

FCWT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting held at Forres Community Centre
7.30pm on 28th March 2016



MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

Item	Minute	Action
1.	<p>Present: Donald Wright (chair), Wilson Metcalfe, Gareth Whyment, Peter Graham, Susan Conti, Steve Hull, Eddie Tomkinson (treasurer), Dan Puplett, Gisela MacFarquhar (minutes)</p> <p>Apologies: none</p>	
2.	<p>Previous Minutes. Proposed – PG Seconded – WM</p> <p>Actions and Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meeting.</p> <p>2) - DW meeting with Jamie Whittle still outstanding. - GM will get tick posters printed and put up. - ET has proposed a meeting with CWA for 18th April.</p> <p>3) - GM has sent reply to Mrs Bartlett. - DP and SH will make enquiries regarding the setting up of a pine hoverfly colony. DP will also contact Bob Laughton regarding the invasive plant species project.</p> <p>5b) GW has purchased planting spears and post driver.</p> <p>8b) DW has informed Brian McDonald about the Board's decision not to proceed with the Sanquhar Loch project.</p>	<p>DW GM ET</p> <p>DP,SH</p>
3.	<p>Correspondence.</p> <p>a. Email from Nicole Merrilees regarding wire netting and posts which had been stored in her garage. GM has collected these.</p> <p>b. Email from Nicole Merrilees regarding vandalised fire sign next to 14 Woodside Park. The Board agreed that it should not be replaced as it was not put up by the Trust and its usefulness is questionable.</p> <p>c. Phone call from Caroline Inckle, local artist, who asked if she could coppice some young birch trees to create a sculpture. She will need ca 60 trees of 1in thickness. The Board agreed that she can go ahead with this. GM will request some photographic evidence from Caroline and provide her with FCWT vests for when she is removing the trees.</p> <p>d. Phone call from a teacher at Pilmuir Primary School asking if pupils could carry out activities for John Muir Award activities. The Board agreed in principle. Suitable activities will be decided on later.</p> <p>e. Email from Wild Things! informing the Trust of holiday activities next week.</p>	<p>GM</p>
4.	<p>Muiry and New Forres. DW reported that Robert Robertson has carried out the flailing. It has opened up two big areas.</p>	
5.	<p>Sanquhar and Bike Track</p> <p>a. Work Party. SH reported that on 5th March 7 volunteers continued to tidy areas due for replanting while two further volunteers continued with the removal of young sitka. On 19th March 7 volunteers planted some oak and hazel supplied by Ian Suttie, and SH and WM cut back grass in the orchid area.</p>	

	<p>The next work party will continue with the tidying and will provide a photo opportunity to get pictures of a planting session with volunteers.</p> <p>b. Planting. GW reported that Angus Dixon has been putting stakes in the ground and will start with planting this week.</p> <p>c. Rhododendron Control. ET reported that an application has been submitted to the Scottish Government Rural Payments Division, for funding towards the rhododendron and laurel treatment.</p> <p>d. Hut repair and fence reinstatement. GM will contact the Gazette for further information.</p> <p>e. Signage. WM reported that he is in the process of completing the application for funding from Paths for All. He will contact Signcraft regarding the creation of the display boards. The Board agreed that this project should go ahead with or without extra funding.</p>	SH GM WM
6.	<p>Management Plan. WM reported that the second draft has reduced the documents to about 14 pages. The detail in section 3 of the old document is not needed. The sub-committee is still to discuss the Trust's vision and strategies. GW will be working on the forestry work aspect of the plan. He said he might be able to use Forestry Commission maps.</p>	WM GW
7.	<p>Finance. ET reported a total of £27,212.59 in the account. The payment of invoices is up-to-date except for the cost of the tree saplings and stakes. The financial year ends on 31st March.</p>	
8.	<p>Other.</p> <p>a. Website. WM reported that progress had been made with the new look of the website. A few mistakes still need to be rectified. He will receive training from Canary Dwarf to allow him to do some changes himself.</p> <p>b. Scotland's Finest Woods award. GM reported that the application has been submitted and a confirmation of its receipt has been received.</p>	
9.	<p>AOB.</p> <p>a. Following information received through Vicky Flood about Christie's burning of surplus tree saplings, GW will contact Christie's to see if the Trust can use any.</p> <p>b. Publicity. GM will put together information about the Trust's recent activities for publication in the Gazette, including the tree planting, tick posters and flailing. Information about the squirrel project will be published at a later stage.</p>	GW GM
10.	<p>Date of Next Meeting – at the Community Centre on 25th April 2016 at 7.30pm</p>	