

West Fife Woodlands



Minutes of Meeting Held at Blairhall Community Centre: Thursday 06 July 2017

Attendance:

Stan Welch, Ronnie Collins, John Rogers, Andy Trumper, Alex Spence, Alan McGuckin, Maggie Dalgleish, Alistair Hendry, David Welch, Frank Waterworth, Liz McMullan, Bobby Clelland .

1. Chair's Welcome

Chair Stan Welch welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Apologies

, Peter McMullen, Lynda Milne, Hilda Carmichael

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting 01/06/17

Proposed by Alistair Hendry, Seconded by Andy Trumper.

4. Matters Arising

None.

5. Floor Limit expenditure since previous meeting:

Since the last meeting, there have been two items of expenditure; £308.56 to cover the insurance renewal and £575 for the purchase of a new brushcutter. The purchase of the latter was funded by FCS.

6. Treasurer's Report

Frank W, Treasurer, provided a report on the group's current financial standing.

7. Correspondence

None received.

8. FCS update

No date has yet been agreed for the FCS audit. JR and AT have reviewed the site signage and replaced/updated where appropriate. Signs have also been produced to warn walkers where brushcutter activities are being carried out. Ronnie offered to fit these onto posts.

Andrew Clark of FCS visited the workout on Monday 3rd July.

9. Proposed organisational change to the group's status.

AMcG has been in contact with Helen Rorrison of Voluntary Action who provided some options open to WFW.

WFW are to go back to her with the groups preferred option as to the groups future legal structure and the pro's and Con's will be discussed to enable WFW to arrive at a decision.

The main options are

SC10 (charity)

Or Charity and company limited by guarantee.

There is a limit to our flexibility with SC10 and we have to work within our objectives and Constitution. These would need to be approved by the Charitable Regulator.

Agreed a meeting would be set up with Helen Rorrison to discuss the options. The group at the meeting were swaying towards SC10 status.

Action JR/AT

10 Woodland Workouts – scheduled activities to next meeting

The planned activities for four Mondays are as follows:

10 July:

Remove thistle, docks and other invasive plants in the orchard.

Continue the work on the second container.

A third team will work on cutting back the paths around the orchard, and areas around the benches in Valleyfield

17 July:

Clear the paths between the two bridges in Balgownie Woods, cut the grass around the picnic area, and the path to the beech avenue.

24 July:

Prune the soft fruit trees in the orchard.

31 July:

Continue with the work on the path between Saline and Steelend.

Total workout hours completed since previous monthly meeting: 156 hours.

Total workout hours since 05/09/16: 1618 hours.

In respect of the second container, 3 steel supports have been fitted by Geyer Plant of Shiresmill but the roof still sags. Angle irons have been ordered which will lift the roof to allow run off. These should arrive by 10 July. The external works can not be completed until this work has been done.

11.Saline-Steelend footpath (additional item to the agenda)

Work has started on the above project. There have been issues regarding access around the golf course. The Course Secretary was not aware of the footpath proposal. Donald Murdoch to resolve before we carry out any further work.

Work has been carried out to the footpath from the eastern approach to The Temple. 2 benches have been added to the path. The fencing around the Temple is to be left in place.

JR raised the question of future maintenance of the path. Further discussions are to be had in this respect.

12. Blairhall / Balgownie Path project update

FET-AT advised that written FET approval had been received with the condition we must obtain Leader match funding. However additional questions had just been raised by FET including the requirement to have written confirmation from the Planning Dept that Planning Permission was not required. This will be raised at a meeting FW is to have with Leader next week.

Leader Funding- FW taking this application back on. Leader have asked for additional information on the Project Plan and other areas of the application. FW will update and seek a meeting with Leader and FET next week to resolve.

FW obtained a letter from SW confirming that WFW have no funds of its own to proceed with the project.

Action FW/AT

13 Orchard Garden Project update Year 4

JR and AT held a pre start meeting on 30 June with Gordon Walker and the appointed contactor (MW Groundworks). A date for the work to commence was not fixed but work was expected to start by the end of July. The contract should last no longer than 7 days. The contractor is aware of the necessity of working with the Riding Centre and being respectful of their procedures. A generator and toilet facilities would be set up in the car park. JR to inform Fife Council. JR spoke about an opening ceremony in September with possible funding from Inner Forth

Action JR

RC agreed to look into other sponsorship opportunities.

Action RC

14. AOCB:

Frank is to review the work programme to include for additional work to the walled garden area.

Action FW

JR confirmed he had purchased a brush cutter, additional PPE, an extendable branch cutter/saw and a hedge trimmer from Forth Grass Machinery. A 20% discount was received for the brush cutter and hedge trimmer.

AT confirmed WFW would be receiving £910 following a funding application to West Fife Local Community Fund.

JR confirmed the second container purchase and repair costs had reached £1,110.

15. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the group will on **Thursday 03 August 2017** commencing 7pm at Blairhall Community Centre.

Meeting ended 9pm.

Minutes prepared and completed by Andrew Trumper, Assistant Secretary, West Fife Woodlands.

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