

FCWT BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Meeting held via Teams

7.30pm 25th July 2022

MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

Item	Minute	Action
1	<p>Present: Donald Wright (chair, treasurer), Gisela MacFarquhar (minutes), Gareth Whymant, Steve Hull, David Binney, David MacFarquhar</p> <p>Apologies: Paul Kendall</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of 30th May 2022 The minutes were proposed by DM, seconded by DW.</p> <p>Actions arising from previous Minute.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity day with Andersons Primary. GM reported that this took place in Muiry Newforres on 10th June. Pictures were put on Facebook and web. • Dead trees at 43 Woodside Drive. DW reported that he has asked contractor Angus Dixon to remove these. • Shed behind Woodside Park. SH reported that it has been removed. • Wildflower planting in Coffin Field. GM sent a list of the plants which Meadowmania are offering to SH. He said that some of these are already in the field and others may not survive in the conditions. To be re-visited next spring. <p>Actions arising from previous Minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree safety. GW to write report. DW will liaise with GW - ongoing. • DW to make inquiries for contractor to cut grass in coffin field – ongoing. 	<p>GW/DW DW</p>
4	<p>Correspondence.</p> <p>Emails</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18th July, Alan Reid, £210 gave donation for wood from Coffin field lochan and windblown trees. He wishes to collect more wood from Coffin Field lochan. • 26th June, Kerry McInnes, Forres Friends of Fields and Woods, regarding open day on August 26th and survey. GM will forward to trustees. <p>Web</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15th June, Sian Finlayson, Wellbeing Teacher at Forres Academy, looking at doing a community project with some pupils by creating a fairy walk at Sanquhar Pond. GM replied saying that Sanquhar Pond is not owned by FCWT and passed on email address for Sanquhar Pond group. • 28th June, Kressana Aigner, Findhorn Bay Arts requesting use of Sanquhar Woods for a story walk as part of the Festival on Sun 25 	<p>GM</p>

	<p>Sep, 11.30am and 2.30pm (1-hour each). DW gave approval.</p> <p>Phone Call</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14th June, Graham Hilditch, re on-site visit to discuss overshadowing trees. GM suggested a time of year when the problem is more prevalent. Mr Hilditch agreed. 	
5	<p>Muiry and Newforres.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GM reported that there was no work party recently. DB has been cutting gorse in the open area in the Newforres Wood. GM and DB came to the conclusion that it is a futile exercise to keep cutting gorse there as it doesn't prevent the gorse from re-growing but does prevent self-seeded trees from growing. Also, it does not benefit wildlife. <p>The Board agreed that the gorse cutting should be abandoned except for the purpose of keeping paths clear and to prevent trees from getting overwhelmed by the gorse.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The next work party will take place on 6th August. As there is no urgent work required in Muiry and Newforres GM will hold a work party in Sanquhar Wood. SH will advise on what to do. 	GM
6	<p>Sanquhar.Wood.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Work party report. SH reported the following volunteer activities - 3/6 Bracken clearing around young trees 1 vol. 6/6 Watered seedlings in coffin field 1 vol. 9/6 Bracken clearing round young trees. 2 vols. 12/6 Watered seedlings in coffin field 1 vol. 18/6 Work party clearing rhodi. and small sitka 3 vols. 23/6 Bracken clearing round young trees 1 vol. 1/7/22 Replaced wire around saplings. 1 vol. 7/7 Cut bracken in coffin field. 2 vols. 16/7 Cut bracken round young trees. 3 vols. These sessions are for between 1 and 3 hours. Path maintenance in Sanquhar Wood. DW reported that he has been no progress with Springfield. Our request has been passed on to the head office. Darnaway oak. Following an on-site visit by three volunteers a location in the coffin field was decided upon. GW will construct a timber guard. Bike track maintenance. DB reported that he has been cutting back growth along the orange and the blue bike tracks. Litter at Bike Shelter. DB reported that he has been continuing with cleaning up litter under the floor boards and a small amount around the hut. There was some broken glass. A fire which was located a short distance from the hut and had been put out by police has not caused any damage and had been in an area some distance away from trees. 	SH DW GW

	<p>DB will continue to monitor the situation.</p> <p>6. Boundary Policy. The Board discussed the draft. DW will make further adjustments and send out the final draft to the trustees. In this context GW will re-visit the trees behind No 51 Mannachie Rise.</p>	<p>DB</p> <p>DW</p> <p>GW</p>
7	<p>Communications.</p> <p>GM reported that a newsletter was sent out in June.</p>	
8	<p>Finance.</p> <p>DW reported a total of £ 26,239.66 including £10,000 previously held in a separate account.</p> <p>DW reported no response from Altyre Estates' solicitor re. payment for purchase of coffin field.</p> <p>Payments received -</p> <p>£44 in membership payments</p> <p>£210 donation for logs</p> <p>Payments made -</p> <p>£1,075.20 Groves Forestry</p> <p>£50 The HUB</p>	<p>DW</p>
9	<p>Membership.</p> <p>GM reported that 6 memberships have been renewed</p> <p>4 reminders were sent out</p> <p>Two names have been removed from membership list after having sent out two reminders without response.</p> <p>The total membership stands at 85.</p>	
10	<p>AOB.</p> <p>SH reported that great crested newts have been sighted near the Coffin Field lochan.</p> <p>He also reported that New Zealand flatworms have been sighted on the south side of Sanquhar Wood.</p>	
11	<p>Date of next meeting.</p> <p>Board Meeting on 29th August 2022 via Microsoft Teams.</p>	