

FCWT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting held at Forres Community Centre
7.30pm on 6th March 2017



MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

Item	Minute	Action
1	<p>Present: Donald Wright (chair), Gisela MacFarquhar (minutes), Peter Graham, Dan Puplett, Eddie Tomkinson (treasurer), Steve Hull, Tom Ireland</p> <p>Apologies: Susan Conti, Wilson Metcalfe, Gareth Whymant</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of 30th January 2017 proposed by PG, seconded by SH.</p> <p>Actions and Matters arising from Minutes of previous meeting.</p> <p>2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DP will ask Bob Laughton to attend meeting on 27th March. - ET reported that the post needs stabilising before the padlock can be replaced. This will be done when other signposts go up. - GW to advise what additional materials are required for the hut repair and we will approach Keith Builders for a further donation. <p>5.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) GW still to get more stakes. d) SH will contact Wild Things! to ask if they have electronic map of Sanquhar. <p>10a. Membership Drive - DW reported that a first draft of the brochure is due to be printed.</p> <p>10b. Future Projects – DW reported that he has written to White’s of Cassieford’s solicitor and is awaiting a response.</p> <p>10c. Dog Walking Companies – GM will explore local companies who are using our woods to propose contributions.</p> <p>10d. Standing Order Form – GM will adapt the form produced by PG.</p> <p>10e. Dallas Dhu Development – GM has emailed info to trust members.</p> <p>10f. Picnic Tables – ET is meeting with Ian Chapman from Benromach to discuss benches and path upgrading.</p>	<p>DP</p> <p>ET</p> <p>GW</p> <p>GW</p> <p>SH</p> <p>DW</p> <p>DW</p> <p>GM</p> <p>GM</p> <p>ET</p>
3	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Email from Holly Wilmot, Wild Things!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ref volunteer work for John Muir Awards students – SH will liaise with Holly. • Ref offer of contribution – GM will reply 	<p>SH</p> <p>GM</p>
4	<p>Muiry and New Forres</p> <p>a. Work Party. ET reported that a work party has taken place which he was unable to attend.</p> <p>b. Path up-grade. DW has surveyed the Muiry / Newforres paths scope of work and discussed it with Ian Suttie. The next step is to get contractor quotes and funding sources established.</p>	<p>DW</p>

5	<p>Sanquhar and Bike Track</p> <p>a. Work Party. SH reported that 5 work parties had taken place over the past month. Two of them were organised by Wild Things! with support from Steve and involved students from UHI and Moray College. The work was mostly clearing areas of sitka and digging holes for trees. Trees will be planted during the next work party. To be arranged by SH.</p> <p>b. Bike Track. TI reported that the track looks tidy and is in good condition. ET reported that the bike track maintenance course can be done on our track. A classroom will be required within 10 mins distance of woods. ET will organise this. TI and two other volunteers will be trained. TI to contact Clive Forth for further details.</p> <p>Path Signs Project - forwarded to next meeting as WM is absent.</p>	SH ET TI WM
6	<p>Forestry Plan. ET reported that Angus Dixon is working on the Forestry Plan and has obtained a felling license.</p> <p>Thinning Programme - ET reported that Angus Dixon will obtain quotations for felling from 3 contractors. Estimated value of felling is £10,000. ET will ask Angus Dixon to attend board meeting on 24th April. DP asked to ensure that mature birch are not felled and a percentage of dead trees should remain standing as these are important for wildlife. DP will discuss felling license with GW. Felling should take place in August/September after the nesting season.</p>	ET ET DP,GW
7	<p>Website</p> <p>GM reported that the website is not working. TI said it appeared that the domain had expired. He will contact Canary Dwarf.</p>	TI
8	<p>Finance</p> <p>ET reported that the current bank balance is £21,256.61, all bills having been paid and all cheques cleared.</p>	
9	<p>Other</p> <p>a. Red Squirrel Project. DP reported that 2 squirrels have been removed from Sanquhar. DP will check with Becky Priestly if project is finished.</p> <p>b. Bird and Squirrel boxes. PG reported that Mr Devlin has made a further 8 bird boxes and put them up near the Benromach seat and near the lochan, and has made 1 squirrel box. This will be sufficient for now.</p> <p>c. Art Project.</p> <p>DW and GM had a meeting with Caroline Inckle. Caroline proposed four initial info-gathering walks with any interested persons. The dates will be end March to early April. She will use the resulting conversations and ideas for her artistic creations. These will be installed in June in Sanquhar Woodlands, near the Benromach path and bench, and near the lochan. This will be followed up by an Artist's Talk funded by FCWT at the end of June, possibly in conjunction with the Moray Walking Festival.</p> <p>Caroline will produce a flyer and an article for the Gazette to which FCWT will add further information. FCWT will promote these events on the</p>	DP DW,GM

	<p>website and by emailing members. Caroline will advertise on her facebook and she will approach Findhorn Bay Arts to do the same. Caroline has a public liability insurance.</p>	
10	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>a. First Aid Training – DP will research requirements and training possibilities for volunteers attending work parties.</p> <p>b. SH reported that he had sown some local wildflower seeds in the Coffin Field.</p> <p>c. GM reported that the co-o- fundraising period is running out in 4 weeks. So far £570 have been raised. DW suggested that FCWT should have a fundraising info table at the co-op once the brochures become available.</p>	<p>DP</p> <p>DW</p>
11	Date of Next Meeting – 27 March 2017 at 7.30pm	