



West Fife Woodlands



Notes of Meeting Held at Blairhall Community Centre: Thursday 2nd August 2018

Attendance

Frank Waterworth (FW), Hilda Carmichael (HC), Alistair Hendry (AH), Andy Trumper (AT), Ronnie Collins (RC), Stan Welch (SW), Liz McMullan (LM) and Peter McMullan (PM).

1. Chair's Welcome

Chair: Stan Welch welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Lynda Milne, David Welch, and Alan McGuckin.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting 7/06/18

Proposed by Alistair Hendry, Seconded by Hilda Carmichael.

4. Matters Arising

1. SW has contacted Andrew Clark to discuss a number of actions. Awaits reply.
2. FW - aluminium labels for orchard trees completed by Angela W. 1/4 tied on and remainder still to be attached.
3. FW - Joanna Willi has sent a template of birdbox/batbox. Requires one piece of wood to make 2 boxes at £9.93 per piece. IFLI may be able to fund this. Plan: FW to purchase 10 pieces of wood from B&Q. Various members keen to create the boxes.
4. FW - Sinking Fund for next grass cutter to be ring-fenced.
At present x3 cuts at Daly Gardens - £150.
5. AT has reformatted the stationery to acknowledge WFWG's new charity status.

5. Floor Limit expenditure since previous meeting

Nil.

6. Treasurer's Report

FW provided details of the group's current financial position.
JLeM has guaranteed funding for this yr from IFLI for £500 which will be paid to the WFW website account.

7. Correspondence

1. Email from JLeM reported the remains of a fire was found behind the new seating area at the orchard. Should a barbecue area be built? Members not keen to implement this as it may encourage a further fire risk. The situation will be monitored.
2. Invitation to Paths For All Awards on 20/9/18 at the Scottish Parliament.
SW, RC and AH to attend. RC and AH have been nominated for an individual award and the West Fife Woodlands Group have been nominated for the group award.

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8. WFW AGM

Date: 18th Oct

Time: 7pm

Room is booked.

AMcG/FW/AT to meet prior to this to discuss the constitution and format of the AGM.

Guest speaker: Colin Edwards, Forestry Commission.

Topic for 30-minute talk: Butterflies, Moths and Environmental projects.

Requirements: a screen for projecting (FW has a projector if necessary).

Catering: all attendees to bring a contribution.

9. Woodland Workouts – scheduled activities to next meeting

Week 1: West Bing to Balgownie Water Meadow - brush cutting and sickle cutting

Week 2: Balgownie Woods - fern cutback

Week 3: West Bing - cut back path from below the viewpoint, going east towards E. Grange

Week 4: Balgownie to Devilla new path - dog-leg hedge cutting and cut back bracken

Week 5: Weather dependent - varnishing of benches (RC to purchase yacht varnish and brushes and leave in container)

Completed tasks:

Upper terrace of the walled garden was cut back by AH on 23/7/18.

Steading grass cut by AH on 2/8/18.

10. Blairhall to Devilla Forest path project – update

17/7/18 - email from Maggie Dalgleish who was concerned re. quality of fencing on new path.

18/7/18 - Site meeting. AH and AT in attendance. Noted loose fence posts and use of sub-standard fencing materials. Wire was attached to the wrong side of the posts.

Subcontracted fencer had no copy of the specification. Gordon Walker unhappy with the work.

Following this meeting, update on fencing 2/8/18:

Fencing progress is slow but steady. The materials have been swapped over and a high tensile fence is now being erected.

The fence from the gates at the Devilla end of the Drove Road up to the dog-leg is being completed 2/8/18.

The dog-leg section should be completed 3/8/18.

Within the contract, Scott Walker has agreed to:

1. Clear off more of the spoil
2. Remove the bund at the end of the hedgerow
3. Import screened blaes to build up the road edge
4. Trial some of the screened blaes on a section of the path where larger loose blaes is forming the surface.

He intends to carry out these works early next week.

FW has met with the Brewsters and Dalgleishes and it has been agreed that for security, Locking Collars should be fitted to the gates.

11. Community orchard update

The contractor will be out w/c 6/8/18 to redo the community orchard area footpaths which are currently not laid to the correct specification.

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12. Sub-committee update on Opening Ceremony for new footpath.

Initial meeting held 25/7/18

- Date and time: Saturday 13th October, 12 noon
- Jim Leishman has been approached to open the path. Awaiting response.
- Circular marquee booked. Requires 5-6 people to erect.
- Stubble field alongside Balgownie Woods available for marquee and parking.
- Guest list being compiled.

13. AOCB / Date of next meeting

RC showed the group an enlarged OS map of the West Fife area. He proposes using this map to work with a cartographer to create route-map information boards to be posted at various locations (locations tbd). His proposals were met with enthusiasm by the group.

Thursday 6th September 2018 commencing 7pm at Blairhall Community Centre.

Meeting ended 8.50pm.

Minutes prepared and completed by Liz McMullan, West Fife Woodlands.

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