

FCWT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting held at St Leonard's Church Portakabin
7.30pm on 4th November 2013



MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

Item	Minute	Action
	<p>Present: Graham Hilditch (chair), Stuart Johnston, Eddie Tomkinson, John Carson, Claire Feaver, Wilson Metcalfe, Gisela MacFarquhar (minutes)</p> <p>Apologies: Donald Wright</p>	
	<p>Minutes of last meeting. The minutes of the meeting held on 30th September 2013 were presented and agreed as an accurate record, proposed by ET, seconded by SJ.</p>	
	<p>Correspondence. Email from Alan Smith (see item 3) Email from Vicky Flood (see item 4) Letter from Mr& Mrs Brown (see item 3) Magazine from Scottish Natural Heritage</p>	
	<p>Matters Arising.</p>	
1.	<p>AGM. The Board discussed procedural issues regarding the AGM.</p>	
2.	<p>Access to Dava Way. WM informed the Board that the Dava Way Association had received communication from Moray Council who intend to improve access to the Dava Way at the former railway bridge to the south of Sanquhar Woods. Army engineers who are designated to support local community projects will carry out the work. The existing steps are likely to be replaced by a ramp. There is uncertainty as to who owns the embankment where the ramp is going to be built as the area is bordering on Trust land. GH will ask for clarification from Jamie Whittle from R&R Urquhart and Peter Graham from the Land Management Association.</p>	GH
3.	<p>Sanquhar Wood and Coffin Field. GH reported that Moray Council had been contracted to mow the grass and bracken in the Coffin Field and clear some overgrown major paths in the wood. The Board has received some positive comments from the public for this. Alan Smith expressed concern in an email saying that the cutting back on the paths was too drastic and the cut material on the meadow should be removed to make the area more favourable for wildflowers. CF said that care should be taken on what growth should be cut and what could be left. The Board concluded that a decision on how to proceed with the meadow has to be deferred until more input from experts has been received. It will be included in the next 5-year plan. A letter has been received from Mr & Mrs Brown expressing concern about the safety of trees close to neighbouring properties. The Board decided that this is a major issue which needs to be addressed in the next 5-year plan and more input from experts is required. GH will reply to Mr & Mrs Brown. GH reported that the police had been contacted regarding vandalism and the shelter will in future be included in the police rounds. Co-operation with the police will be included in the next 5-year plan.</p>	GH
4.	<p>Basket weaving workshop. Vicky Flood has requested permission to hold a workshop for up to 10 participants</p>	

	<p>which would involve foraging for materials in and around the woodland. The event will be insured and a risk assessment will be undertaken. The Board welcomed this venture in principle. GM will contact Vicky for more details about the nature of the event, the materials required and the possibility of a donation as this is a commercial enterprise. Vicky should be invited to attend a Board meeting.</p>	GM								
5.	<p>Benromach Distillery. GH stated that the work has now been finished and the water pipes will be connected this week. Work on the footpath will start next week and will be monitored. GH will request the erection of a diversion sign for walkers.</p>	GH								
6.	<p>Tree planting. 400 tree saplings have been received from the Woodland Trust and are currently being stored by ET. These should preferably be planted during the winter months. ET will enquire if funding for stakes is available.</p>	ET								
7.	<p>Financial Report. ET said that Zurich is still processing the Trust's insurance documents. The insurance is still as in previous years. There is a delay by Zurich in issuing the certificate. The total amount in the account is £37,992.99. Cheques drawn but not yet presented amount to £ 687.20. This is made up of the following:</p> <table> <tr> <td>Insurance</td> <td>£368.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tree felling in Sanquhar</td> <td>£ 200.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Groves Forestry; spraying</td> <td>£ 103.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hire of church room</td> <td>£ 16. 00</td> </tr> </table>	Insurance	£368.00	Tree felling in Sanquhar	£ 200.00	Groves Forestry; spraying	£ 103.20	Hire of church room	£ 16. 00	
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8.	<p>Date of Next Meeting – 25th November 2013</p>									