FCWT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting held at St Leonard's Church Portakabin
7.30pm **on** 26th June 2013

MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

Item	Minute	Action
	Present: Graham Hilditch (chair), Eddie Tomkinson (treasurer), Stuart Johnston, John Carson, Claire Feaver, Wilson Metcalfe, Gisela MacFarquhar (minutes). **Apologies:** Don Wright, Alan Smith	
	Minutes of last meeting. The minutes of the meeting held on 27th May 2013 were presented and agreed as an accurate record, proposed by SJ, seconded by JC.	
	Matters Arising. GH received an email from AS stating that he wished to resign from the Board. **Point 1.** The issue of the removal of dead trees will be dealt with under the 5-year plan. **Point 2**. Benromach is ready to start in July. Benromach have suggested that the path and bench are covered by way of an exchange of letters between their lawyers and FCWT. Graham will instruct Jamie Whittle to go ahead with this. **Point 3**. GH reported that Moray Council do not require planning permission for the path and turning point as the development of a burial site in the coffin field cannot proceed. The application for the burial site will lapse in December. GH will write to Moray Council clarifying the Board's position on this issue as well as the Country Park Project. (See notes on meeting). **Point 5.** Following AS's resignation GH will ask AS to act as a contact between Findhorn Bay Arts and FCWT for the purpose of providing insurance details, a full risk assessment and a plan and timetable of events taking place in connection with the Giant Heads. **Point 7.** SJ reported that Gareth Whymant had expressed a willingness to consider being co-opted to the Board and that Iona MacGregor was still prepared to contribute to developing the Sanquhar Woodlands plan. SJ will contact Gareth again to further discuss the possibility of his co-option. He will also invite Iona to the next Board meeting which will focus on developing the 5-year plan. **Point 8.** JC reported that he has been in touch with A. Anderson from HIE and Jamie Whittle and the discharge of security is in hand.	**GH** **GH** **GH** **SJ** **JC**
	Correspondence. SJ reported that he had received an email from David Robinson who offered to act as a contact between the mountain bikers club and FCWT, and to	

	volunteer to help maintain the cycle track and signposting. SJ will liaise with David.	**SJ**
	Agenda.	
1.	**Operational Updates.** **Muiry Woods**. ET reported that the planning permission for one barrier has been received and the barrier has been constructed and is ready to be put in place this coming week. The two barriers have to be dealt with individually. **Sanquhar Woods.** SJ reported that work parties of 9 volunteers on the Thursday meeting and 3 volunteers on the Saturday meeting were removing rhododendrons and bracken. He has been approached by Steve Hull who offered to do a walk and talk through Sanquhar Woods on 20th or 21st July. He suggested the removal of sitka spruce and hemlock saplings. SJ will suggest to Steve that Board members who are available on that date will take up his offer. The Board was reminded that Ian Suttie has in the past offered this kind of activity. A countryside ranger might be organised for this by next year. SJ reported that a barbecue fire at the shelter area had not been put out properly but had been dealt with by a Trust member.	**ET** **SJ**
2.	**Financial update.** ET reported a total of £24,265.35 in the bank with all outstanding invoices paid, excluding the cost of the barriers. He is going to have a meeting with N-Trust next week to finalise the financial report. A closing statement from WIAT will be required. JC will deal with that. The Board will need to inquire about sources for future funding. One opportunity might arise from the windfarm fund.	ET JC
3.	**AOB** The date for the **AGM** to be decided at the next meeting - probably first week in November. The Board will need to produce a 5-Year Plan, tidy up the Constitution and have a look at its Aims and Objectives. Renewal of Membership was suggested for October. CF will produce a **Newsletter** in September in anticipation of the AGM. GH and SJ reported that they had attended a meeting with **Sir Alistair Gordon-Cumming** who had invited the Board at short notice during which he talked at length about the Country Park Project. He said that this project is to be developed with the involvement of Fiona Chalmers and he indicated an interest in working with FCWT regarding pedestrian access and financial assistance. As stated above, the Board's decision to disassociate itself from this project will be expressed in a letter to Moray Council.	**CF**
4.	**Date of Next Meeting -** 29th July 2013	