

FORRES COMMUNITY WOODLAND TRUST



Annual General Meeting held at Forres Academy
7.30pm on 12th November 2015

MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

Item	Minute	Action				
1.	<p>Present: Graham Hilditch (chair), Eddie Tomkinson, Steve Hull, Susan Conti, Dan Puplett, Peter Graham, Gisela MacFarquhar (minutes)</p> <p>Apologies: Wilson Metcalfe, Donald Wright, Gareth Whyment,</p> <p>Apologies from Trust members: Mr&Mrs Samuel, Mr&Mrs Younie, Mrs Suttie, Mr George Alexander, Mr Rex McIntosh, Mr&Mrs Treen</p> <p>Members in attendance: 25</p>					
2.	<p>Minutes of last AGM. The minutes of the meeting held on 12th November 2014 were presented and agreed as an accurate record, proposed by Peter Graham, seconded by Alex Ross.</p>					
3.	<p>Chairman's report. The Chairman's report was read by Graham Hilditch.</p>					
4.	<p>The Treasurer's report. The treasurer's report was read by Eddie Tomkinson. The accounts were adopted Stuart Johnston, seconded by Ian Suttie.</p>					
5.	<p>Election of Trustees. The following Trustees were confirmed – Wilson Metcalfe and Eddie Tomkinson.</p>					
6.	<p>Vote of thanks for retiring Trustees. The chairman thanked Vicky Flood who served on the Board until July 2015. He also announced his own resignation.</p>					
7.	<p>Amendment to the Articles of Association. The current Articles of Association do not clearly define what a period of "Term of Office" constitutes. The Board proposed to clarify this by the introduction on page 7 in the General Section and under the subtitles the following definition:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Words</td> <td>Meaning</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A Term of Office</td> <td>Three years</td> </tr> </table> <p>Adoption proposed by Jane Johnston, seconded by David MacFarquhar</p> <p>A Trustee can serve on the Board for up to three successive terms of office. After that he/she has to resign for at least one year.</p>	Words	Meaning	A Term of Office	Three years	
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A Term of Office	Three years					
8.	<p>AOB.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ian Suttie expressed his gratitude to the small group of volunteers who come out regularly to maintain the Muir and Newforres Woods. The work that was carried out includes removal of protective tubes 					

	<p>and wire netting, removal of rhododendrons, care of bird boxes, cutting of grass and overhanging branches, and emptying of bins. He wondered if a volunteer could be found who would empty the dog walkers' refuse bin which can get quite heavy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Hull thanked Nick Molnar for using his horse and equipment to crush bracken in the coffin field. This has helped contain the invasion of bracken into the field and reduced the amount of manual cutting by volunteers. He said that the removal of grass over the last two years has already increased the spread of wildflowers. This was supported by other members. Steve Hull also reported the illegal removal of some orchids. • Dan Puplett reported on the Red Squirrel Translocation Programme organised by Trees for Life. This programme aims to trap a few local squirrels and transfer them to areas in the West Highlands where there isn't a population at present. By supporting this programme a contribution can be made to increase the total population of squirrels in Scotland. • Henrietta Grant-Peterkin asked if information posters could be put up at the entrances to the FCWT woods which warn people about ticks. The Board agreed to look into this. • Eddie Tomkinson thanked Graham Hilditch for serving as chairman since 2012. He said that Graham took over at a difficult time when the Board experienced considerable change. He brought the Board together and under his leadership the Board had achieved a great deal. • Graham Hilditch thanked the Board for supporting him throughout his time as chairman. He feels comfortable about leaving at this point as the FCWT is now in very good hands. 	Board
	<p>The official part of the meeting closed at 9.15pm. The date of the next AGM will be sent out in due course.</p>	