

# FCWT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting held at Forres Community Centre  
7.30pm on 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016



## MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

Item	Minute	Action
1.	<p><b>Present:</b> Donald Wright (chair), Wilson Metcalfe, Gareth Whyment, Peter Graham, Susan Conti, Steve Hull, Gisela MacFarquhar (minutes)</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> Eddie Tomkinson, Dan Puplett</p>	
2.	<p><b>Previous Minutes and Matters Arising.</b> Proposed – PG    Seconded – SC</p> <p><b>Actions and Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meeting.</b></p> <p>4. 2a) GM has sent acknowledgement to Brian McDonald. 4. 3c) Flailing at Muiry/Newforres (see item 4b below). 4. 3j) DW meeting with Jamie Whittle carried forward. 4. 5e) DP wrote article. Info posters on ticks carried forward. 5. PG and GM attended Forres Area Forum meeting (see item 8a below). 5c) ET will contact CWT regarding conference. 5e) Plunkett Foundation – DP established that the deadline for application has passed. 7b) GM has sent out appeal for volunteers and put up posters. 7c) GW will advise on planting plan for new trees. 10b) DP wrote article on squirrel translocation – will appear in next newsletter.</p>	<p>DW GM  ET  GW</p>
3.	<p><b>Correspondence.</b></p> <p>a. Email from Brian McDonald, regarding Sanquhar Loch Project (see item 8b below) b. Email from Scotland's Finest Wood Award (see item 8c below) c. Email from Sandy, regarding pine hoverfly (see item 8d below) d. Email from Findhorn Nairn and Lossie Fisheries Trust, regarding Invasive Plant Species Project (see item 8e below) e. Email from CWA, regarding conference (see 5c above) f. Email from The Moray Council, regarding Paths for All (see item 8g below) g. Email from Springfield, regarding Ferrylea housing – no action required. h. Letter from Mrs Bartlett, resigning from membership and donation. GM to acknowledge. i. Letters from Companies House, acknowledgement of change in Board membership.</p>	<p>GM</p>
4.	<p><b>Muiry and Newforres.</b></p> <p>a. <b>Work party</b> was cancelled. b. <b>Flailing Project.</b> An estimate has been received for the hire of a flailing machine and estimated 10 hours of work from Robert Robertson. DW will contact Ian Suttie for more information on what the expected outcome of this work will be. The question was asked if funding might be available for this kind of work.</p>	<p>DW</p>
5.	<p><b>Sanquhar and Bike Track</b></p> <p>a. <b>Work Party.</b> SH reported that 9 volunteers cleared dead branches from area to be planted behind Woodside. Three new volunteers had joined the group. More of this will be done at the next work party session on 5<sup>th</sup> March. SH and two volunteers dug holes for oak trees from Ian Suttie. They will be planted next month. SH and WM will do grass cutting at area where orchids grow.</p>	<p>SH WM</p>

	<p>SH asked for volunteers to help with great crested newts count.</p> <p>b. <b>Planting.</b> GW reported that the trees will be delivered on 11<sup>th</sup> March. DW reported that A Dixon has given an estimate for getting the trees planted (75p per tree). The Board agreed that A. Dixon's quote should be accepted. A small area at Woodend which has easy access will be planted by volunteers, probably by the work party on 2<sup>nd</sup> April. DP will ask Trees for Life if we can borrow planting tools. GW will buy two planting spears and one post driver. GW will put together a planting plan.</p> <p>c. <b>Rhododendron Control.</b> During a site visit with ET and SH, A. Dixon agreed that some plants appear not to have been affected by the spraying. He accepted that some areas near water had been sprayed rather than cut and injected. He will carry out more cutting down to ground level before the next spraying. ET and A. Dixon will look into availability of funding for rhododendron clearance.</p> <p>d. <b>Hut repair and fence reinstatement.</b> GW will carry out repairs with the help of Mr Conti when materials become available.</p> <p>e. <b>Signage.</b> WM reported that he had applied for funding from Paths for all towards the costs of putting up new signage. Confirmation should be received shortly.</p>	<p>DW</p> <p>DP GW</p> <p>ET</p> <p>GW</p> <p>WM</p>
6.	<b>Management Plan.</b> WM reported that his preparatory work for the management plan will be ready for discussion with sub-committee by the end of next week.	WM
7.	<b>Finance.</b> DW reported on behalf of ET a total of £28, 236.34 in the account. ET has submitted a claim for gift aid of £872.	
8.	<p><b>Other.</b></p> <p>a. <b>Forres Area Forum.</b> Produced a summary of the FAF meeting.</p> <p>b. <b>Sanquhar Loch Project.</b> After further discussion, the Board agreed not to pursue formal participation in the project. It was felt that the Board finds itself overextended in the management of the woodlands which FCWT currently owns and that we are not equipped to take on the onerous responsibility for an area of Council owned woodlands through the asset transfer scheme. DW will inform Brian McDonald.</p> <p>c. <b>Scotland's Finest Wood Awards.</b> SC will fill in application form.</p> <p>d. <b>Pine Hoverfly.</b> SH and DP will investigate possibility of establishing a population in our woods and enquire about availability of funding.</p> <p>e. <b>Invasive Plant Species Project.</b> DW will email Bob Laughton to find out more.</p> <p>f. <b>CWA conference.</b> ET will contact Caroline Derbyshire.</p> <p>g. <b>Paths for All.</b> No further action as WM has already applied for funding for signage.</p> <p>h. <b>Website.</b> WM reported that Tom is retiring from his web design business and has suggested Canary Dwarf to take on our site. WM has contacted Mark Hindly who has given an estimate for the move from modex to word press of £450 and an annual fee of £100. The Board agreed to accept this. WM will report back.</p>	<p>DW</p> <p>SC SH, DP</p> <p>DW</p> <p>ET</p> <p>WM</p>
9.	<b>AOB.</b> GW and ET will liaise about getting access to a map of the woodland for producing a tree plan.	GW, ET
10.	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b> – at the Community Centre on 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2016 at 7.30pm	