not knowing what was going on in the past.

The situation as described by Sam this morning is as follows;

**Ventia** will be responsible for track maintenance, clearing fallen trees etc. They will not be responsible for bringing tracks up to a reasonable standard. When I met with Godfrey Topham on 11<sup>th</sup> October he said the Council were calling for tenders from a designer and contractor for a major track up-grade starting early in the New Year. I sent out to you all the outline plan by Frame Group Ltd. Godfrey promised to keep me advised of progress with contracts and signage renewal.

**Landscape Solutions** are responsible for mowing the lawns and surrounding area but noting within the Bush.

**Wildland Consultants Ltd** are responsible for management of weeds, predator monitoring with Tracker Tunnels and would have undertaken poison baiting except that it was agreed that Mark Eller and I could continue as volunteers. Hamish Ogle whom I met with on 8<sup>th</sup> September was very receptive to any advice from our volunteers about weed clearance.

If there is anything that needs to be reported, in the first instance contact Sam Murrell [Sam.Murrell@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:Sam.Murrell@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) or mobile 021 732 286. He is the Council Officer responsible for maintenance at Kepa Bush.

Following these discussion Sam, Trudi and I walked along the track below Thatcher Street and then back along the ridge track to the Kepa Road entrance. The most important aspect we discussed was adequate drainage along the edges of tracks which should be humped with adequate metal to allow rain water to drain off to the side without causing mud holes. There were a number of fallen trees that Sam said he would arrange to be cleared.

It appears that nothing much will happen until the New Year when hopefully there will be a huge improvement.

**Notes recorded by John La Roche 30/10/17**