

FCWT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting held at Forres Community Centre
7.30pm on 3rd July 2017



MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

| Item | Minute | Action |
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| 1 | <p>Present: Donald Wright (chair), Eddie Tomkinson (treasurer), Gisela MacFarquhar (minutes), Peter Graham, Dan Puplett, Steve Hull, Wilson Metcalfe, Karen Mitchell</p> <p>Apologies: Susan Conti, Gareth Whyment, Tom Ireland</p> <p>The chairman welcomed Karen Mitchell as an adopted member to the Board.</p> | |
| 2 | <p>Minutes of 29th May 2017 The minutes were proposed by PG, seconded by ET.</p> <p>Actions and Matters arising from Minutes of previous meeting.</p> <p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Padlock still to be sorted. ET will also look at a possibility of putting a lock on the barrier at the Woodside entrance. • Materials for hut repair – GW has put in an application for further materials from KBM to finish the hut repair. • White's – DW reported that White's solicitor will make contact with the owners ref ownership transfer. • Picnic Tables – ET will contact Keith Cruickshank from Benromach. • ET will acquire boxes for brochures at Muiry/Newforres. <p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ET will check insurance details with reference to work carried out on bike track by volunteers. | <p>ET</p> <p>GW</p> <p>DW</p> <p>ET</p> <p>ET</p> <p>SH</p> |
| 3 | <p>Correspondence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email from Caroline Inckle. She has produced pieces of birch with laser edged words which will hang from trees. The walk will happen between 16th and 27th July. Some removal of bracken may be required. GM will notify FCWT members. • Surface mail – Wild Things! annual review. | <p>GM</p> |
| 4 | <p>Muiry and Newforres.</p> <p>a. Work Party. DW reported that the last work party was lopping overhanging branches near paths. A litter bin which had been located on a track between the Council Wood and Muiry Wood has been removed.</p> <p>b. Path up-grade. DW presented a plan for the paths up-grade and reported that he has received an estimate. As the paths will be suited to all abilities, some trees and roots will need to be removed. An entrance directly opposite Cathay</p> | |

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| | Nursing home is being considered. DW will approach Cathay Nursing home or, alternatively to the Auchernack Trust for a contribution to the funding of this. ET will apply for funding to Landfill and SNH. An application to Paths for All could be made next year. | DW ET |
| 5 | <p>Sanquhar and Bike Track.</p> <p>a. Work Party. SH reported that the bracken in the Coffin Field has been cut with the help of a tractor and 4 volunteers. ET reported that the Moray Council will cut the grass in the Coffin Field as and when required. SH to give a date. SH reported on exchange of emails and meeting with Holly Willmot from Wild Things! regarding change of location for their activities due to evidence of overuse, and more limited use of fires. SH will forward emails and DW will respond.</p> <p>b. Bike Track. DW reported on behalf of TI that another inspection of the bike track is due and GM will be able to retrieve the documents in drop box. David Rooke and TI have now received their certificate from MTB Skills. TI has been in touch with Cycle Scotland regarding the possibility of a cycle event later this year. Further discussion on bike track deferred due to TI's absence.</p> <p>c. Projects. DW proposed a 35m path leading up to a bench near the Sanquhar lochans, and the re-instatement of a picnic bench which has deteriorated. Hopefully the cost of the seat will be covered by donation. DW will contact Bill McRitchie to discuss thinning of birch growth which will be required in that area. Volunteers could remove the felled trees.</p> <p>d. Other.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ET reported that A. Dixon's expenses for rhododendron removal will amount to £1100 approximately for this year. • The Forres Gazette will be asked to publish an article once a date is given for the thinning programme. • ET stated that the growth along the side of the south edge of the wood needs cutting back. ET will contact Moray Council to do this. • An on-site meeting will be held this coming Friday at 10am with a representative from James Jones, Angus Dixon, ET, SH, DP and TI if possible, to discuss access for thinning equipment and priorities for laurel treatment. | SH DW TI DW ET ET,SH,TI, DP |
| 6 | <p>Website</p> <p>WM added a report and photo to the web-site of Applegrove Primary pupils pulling sitka saplings as part of their John Muir Award activities in Sanquhar Wood. WM will look at the location of the membership application form.</p> | WM |
| 7 | <p>Finance</p> <p>ET reported that the current bank balance is £20,920.14. The general woodlands insurance has been paid – £ 561.46, due by 8th July 2017, paid on 29th June 2017 The bike trails insurance of £ 554.00, due by 14th July 2017</p> | |

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| | (paid on 7 th July 2017) | |
| 8 | <p>Membership.</p> <p>a) Brochures are being picked up from the new sign boards in Sanquhar. However, very few new people have joined so far.</p> <p>b) DW reported on behalf of SC that she has sent out letters to 17 lapsed members. She will send out more later.</p> <p>c) The table at Tesco's will be manned on 26th August from 9.45am until 1.00pm. GM, PG, SH and SC will form a sub-committee to plan activities.</p> | SC GM,PG,SH, SC |
| 9 | <p>Any Other Business</p> <p>WM noted that Pat Johnston a former treasurer of FCWT has died recently. PG reported that walkers had noticed that some of the recently installed nesting boxes are inhabited.</p> | |
| 10 | Date of Next Meeting – 28th August 2017 at 7.30pm | |