



## Note of Meeting

Held at Blairhall Community Centre, Thursday 5th December, 2019

### Attendance:

Stan Welch (SW), Alastair Hendry (AH), Ronnie Collins (RC), Hilda Carmichael (HC), Peter McMullan (PM), Liz McMullan (LM)

### 1. Chair's Welcome

Chair: Stan welcomed all to the meeting.

### 2. Apologies

Andy Trumper, Alan McGuckin, Frank Waterworth, Lynda Milne, David Welch, Maggie Dalglish.

### 3. Previous Minutes

Proposed by AH, seconded by SW.

### 4. Matters Arising

- a) AT has received the completed Forestry Commission Permission.
- b) SW, FW, & LM attended the Community consultation in Oakley re Opencast site at Blairhouse.
- c) SW,FW,AT,LM,AM met with Alistair Mutch from FC. Interested in the work we are doing particularly the section of path from Birkmanside to the White gates. Preliminary costings of a stock proof fence & a bridge to be sent to him early in the New Year. Also interested in costings for the West Fife Woodland Way leaflets. FW, SW, RC to pursue these. SW to meet with Caledonia to ascertain how much of the project they will be able to fund.
- d) SW,RC and AT to meet to draft a letter to SEPA re the pollution in the Bluther Burn.

### 5. Treasurer's Report

In FW absence, LM gave an update on the group's finances.

Group still waiting for FC Volunteering Matters Action Earth grant for £100 for wild flower seeds.

No money has been received from FC for the bridge repairs and removal of the fence. AT has been in touch with Richard Smith who is investigating this. He retires in 2 wks.

Trailer has been purchased for £700. Group thanked AH for his work on this. Wheel clamp applied and stored behind the TRC arena.

### 6. Correspondence

None reported.

## **7. Projects and Funding**

Meeting with Alistair Mutch from FC A/A. Interested in our projects. FC interested in projects which will have a lasting legacy. FET also looking for environmental projects. Proposed Saline Path as far as the White Gates would meet their criteria. A separate application could be made to fund leaflets for the WFWW.

## **8. Membership**

No new membership applications this month.

## **9. Training**

5 members have attended the first day of Weed Killing Training. Further 2 sessions to take place on 16th and 20th December.

## **10. Path Network signage sub - committee update.**

- a) FW & LM met with Robert Nelson (owner of Plague Grave path). Proposal to commence initial work on this path on 9th December (prior to the Christmas lunch) to identify which trees need to be cut down by Robert and where the drainage ditches need to be situated plus cutting back any overhanging branches/gorse along the path. This will be a joint project with Robert Nelson. He will use his mini digger to cut out the ditches and will also collect and store any blaze that the group can acquire. It is hoped to carry out the main work on 17th/18th January. We hope we will get as many volunteers as possible to carry out this job then, weather permitting.
- b) Alex Brewster has commenced work on the drainage of the path at the West Kirk. Some work still to finish this off but noted improvement so far.
- c) FW to order signage discs.

## **11. Woodland Workouts**

It was agreed that a sub leader responsible for H&S and ensuring that the first aid kit, signs etc are taken on site, and generally assisting the leader, should be appointed at each workout. Andy, Frank and Alan have volunteered to take up this role.

9th December - Plague Grave Path until 11am. Christmas Lunch. 12.30-1pm.

Meet at Plague Grave path entrance (Blair Mains Farm opposite side of the A985 to the Saw Mill). Leader SW. Sub AT.

16th December - Training for 5 members

- Work on the hedge at the Orchard. Clearing the base and transplanting small beech seedlings in the spaces at the base of the hedge.

23rd December - No workout

30th December - No workout

6th January - Balgownie Woods paths

13th January - Balgownie Woods paths

17th/18th January - Plague Graves Path .

## **12. AOCB**

- a) AT approached by a teacher from McLean PS. Interested in the use of the seating area at the Orchard. Torryburn PS also interested. AT to communicate with the schools to encourage use of the area.
- b) TRC delighted with the work that AH and JT have done to clear the ditch running into the Bluther burn. Now running freely.
- c) An article on Path Development Projects in Scotland was published in the Sunday Herald on 1/12/19, mentioning the work done by the WFWG. LM to email the article to the group.
- d) The Snowdrop Walk info was too late to go into the south Dunfermline newsletter but will be put on Facebook and their website.

## **Date of next 2 Meetings**

Thursday 16th January, 2020 at 7 pm  
Thursday 13th February, 2020 at 7 pm  
(Room booked for these dates).

Minutes compiled by LM in the absence of AT.