

FCWT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting held at St Leonard's Church Portakabin
7.30pm on 25th August 2014



MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

Item	Minute	Action
	<p>Present: Graham Hilditch (chair), Eddie Tomkinson (treasurer), John Carson, Donald Wright, Steve Hull, Gareth Whyment, Gisela MacFarquhar (minutes)</p> <p>Apologies: Wilson Metcalfe</p> <p>Absent: Vicky Flood</p>	
	<p>Minutes of last meeting. The minutes of the meeting held on 30th June 2014 were presented and agreed as an accurate record, proposed by ET, seconded by DW.</p>	
	<p>Correspondence. Web-site emails from</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ann Finlayson, regarding mailing of newsletter. GM responded. • Report of dangerous tree limb by the path alongside Sanquhar Pond. WM responded. • Lauren Ash, regarding Culture Day. GH will discuss options with VF. • Mark Fleming, regarding trimming growth around bike trail. ET made contact. <p>Emails from</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keith Brown, Chris Spencer, Paul O'Neill, Sheila Crosby, Stuart Johnston, Brenda Devlin, regarding removal of trees in buffer zone. GH will respond. • George Alexander, informing Board of school volunteer work parties in Sanquhar Wood. • Chris Worthington, Wild Things, regarding planting of wildflowers near footbridge at top end of dam. • Frances Powell, FACT, regarding maintenance of Sanquhar Loch. ET and GH had a meeting with Frances Powell. She will establish ownership. 	<p>GH, VF</p> <p>GH</p>
1.	<p>Barrier locks – ET reported that the new entrance signs and signs for the bike track will be ready the week after next. Also, new locks will be ready to be put in place.</p>	ET
2.	<p>Bike track – ET and WM reduced overgrowth during last work party. Also see email from Mark Fleming above.</p>	
3.	<p>AGM Venue – GH will book Forres Academy hall</p>	GH
4.	<p>Sanquhar Woodlands tree clearance – GW said that he had received an estimate from Ian Nesbit, Nairn, of £1500 for felling and removing marked trees along buffer zone. This takes into account any profit made from the sale of felled wood. The Board agreed to go ahead with the felling programme. GH will inform householders who have made requests regarding trees adjoining their properties. GW will a) apply for a felling licence, b) contact Ian Nesbit, c) acquire map with grid reference and, d) meet with GH and householders to discuss additional requests. Hopefully, the felling will commence in late October, early November.</p>	GH GW
5.	<p>Constitution review – DW presented a review of Board membership regulations. According to this three of the remaining six Trustees elected in 2011 should retire at the next AGM. They can apply for re-election if they so wish. The same procedure will apply to the other three Trustees next year. The Board felt that, in order to maintain a healthy number of Trustees, an appeal</p>	

	should go out to members to join the Board. WM will post a message on the web. GM will write a message in the newsletter. DW suggested each Trustee should invite one member to join.	WM GM
6.	Membership renewals - ET suggested that the membership fee should be raised at the next AGM. The new fee will not apply before next year. This will be discussed at the next meeting. He said that members paying by standing order are failing to up-date their payments and their contact information. This form of membership payment should therefore be discouraged. GM will include a personal request to those members in the next newsletter delivery.	Board GM
7.	Work Party Coffin Field – SH said that only Board members attended the last work party. The area along bike track was cleared. Posts were put up to cordon off the new saplings before grass cutting commences. ET will ask Andy Scott, Environmental Services, to cut grass at earliest convenience. GM and SH will put up tape. The next work party will take place on 6 th September when area around saplings will be cleared. GM will appeal for more volunteers to join in the next newsletter. Muiry – ET reported that work is up-to-date as far as path maintenance, tree thinning and rhododendron and gorse control are concerned. A monthly work party organised by Ian Suttie of four volunteers is being maintained. GM has asked Ian Suttie to provide the Board with an up-date of the work being carried out. The Board felt that closer contact should be sought with Ian Suttie regarding the maintenance of Muiry/Newforres Wood.	ET, GM, SH GM
8.	Sanquhar Residents' boundary agreement – JC presented a draft boundary agreement for discussion. It was felt that, on the whole, the terms and conditions listed were acceptable to the Board, that it should be adopted by the Board as a guidance document for future FCWT policy and decision making, and included in the next management plan. JC will redraft his proposal for this purpose.	JC
9.	Financial Update – ET reported a closing balance of £37,192.51. He said that the accounts are in the process of being prepared for the AGM.	ET
10.	AOB – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CWA conference. VF attended. As yet no report. • Storage of tools. A list of tools owned by Trust should be kept and a place to store them should be found. The Board will discuss this at the next meeting. • SH reported that great crested newts had been spotted in the pond. 	VF Board
12.	Date of Next Meeting – 29th September 2014	