

FCWT BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Meeting held at

7.30pm on 24th November 2014

MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

Item	Minute	Action
	<p>Present: Graham Hilditch (chair), Donald Wright, Wilson Metcalfe, Eddie Tomkinson, Dan Puplett, Peter Graham, Gareth Whyment, Vicky Flood and Susan Conti, (Joan Tomkinson in attendance as Minute Secretary)</p> <p>Apologies: Gisela MacFarquhar and Steve Hull</p>	
	<p>Graham Hilditch opened the meeting by welcoming new members to the Board, and for their benefit each member of the existing Board gave a brief resume about themselves. GH said that the Secretary puts together the Newsletter and she should be approached with content.</p>	
	<p>Minutes of last meeting. The minutes of the meeting held on 3 November 2014 were presented and agreed as an accurate record, proposed by ET, seconded by WM.</p>	
	<p>Matters Arising. Any matters arising would all be discussed during the meeting.</p>	
<p>1.</p>	<p>Correspondence. GH had contacted Jenny Martin from Wild Things, concerning the question of fires brought up at the AGM, and her response was read out. She gave assurances that Wild Things always operated with the greatest care and attention and it was part of their courses to teach how to light fires responsibly. She offered to attend a future meeting to discuss any problems, should the Committee feel it was necessary. During discussion it was suggested that a permanent site be created away from where 'the Heads' are. GH would respond to Jenny as suggested, thanking them for clearing the site and also send a copy of Jenny's letter to the two ladies who had complained at the AGM. A short discussion also took place on the benefits/non-benefits of the use of fire beaters.</p> <p>An email had been received from Sheila Scott, on the same subject, following on from her discussion at the AGM. It was felt that the action already agreed would cover this matter.</p>	<p>GH</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>Sanquhar Woodland Felling. GH said we need to make a start on this before the 31 March to qualify for monies from Entrust. He said he had been in touch with G. T. Barclay and they had walked the woods to assess the work, and he had quoted a price of approx. £3600.00. He valued the timber at approx. £1700.00. Therefore a cost to us of £1900.00. He could fit the work in during the first few months of 2015. A comparison price was also needed to comply with Entrust and GW would also be obtained from Nesbitt. Any new planting would take place during the Autumn of 2015. ET said we must make sure that whoever we chose must have the correct insurances, risk assessments and safe systems of work in place before work commenced.</p>	<p>GH/GW ET</p>

	<p>GH wanted agreement from the committee to carry on with the placement of orders within the next week because he was going away and there was not another meeting until the end of January. This was agreed.</p> <p>VF thought a letter should be circulated to members/residents informing them of the work being undertaken and that the area of felling would be untidy for a period of time due to the trimming of branches from the trunks which would not be removed by the contractor but left to break down over time.</p> <p>DW said that he and retiring John Carson had drawn up an internal policy document as to how FCWT should manage the interface between the Trust and adjacent property holders. A copy was given to all members.</p>	<p>GH</p> <p>GM</p>
3.	<p>Annual General Meeting. The meeting had been well attended, and the proposal regarding increasing membership fees was agreed from November 2015. Someone asked whether anyone wanting to volunteer and work in the woods without forming a work party could do so, this had been agreed but must be co-ordinated with the Committee member. Steve Hull was thought to be the best person to deal with this. ET said our insurance would cover persons undertaking such work, but Health & Safety methods should also be taken into account. DP also offered to help Steve with any work being done.</p>	SH/DP
4.	<p>Membership. At the moment stands at 95. 13 new members, but only 50% have re-joined this year from last year. It was evident that thought needs to be given to raising money other than through membership. This would be discussed again the new year.</p>	Board
5.	<p>Funding. VF would investigate funding that might be available for working with Volunteers. Ian Suttie would be asked to itemise the work carried out at Muiry.</p> <p>The Berry Burn Grant Application would have to be deferred until their next date of 20 January 2015.</p> <p>However, GW said the programme for clearing rhododendron and laurel was most important and felt that an application should be made to Landfill Community Fund to cover this work. This will need to be applied for by 18th January 2015. A sum of £6,000.00 was to be requested with FCWT contributing £ 2,000.00</p>	<p>VF ET</p> <p>ET/GH</p>
6.	<p>Financial Update The current bank balance is £36591.36 with all accounts up to date</p>	
7.	<p>Next Work Party Saturday 6 December, organised by Gisela. 200 tubes and 100 sticks will be available.</p>	GM/ET
11.	<p>AOB. WM said he was quite willing to organise a meal for the Committee in January. This was agreed and he would notify date and venue accordingly.</p> <p>WM said he kept the website updated with the Minutes from all meetings.</p> <p>WM said the Billy Goat machine, owned by the Dave Way Society, was now stored by Paul Barron at Orchard House and they were organising training in its use. WM</p>	<p>WM</p> <p>WM</p>

	<p>would be doing the course.</p> <p>SC suggested consideration be given to allowing members of the public to buy and have trees planted dedicated in memorium. Everyone felt this was a good idea and worth consideration and investigation.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 21.18</p>	<p>Board</p>
<p>12.</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting – 26th January 2015. The room at the Community Centre has been booked for the relevant forthcoming dates but some dates clash and need to be re-scheduled.</p>	<p>GH/ET GM</p>