

FCWT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting held at Forres Tolbooth
7.30pm on 29th April 2019



MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

| Item | Minute | Action |
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| 1 | <p>Present: Donald Wright (chair, treasurer), Gisela MacFarquhar (minutes), Tom Ireland, Dan Puplett, Steve Hull</p> <p>Apologies: Gareth Whymant, David MacFarquhar, David Rooke</p> <p>DW welcomed the trustees to the new venue at Forres Tolbooth. He said it was chosen due to the rise in charges for council owned venues.</p> | |
| 2 | <p>Minutes of 25th March 2019 The minutes were proposed by DW, seconded by SH.</p> <p>Actions and Matters arising from previous Minutes. Outstanding actions from minutes of 29th April:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Item 10. Review of 5-year strategy and management plan. DR will adjust the plan following discussion at previous board meeting. • Item 10. Rhododendron and Laurel eradication. Several trustees stated that last year's work didn't appear to be very effective. The large plants need to be cut back to reduce the need for spraying. Bill McRitchie could carry out some of the cutting back. An on-site meeting with Angus Dixon to discuss eradication programme for this year needs to be arranged. <p>Other Outstanding actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials for hut repair – pending, awaiting donation of wood from Moray Estates • Dead tree assessment – see AOB • Notice on facebook, looking for treasurer – pending • TI will contact WM regarding assisting with web issues when WM is unavailable – deferred until WM's return • TI will investigate insurance cover for bike track. • DW will review all insurance cover before renewal in June | <p>DR</p> <p>DW</p> <p>GW</p> <p>TI</p> <p>TI</p> <p>TI</p> <p>DW</p> |
| 3 | <p>Correspondence.</p> <p>1. Email 25th March from Alasdair Taylor, Earth for Life, notice of cessation of operations due to lack of funding. The trustees expressed their appreciation for the volunteer work which had been carried out by the group in Sanquhar Wood over the years.</p> | |

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| | <p>2. Webmail 7th April from Jack Day asking for postcode of bike trail. WM responded.</p> <p>3. Email 2nd April Moray Council, regarding submitting representations in respect of erection of 12 dwellinghouses and associated roads and landscaping at OPP4 St Leonards Road Forres Moray to advise that application has been refused Our representations were taken into consideration in determining this application. The Board of Trustees expressed their appreciation for the support received from many members of the public who also submitted objections to this development and councillors who were instrumental in the outcome of the decision taken by the Moray Council.</p> <p>4. Email 29th March CWA regarding the Forestry and Land Management (Scotland) Act. This new legislation affects the way that felling and restocking operations are regulated. The new legislation makes some changes to current rules, such as which trees can be felled without a felling permission (previously referred to as a felling licence) and the felling permission application process.</p> <p>5. Letter and email 12th April from Transport Scotland, notice of environmental survey to be carried out at Muiry and New Forres regarding dualling of A96.</p> | |
| 4 | <p>Muiry and New Forres.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All paths in good condition. No urgent work items identified DW reported that he has been emptying the much used bins. | |
| 6 | <p>Sanquhar.</p> <p>a. Work party report. SH reported that he was the only volunteer present at the last work party. He lopped hemlock and sitka and watered young trees. GM will organize a work party on 4th May to plant trees in the Lochview area. SH will organize a work party on 11th May.</p> <p>b. Bike track. TI reported that an inspection of the bike track had recently been carried out. The track is in good condition. A work party of 3 had fixed new posts and attached tiles with additional warning signs for cyclists and walkers. Branches were removed from a damaged tree near the track. DW will ask contractor to remove the tree.</p> | <p>GM</p> <p>SH</p> <p>DW</p> |
| 7 | <p>Communications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nothing to report. WM currently unavailable. | |
| 8 | <p>Finance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DW reported a total of £ 19,672.61 in bank plus £10,000 in a fixed term deposit account. | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One membership payment has been received. • GM has completed an application to Tesco Bags of Help for the funding of path improvements at Sanquhar Wood. The board decided not to include any match funding. | |
| 9 | <p>Membership. GM has drafted a reminder letter which will be sent out by SC.</p> | GM,SC |
| 10 | <p>AOB.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SH will ask DR to print some A3 maps of Sanquhar • Removal of posts and guards. A member of the public had noted that several posts and guards had been removed and left in a pile behind the property of John Young. DW will send a letter asking for the re-instatement of the posts and guards. • TI will attend a course with the Woodland Trust in tree health surveying, during which he will receive training in recognition of trees affected by pests and diseases. This should be beneficial for the maintenance of our woodlands and the safety of its users. | SH DW TI |
| 11 | <p>Date of next meeting. 27th May 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Tolbooth.</p> | |