

# FCWT BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Meeting held via Teams  
7.30pm 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025

## MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

| Item | Minute   | Action                           |
|------|--|----------------------------------|
|      | <p><b>Present:</b> Donald Wright (chair, treasurer), Gisela MacFarquhar (minutes), Steve Hull, David Binney, Wilson Rennie, Paul Kendall, David MacFarquhar, Graham Shewan, Andrew McGhee, Euan Stewart</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> Gareth Whymant</p>  |                                  |
| 1    | <p><b>Election of new Trustees.</b></p> <p>DW welcomed Mr Wilson Rennie who was elected trustee at the AGM.</p> <p>DW welcomed Mr Andrew McGhee (AM) who was co-opted to the Board of Trustees, proposed by GM, seconded by DM.</p> <p>DW welcomed Mr Euan Stewart (ES) who was co-opted to the Board of Trustees, proposed by DW, seconded by GS.</p> <p>The new trustees' appointments are effective from January 1st, 2026.</p>   |                                  |
| 2    | <p><b>Minutes of 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025</b></p> <p><b>Actions arising from previous Minutes.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tree Safety Report.</b> GW to complete report.</li> <li>• <b>Bench at bike jump.</b> DW contacted Benromach to request donation towards a new bench. No response from Benromach. On-going.</li> <li>• <b>Information boards.</b> GS will provide DW with required size of stickers to be attached to boards. On-going.</li> </ul>   | <p>GW</p> <p>GS/DW</p>           |
| 3    | <p><b>Correspondence.</b></p> <p><b>Email</b></p> <p>17/11/25 Alison Jefferies, 35 Mannachie Rise, read in the Forres Gazette about felling at Mannachie Rise, asking for further information or maps. GM responded, sent map.</p> <p>24/11/25 David Ritchie, Moravian Orienteering Club, seeking permission for the club to hold an event on Saturday 10th January 2026</p> <p>All the arrangements as previous.</p> <p>GM responded asking for route map and risk assessment.</p>  |                                  |
| 4    | <p><b>Muiry and Newforres.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GM reported that all <b>storm damage</b> has been removed.</li> <li>• <b>Sitka thinning</b> at Newforres. ES will investigate.</li> <li>• <b>Scots pine</b> in Muiry Wood. ES will investigate if thinning is required.</li> <li>• <b>Open heath areas in Muiry and Newforres.</b> The board is to consider whether the areas overgrown with gorse should be flailed as in 2016 or left, in the hope that self-seeded and planted trees will eventually shade out the gorse.</li> <li>• <b>Paths</b> in these areas have to be kept clear of gorse.</li> </ul> | <p>ES</p> <p>ES</p> <p>Board</p> |
| 5    | <p><b>Sanquhar Wood.</b></p> <p>1. <b>SH Work Party Report.</b></p>  |                                  |

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|-----------|--|---|
|           | <p>22/11/25 Removed young laurel, Sitka Spruce and a few Cypress and Douglas Fir. Left a very few Yew seedlings, those being native.</p> <p><b>2. Work Party Report.</b><br/>8/11/25 – Continued clearing bike jumps. 3 volunteers.</p> <p><b>3. Planned Felling.</b><br/>DW reported that contractor Sam Moore established that a number of trees which are on Altyre Estates land can be felled by us. Also, the contractor will organize to have the south track cleared of gorse and the track scraped prior to the felling. He will also get the Woodend track cleared of gorse.<br/>GM will order a selection of deciduous trees for replanting.</p> <p><b>4. Bike Track Maintenance.</b><br/>DW reported that Paul Mason will carry out an inspection of the track. He had done this previously in 2016.</p> <p><b>5. Coffin Field Maintenance.</b> PK has established that Scotia Seeds is a seller of wildflower He will further investigate the method to be used for sowing.</p> <p><b>Laurel and Rhododendron treatment.</b> No up-date from contractor. SH reported that the laurel is spreading further near the giants' heads area.</p> | <p>DW</p> <p>GM</p> <p>DW</p> <p>PK</p> |
| <b>6</b>  | <p><b>Communications.</b><br/>Nothing to report.</p>   |   |
| <b>7</b>  | <p><b>Finance.</b><br/><b>Current Account Total £ 2,791.93</b><br/><b>In</b><br/>19 membership payments totalling £369, including £168 donations.<br/><b>Out</b><br/>31/10 Kevin MacLean            £100.00 felling storm damage<br/>31/10/25 Groves Forestry    £1224.00 coffin field grass cutting<br/><b>Savings account Total £ 10,045.05</b></p> <p><b>The Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025</b> were approved by GS, seconded by WR.</p>   |   |
| <b>8</b>  | <p><b>Membership.</b><br/>19 membership payments received.<br/>Payments up-to-date.</p>  |   |
| <b>9</b>  | <p><b>AOB.</b></p> <p><b>1. Companies House.</b> All trustees are required to supply personal details and documentation for the purpose of Trustee Identity Verification. Trustees are to forward these to DW who will pass them on to Gordon Scott, accountant, before 15<sup>th</sup> December.</p> <p><b>2. Forward Planning for January Meeting.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Safety Management Plan</b></li> <li>• <b>5-year Management Plan</b></li> </ul>  | <p>Board</p>                            |
| <b>10</b> | <p><b>Date of next meeting.</b> 26<sup>th</sup> January 2026 by Microsoft Teams.</p>   |   |