

FCWT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting held at Forres Community Centre  
7.30pm on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2018



**MINUTES & ACTION POINTS**

Item	Minute	Action
1	<p><b>Present:</b> Donald Wright (chair), Gisela MacFarquhar (minutes), Wilson Metcalfe, David Rooke, Karen Mitchell, Dan Puplett, Gareth Whymant (left at 9pm), Tom Ireland (left at 9pm)</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> Steve Hull</p>	
2	<p><b>Minutes of 27<sup>th</sup> November 2017</b> Amendment requested by DP – Item 10 First Aid Courses: DP suggested that a 2-day First Aid course would probably be more appropriate for our needs as it specifically caters for outdoor activities.</p> <p>The minutes were proposed by WM, seconded by DP.</p> <p><b>Actions and Matters arising from Minutes of previous meeting.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Item 1 – Tony Henry’s proposals.</b> Although it was felt that Tony Henry would greatly advance the volunteering aspect of FCWT, there is uncertainty on what employment contract he could be working. Employment legislation would be too complex for FCWT to consider. Perhaps he could be working in partnership with another employer or as sole trader. Also, funding is still uncertain. TSI Moray might be a possibility. DW will carry out further research.</li> <li>• <b>Padlock</b> - repair still to do.</li> <li>• <b>Materials for hut repair</b> – delayed due to ill health.</li> <li>• <b>Picnic Table</b> - A joiner has been instructed to build bench funded by Benromach. Awaiting quote from Bill McRitchie to install.</li> <li>• <b>Trampoline.</b> Has been removed.</li> <li>• <b>Euan Mellis.</b> GW to contact and to see if thinning is required at Muiry/Newforres.</li> <li>• <b>Removal of overhanging branches for Ian Lewis.</b> GW to do before spring.</li> </ul>	<p>DW DW GW  DW  GW  GW</p>
3	<p><b>Correspondence.</b> <b>Web-mail</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mike Kemp.</b> Offer of volunteer help for restoring bike track. He offered the use of his whacker plate. TI has been in touch.</li> <li>• <b>Ewan Doig, Highland Tree Services.</b> Offer of help with volunteering. TI to make contact.</li> <li>• <b>Martin Nicoll</b> asking for email address to carry out a survey of community-owned land for the Scottish government. No further correspondence received.</li> </ul>	<p>TI</p>

4	<p><b>Communication.</b>  <b>Web-site.</b> WM will instruct Canary Dwarf with creating link with facebook.  <b>Facebook.</b> TI reported that facebook has 23 followers. It is important that we invite people to like and share.</p>	WM
6	<p><b>Finance.</b></p> <p>a) The total in the account amounts to £22,580.96. The likely income from the thinning will amount to £18,000 approx.  DW and GM have now been approved as individual signatories.  Some names are still to be removed.  DW will set up online banking.</p> <p>b) <b>TESCO funding.</b> GM has started to fill in application form online.  KM to continue.</p>	DW KM
7	<p><b>Membership.</b> Recent membership payments still to be sorted. GM to contact Eddie Tomkinson.  DP will set up mail chimp for sending out newsletters. GM to supply the newsletter and addresses.</p>	GM DP,GM
8	<p><b>Muiry and New Forres.</b></p> <p><b>a. Work party report.</b>  There has been no work party recently. DW to discuss with Ian Suttie.</p> <p><b>b. Projects.</b>  DW will discuss a list of jobs with Bill McRitchie, e.g. tidying of paths and soakaways, and re-surfacing the car parks.</p> <p><b>c. OPP4 Housing.</b>  DW will compose a letter of objection on the grounds of the area being a designated ancient woodland, environmental impact (Ian Suttie's notes), habitat fragmentation etc. Messages will be sent out via facebook and to members via email.</p>	DW DW DW TI,GM
9	<p><b>Sanquhar and Bike Track.</b></p> <p><b>a. Work Party.</b> WM reported that 12 volunteers met on 13<sup>th</sup> January selectively removing tree guards and posts from young trees along Coffin Field and cutting sitkas in adjacent wood using saws and loppers.  GM will organise the next work party, possibly in SH's absence.</p> <p><b>b. Bike Track.</b> TI and DR are setting up a plan for re-instating the bike track following the thinning programme.</p> <p><b>c. Projects - Path improvements.</b> DW will ask Bill McRitchie to clean the walking tracks affected by the thinning.</p> <p><b>d. Thinning.</b> DW reported that the felling has been completed and most of the logs have been removed. GW said that there was no obligation to do any re-planting at this stage. Some wood will re-generate naturally.  The areas where birch have been re-generating naturally after blanket felling had taken place some years ago would benefit from some thinning to allow trees to grow bigger. This could be done by volunteers.</p>	GM TI,DR DW
10	<p><b>AOB.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>First Aid Training.</b> TI, DR, GM and SH (if available) will attend a 2-day course in Carrbridge on 17/18 February. TI will provide</li> </ul>	TI,DR,GM, SH

