

FORRES COMMUNITY WOODLAND TRUST



Annual General Meeting held at Forres Academy
7.30pm on 8th November 2017

MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

Item	Minute	Action
1.	<p>Present: Donald Wright (chair), Eddie Tomkinson (treasurer), Wilson Metcalfe, Gareth Whyment, Steve Hull, Peter Graham, Susan Conti, Dan Puplett, Tom Ireland, Karen Mitchel, David Rooke, Gisela MacFarquhar (minutes)</p> <p>Apologies: None</p> <p>Apologies from Trust members:, Mrs C. Suttie, Mr& Mrs Scott, Mr T Henry, Mrs S. Ralph,</p> <p>Members in attendance: 29 (including trustees)</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of last AGM. The minutes of the meeting held on 9th November 2016 were presented and agreed as an accurate record, proposed by David MacFarquhar, seconded by David Rooke.</p>	
3.	<p>Chairman's Report. The chairman's report was read by Donald Wright. He thanked his fellow trustees and all members of the Trust for their continued support, in particular the two retiring members Susan Conti and Peter Graham. He mentioned the passing of Pat Johnstone who was a treasurer for FCWT and staunch supporter for many years.</p>	
4.	<p>Treasurer's Report. The treasurer's report was read by Eddie Tomkinson. The accounts were adopted by Alex Ross, seconded by Ian Suttie.</p>	
5.	<p>Election of Trustees. The following Trustees were confirmed – Don Wright, Gisela MacFarquhar, Dan Puplett The following co-opted members were elected – Karen Mitchel, proposed by Dan Puplett, seconded by Don Wright David Rooke, proposed by Tom Ireland, seconded by Wils Metcalfe.</p>	
6.	<p>Subscriptions. Subscriptions remain as in the previous year.</p>	
7.	<p>AOB. The following issues were raised by Trust members –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership breakdown – The majority of members are retired people who pay at reduced rate. • Removal of supports for the young trees which were planted along the Coffin Field some years ago – Some may need to stay for up to ten years. Some could experimentally be removed and replaced by spiral guards to allow them to broaden out. • Presence of great crested newts in the pond in the Coffin Field – No trace of them has been found in the two most recent surveys. Some vegetation needs to be removed, especially rhododendrons, to open up the area to let more spring sunshine onto the pond to enable amphibian spawn particularly great crested newt eggs to develop. This was suggested by SNH and 	

	<p>Amphibian and Reptile Conservation. Steve Hull has constructed ladders in drains in local housing areas for newts and frogs to escape. This was done with the help of Moray Council and Amphibian and Reptile Conservation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erection of squirrel warning signs in Sanquhar – As the squirrel population in Sanquhar Wood is quite healthy it is unlikely that any organisations would fund warning signs. Due to increased traffic squirrels are killed on St Leonard’s Road in spite of warning signs. These had been erected by private initiative. • Steve Hull reported that over the past year work parties organised by Wild Things!, Earth For Life, Applegrove Primary School and regular work parties organised by himself have removed foreign species, and our volunteer groups also planted trees which had been donated by Ian Suttie. 	
	<p>The official part of the meeting closed at 9.00pm. The date of the next AGM will be sent out in due course.</p>	