

FCWT BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Meeting held via Teams

7.30pm 4th September 2023

MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

Item	Minute	Action
1	<p>Present: Donald Wright (chair, treasurer), Gisela MacFarquhar (minutes), David MacFarquhar, Steve Hull, David Binney, Gareth Whymant, Apologies: Graham Shewan, Paul Kendall</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of 26th June 2023 The minutes were proposed by DW, seconded by DM.</p> <p>Actions arising from previous Minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree safety report. GW and DW finalizing the report. 	GW/DW
3	<p>Correspondence.</p> <p>WEB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20/8 Natalie, re child's accident at jumps. Ambulance unable to access as key for padlock not available. DW responded. The Board agreed to replace 2 of the key locks with combination locks. Number to be passed on to emergency services. <p>MESSENGER ENQUIRY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27/8 Choon Hua, re request to assist in finding an elder tree for school project. DW to respond. <p>EMAIL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26/6 Pawel Drozd, re. wood carving. He charges £300 a day, something like the Cluny Hill dragon would take around 5-6 days, total estimate £1500-£1800. GM to arrange an on-site meeting. • 13/8 Angus Dixon, contractor, to arrange meeting to establish where laurel treatment should happen this year. He agreed to wait till end of year when plants are easier to locate. GM to arrange meeting. • 28/8, Steve Smirthwaite, Mountain Bike Orienteering, thanking for permission to use Sanquhar Woods for mountain bike orienteering event on 31st July. The event was well attended. Participants were mainly visitors from the 6-Day Orienteering competition. Requested to use Sanquhar Wood again for a small evening event on Monday 31st July. The event will run from 17.30 - 19.30 and be limited to 100 competitors, and on 8th September for a small group of locals to set off at 6pm and be in the area for about an hour. 	<p>DW</p> <p>DW</p> <p>GM</p> <p>GM</p>

	<p>GM responded.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/9 Mick Drury, FFWF, invitation to open day on Sept 16th. • 2/9 emails concerning car tyres in Muiry Wood car park (see item 4). • 3/9/2023, Robin Grant, UK Association of Trail Associations & Bike Parks, update on progress. DB agreed to be contact person. The Board agreed to support this venture. 	
4	<p>Muiry and Newforres. GM work party report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15/7 DB cut gorse with brush cutter at Muiry Wood along paths and around tree saplings • 2/9, 3 volunteers, Muiry and Newforres Woods, lopped gorse around tree saplings. • Volunteers gathered 5 car tyres which had been deposited at the Muiry Wood car park and placed them next to the bin. GM to ask the Moray Council to have them removed. No urgent work required at present. 	GM
5	<p>Sanquhar Wood.</p> <p>1. GM Work Party Report. 13/7, 2 volunteers, Sanquhar Wood behind Woodside Drive, treated newly cut laurel stumps 5/8, 4 volunteers, near entrance at Woodside Park on right and left down to lochan - lopped sycamore coppicing and treated stumps with glyphosate, also laurel which had been previously cut by contractor.</p> <p>2. SH Work Party Report. 28/6 - Cut new flowers off giant hogweed by site of old bird hide (with 2 FFWF people) + 1 vol. 9/7- Cut bracken back from paths 1 vol. 12/7 - Cut bracken around trees back of Mannachie Rise - 1 vol. 21/7- Coffin field bracken cut with DB. - 2 vols. 22/7- Removed invasive conifers - 3 vols. 25/7 - Cut flowers off giant hogweed again. (Benromach notified of this) - 1 vol. 29/7 - Cut bracken round young trees - 1 vol. 10/8 - Cut bracken round young trees -1 vol. 13/8 - As above -1vol. 17/8 - As above - 1 vol. 22/8 - As above - 1 vol. 23/8 – Re-staked young trees - 1 vol. 26/8 - Removed invasive conifers - 6 vols. 30/8 - Cleared bracken around young trees and pulled hemlock - 1 vol. Each session averaging about 2 hours.</p> <p>3. Laurel cutting by contractor. 8/7 and 15/7, behind Woodside Drive, 12 hours,</p>	

	<p>30/7, Woodside Park entrance on right and lochan on left, 3 hours.</p> <p>4. Litter. DB removed some litter at shelter. More floor boards have been removed.</p> <p>5. Bracken in Coffin Field. DB reported that brush cutter is broken and therefore cannot proceed with cutting bracken in Coffin Field and along paths.</p> <p>6. Maintenance of Jumps. DB reported considerable growth of gorse and tree saplings close to the tracks. To keep users safe the area needs to be cleared more frequently. DW to discuss options with contractor.</p>	DW
6	<p>Communications.</p> <p>GM reported publication of newsletter in July. Mostly emailed to members, 2 posted. Several positive messages received, saying that articles are interesting.</p>	
7	<p>Finance.</p> <p>Total in bank £16,949.37</p> <p>Payments received</p> <p>£54 memberships</p> <p>Payments made</p> <p>£240 K MacLean, contractor, laurel cutting £8 S Hull, expenses</p>	
8	<p>Membership.</p> <p>GM reported 6 memberships renewed since last meeting, 1 reminder sent.</p>	
9	<p>AOB.</p> <p>GM suggested two sites for benches, one in Sanquhar Wood, ca 300m north of shelter, and one in Muiry Wood in central open heather area. One bench could be placed near the wood carving feature once in place.</p>	
10	<p>Date of next meeting.</p> <p>Board Meeting on 25th September 2023 via Microsoft Teams.</p>	