

FCWT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting held at Forres Community Centre
7.30pm on 28th August 2017



MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

Item	Minute	Action
1	<p>Present: Donald Wright (chair), Gisela MacFarquhar (minutes), Peter Graham, Steve Hull, Wilson Metcalfe, Karen Mitchell, Susan Conti, Gareth Whymant, Tom Ireland</p> <p>Apologies: Eddie Tomkinson (treasurer), Dan Puplett</p> <p>The chairman welcomed David Rooke and invited him to attend the meeting.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of 3rd July 2017 The minutes were proposed by WM, seconded by PG.</p> <p>Actions and Matters arising from Minutes of previous meeting.</p> <p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Padlock repairs pending • Materials for hut repair – GW reported that KBM have not responded. GW will now go ahead and buy the required materials to finish the hut repair. • White's – DW reported that there has been no response from White's regarding ownership transfer. Ian Suttie has offered to approach the family directly. • Picnic Tables – Keith Cruickshank from Benromach has offered to fund the picnic table. • DW reported on behalf of ET that boxes for brochures at Muiry/Newforres have been made but not yet fixed. • ET still to check insurance details with reference to work carried out on bike track by volunteers. 	<p>ET</p> <p>GW</p> <p>DW</p> <p>DW</p> <p>ET</p> <p>ET</p>
3	<p>Correspondence.</p> <p>Web-mail</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tom Hardie, ref.A96 Dualling (see item 9a) • Denise Main, Drumduan School, offer of volunteer activities with pupils. GM to make contact. • Helen Moore, Earth for Life, a new outdoor well-being programme, offer to carry out conservation tasks in Sanquhar. SH has been in touch with Alasdair Taylor, a trained ranger, who is leading the group. • Garry McCartney, Gazette, asking for a comment on grant from Berryburn Fund. GM to reply. • Roo Hornby, Moravian Orienteering Club, ref event on 30th September. WM to respond and suggest making a donation/invite membership. • Gill Farmery, offer to join work party. GM to respond. 	<p>GM</p> <p>SH</p> <p>GM</p> <p>WM</p> <p>GM</p>

4	<p>Muiry and Newforres.</p> <p>a. Work Party. DW reported that the last work party carried out more lopping of overhanging branches near paths and some path maintenance. The brushcutter was used but then broke down. FCWT will share the cost of repair/servicing.</p> <p>b. Path up-grade. DW has been in touch with Coat, Cairngorm Outdoor Access Trust, who will do a survey and suggest path design. 3-4 day's work would cost ca £400. The Board agreed. DW will follow this up. DW has also contacted Cathay Nursing Home ref support for building a path entrance opposite the home. Awaiting response. DW reported that ET will wait until after 5th October before applying to Landfill for funding as rules are changing. Mapping and signs will be put on hold until the path building is dealt with. The bins are to remain as they are heavily used. The rubbish can be transferred to the Council bin.</p>	<p>DW</p> <p>DW</p>
5	<p>Sanquhar and Bike Track.</p> <p>a. Work Party. SH reported that a small group of volunteers cleared bracken. One volunteer, John Watson, carries out volunteer work in his own time, advised by SH. SH said that some volunteers are worried about tick bites and prefer to come only in winter time. The next work party will take place on 16th September. Prior to the bike event WM cleared some paths with brushcutter and Moray Council cut growth on southerly track and the jumps. ET to inform the Moray Council to cut the grass in the Coffin Field and give the date to SH so he can cordon off areas which are to be left uncut.</p> <p>b. Bike Track. TI reported that the track has been inspected and log is updated. Another inspection is due. A wild trail behind the giant head area is removed following advice from trail association as the structures would be too dangerous. Three berms on the track need repair work. TI reported that the Scottish Cycling North Dirt Crit event on 19th August was very successful and the preparation work was much appreciated. Registration and the start were located in the coffin field and some new elements had been introduced on the track. There will be coverage in the Northern Scot. The Moray Mountain Bike Club will make a 10% donation of their profits to the Trust.</p> <p>c. Projects. DW reported that Bill McRitchie will do the thinning of birch growth in that area around the lochan where the picnic table is to go. GW has agreed to manage this project during the winter time.</p> <p>d. Other.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DW reported that the spraying and injection of laurel and rhododendron has been done and Angus Dixon has been paid. • An on-site meeting was held in Sanquhar with a representative from James Jones regarding access and routes to be taken during the felling. • SH reported that Alasdair Taylor has a chain saw certificate and could be asked to carry out minor tree felling. To be re-considered after the felling programme is finished. • TI suggested that some extra fencing at the end of the bike track 	<p>ET,SH</p> <p>TI</p> <p>GW</p>

	near the shelter should be put up. TI and DR will deal with it. WM and GW can provide materials.	TI,DR
6	<p>Website</p> <p>WM reported no issues. The site is working well and several messages have been received. He has created two sections referring to membership application.</p> <p>KM suggested to change the wording of how to pay for membership to make it less ambiguous. WM will look into it.</p>	WM
7	<p>Finance</p> <p>DW reported on behalf of ET that the current bank balance is £18,892.96 after having paid Angus Dixon. The Berryburn Grant has not yet been received.</p> <p>TI will look into options for making membership payments by electronic transfer.</p>	TI
8	<p>Membership.</p> <p>a) SC reported that the total membership is now 88. 9 people responded to the reminder letter and 4 joined at Tesco. The rest renewed by existing standing order.</p>	
9	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>a) A96 dualling. DW reported that the Forres Area Dualling Action Group (faadag) had approached FCWT regarding concerns about the southern option of the by-pass plans for Forres which will be close to Newforres Woods. Ian Suttie had also expressed concerns about the environmental impact and increased noise levels. DW will formulate a response.</p> <p>b) Fundraising.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GM reported that the table at Tesco's was manned on 26th August from 9.45am until 1.00pm by GM, PG, SH and SC. SC and SH had produced an activity sheet for children. GM set up a leaf identifying activity. The prizes were key rings. PG had bought a collection bucket. FCWT badges inherited from Pat Johnston were handed out to donors. PG reported that a total of £110.04 was collected which he has since paid into the Trust's account with the Bank of Scotland. 200 brochures were handed out. • Four new members joined on the day. • TI, KM and DR agreed to form a sub-committee to set up a facebook page. • GM and PG will do a letter drop in Forbeshill. 	<p>DW</p> <p>TI, KM, DR</p> <p>GM, PG</p>
10	Date of Next Meeting – 25th September 2017 at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.	