

# FCWT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting held at Forres Community Centre  
7.30pm on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2016



## MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

Item	Minute	Action
1.	<p><b>Present:</b> Donald Wright (chair), Gareth Whyment, Peter Graham, Steve Hull, Dan Puplett, Eddie Tomkinson (treasurer), Gisela MacFarquhar (minutes)</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> Wilson Metcalfe, Susan Conti</p>	
2.	<p><b>Previous Minutes.</b> Proposed – PG    Seconded – ET</p> <p><b>Actions and Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meeting.</b></p> <p>2) SH has contacted the RSPB who informed him that the pine hoverfly population in Scotland is currently at a critical level and is too low to allow a translocation.</p> <p>3) - GM has sent a reply to Lisa Miele regarding donation of land. - ET and DW attended fundraising seminar. They concluded that all our potential sources have already been identified.</p> <p>5a) Sanquhar work party – see below item 5a.</p> <p>5b) GW reported that David Hay from the Forestry Commission is due to inspect the planting at Sanquhar.</p> <p>5c) Hut repair – see below item 5b.</p> <p>5d) Signage – see below item 5c.</p> <p>6) Management Plan – see below item 6.</p> <p>8a) Scotland's Finest Woods Award – see below item 8a.</p> <p>8b) Community Woodland Association conference – see below item 8c.</p> <p>8d) GM has sent a reply to Mr Ireland regarding fire lighting.</p> <p>8d) GM has sent a reply to Karenruth Jenkins regarding offer of professional volunteer work.</p> <p>8g) ET has sent a donation of £50 to the Woodland Trust.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Correspondence.</b></p> <p>a. Email from Brenda Devlin regarding vandalism (removal of stakes and guards) in newly planted area. GM replied. SH said it is yet to be dealt with.</p> <p>b. Email from Moray Council regarding Moray Woodland Strategy – see below item 8b.</p>	
4.	<p><b>Muiry and New Forres.</b></p> <p>ET reported that the work party had continued with path clearing and will work on drainage channels next time. ET said that Landfill funds have become available again and we can apply for funds to improve paths.</p>	ET
5.	<p><b>Sanquhar and Bike Track</b></p> <p>a. <b>Work Party.</b> SH reported that 2 volunteers removed Western hemlock from an area near the Woodend entrance. This will be continued next time. SH will get in touch with Nick Molnar to arrange a time for him to crush the bracken in the coffin field with his horse. The grass in the coffin field will be cut in early September.</p> <p>Angus Dixon will continue with spraying rhododendron and laurel in June. SH suggested that the coffin field pond should be a priority as their removal there will allow more light in. ET will arrange a meeting with SH and Angus</p>	SH  ET,SH

	<p>Dixon. SH will contact Wild Things regarding the creation of a hibernaculum at the pond. ET said that John Young is looking after the bike track and keeping it in good condition. He organises his own volunteer group. DP has been in touch with Valery Wardlaw from the fisheries trust and reported that they are keen to work with us on invasive species. They have funds to train people in spraying. DP will invite their members to give a talk about invasive species. This could be in the form of a members' evening.</p> <p>b. <b>Hut repair and fence reinstatement.</b> GW has contacted KBM. A photo shoot will be arranged.</p> <p>c. <b>Signage.</b> DW reported on behalf of WM that he has been in contact with the cartographer who has been out to map the woods.</p>	<p>SH</p> <p>DP</p> <p>GW</p>
6.	<b>Management Plan.</b> DW reported on behalf of WM that a first draft of the Management Plan will be ready by end of June.	WM
7.	<b>Finance.</b> ET reported a current total of £25,553.95. The cost of the post driver of £70.45 will be deducted from that.	
8.	<p><b>AOB.</b></p> <p>a. <b>Scotland's Finest Woods Award.</b> A site visit with the judges took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 2pm. PG, GM, DW, SH and Ian Suttie were in attendance. The judges were taken to the coffin field, the bike track and various woodland paths in Sanquhar as well as the Muiry. Their conclusion will be reported to us within a fortnight.</p> <p>b. <b>Moray Woodland Strategy</b> event hosted at Horizon Scotland, The Enterprise Park, Forres on Tuesday 21 June. DW and ET will attend.</p> <p>c. <b>Community Woodland Association Conference.</b> The Board will plan a hosting event and book attendances at the next meeting.</p> <p>d. SH suggested the launch of a sponsorship drive for <b>bird boxes</b> in Sanquhar Wood. GM will contact Forres Academy to enquire if students in the Technical Department might be interested in making them.</p> <p>e. Following the <b>vandalism</b> in the newly planted area GW said he might be able to provide some alternative metal bars which are more difficult to remove.</p> <p>f. <b>Membership drive.</b> ET reported that membership is down to 90. 73 people who were members last year have not responded in spite of several reminders. GM suggested a letter drop in Forbeshill where we have only one member although many people there use the Muiry and New Forres, or a publicity drive involving handing out leaflets/questionnaires/membership forms. Further discussion will be deferred to the next meeting.</p> <p>g.</p>	<p>ET,GM</p> <p>DW,ET</p> <p>GM</p> <p>GW</p>
10.	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b> – at the Community Centre on 27 <sup>th</sup> June 2016 at 7.30pm	