

FCWT BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Meeting held via Teams
7.30pm 30th January 2023

MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

Item	Minute	Action
1	<p>Present: Donald Wright (chair, treasurer), Gisela MacFarquhar (minutes), David MacFarquhar, Graham Shewan, Paul Kendall, Steve Hull, Gareth Whyment</p> <p>Apologies: David Binney</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of 28th November 2022 The minutes were proposed by GS, seconded by DM.</p> <p>Actions arising from previous Minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree safety. GW to write report. GW has set up an excel file to be forwarded to DW - ongoing. • Path maintenance. DW reported that there has been no response from Springfield. 	GW/DW
3	<p>Correspondence.</p> <p>Web</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16/01/23 Carl Kleintges Advised that proceeds from his uncle's funeral collection will be donated to FCWT GM responded. • 18/01/23 Debbie Herron, FACT, forwarding email from Community Enterprise, Research and Project Support, who promote Natural Capital for Scottish Communities projects. The system creates opportunity for the sale of carbon credits to industrial and commercial companies that are interested in lowering their carbon footprint. 28/01/23, GM emailed Woodland Trust asking for comment. No response as yet. The Board decided that this system is unlikely to be suitable for FCWT as we maintain woodland which is already established and we are not involved in creating new woodlands etc. • 24/01/23, Elise Cox A previous volunteer advised that she has been appointed local project officer for the Scottish Invasive Species Initiative and that there are grants available which FCWT may be eligible for. Laura Preston from Sustrans has contacted me about the Love Your Network grant, which focuses on providing equipment and training to community groups that work on and around the National Cycle Network. I'm told the grant is quite flexible in its scope and requires 	GM

	<p>relatively little admin to complete.</p> <p>GM responded saying that we are currently receiving money for rhododendron eradication from the Berryburn fund and we do not anticipate that we would be eligible for funding from Sustrans as our woodlands are not close to the National Cycle Network.</p> <p>Email</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 27/01/23 Stacey from FACT, confirming that our request to use Forres town hall as our registered address has been approved by FACT. <p>DW will inform Bank, OSCR, Companies House etc. GM will inform members.</p>	DW/GM
4	<p>Muiry and Newforres.</p> <p>GM reported on a work party on 3rd December. 2 volunteers removed tree guards.</p> <p>A work party on 7th Jan took place in Sanquhar Wood. See below.</p>	
5	<p>Sanquhar Wood.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> SH Work Party Report. 5/1/23 Cut gorse over path and replaced tree guard and stake. 1 volunteer. 13/1/23 Dug up laurel and rhododendron above riverbank near footbridge. 1 volunteer 14/1/23 PK and SH put up 6 bird nestboxes that had previously fallen off after some renovation. 2 volunteers. 21/1/23 Joint work party with Forres Friends of Woods and Fields cutting invading sitka and hemlock.13 volunteers. (3 of our volunteers and 10 FFWF volunteers). GM Work Party Report. 7/1/23, 8 volunteers, incl DB with billy goat, cutting gorse beside path at Woodend entrance. DB and GS working on jumps. GS reported that all growth on the jumps has now been cut back. Work Party dates. PK proposed that work party dates should be posted on facebook with notice for potential volunteers to check as to where the work parties will take place. GM and SH will let PK know. SH would like to put up posters for work parties. GM will forward a draft to SH. Glyphosate certificate. GM reported that Robbie Roberts has a certificate for applying glyphosate. He will bring it along to the next work party to photocopy. PK said that he, too, has now got a certificate. 	<p>GM/SH</p> <p>GM</p> <p>GM</p> <p>GM</p>

	<p>7. Boundary Policy. DW has sent the final draft of the boundary policy and accompanying letter for distribution to GM. GM will arrange letter drop.</p> <p>8. Path improvement. GM said she has made contact with a contractor who might be able to carry out the work.</p> <p>9. Sitka felling. SH will survey what should be cut. Agreed that no felling will take place until after nesting season.</p>	<p>GM</p> <p>SH/WD/ GW</p>
6	<p>Communications. DW reported that an invoice from Canary Dwarf is still outstanding. WM has forwarded several messages posted on the web.</p>	DW
7	<p>Finance. DW reported a total of £19,671.33 Payments made £124.28 to Dava Way Association for maintenance work on billy goat £30.00 to CWA annual membership Payments received £353 - 14 membership payments, including 2 donations of £100 each. £15 – 1 Bird box donation £2,416.50 - Berryburn fund for rhododendron and laurel treatment</p>	
8	<p>Membership. 14 membership payment were received. Total membership 82. 8 reminders sent, all paid up</p>	
9	<p>AOB. Permission to harvest moss GM reported that following a request from a member of the public to harvest a small amount of moss, GM established that under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 the term 'plant' includes algae, lichens and fungi, mosses, liverworts and vascular plants. Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, it is unlawful to uproot any wild plant without permission from the landowner or occupier. The Board agreed that a small amount of plant material removed for personal use does not require permission.</p>	
10	<p>Date of next meeting. Board Meeting on 27th February 2023 via Microsoft Teams.</p>	