

# West Fife Woodlands



## Notes of Meeting

Held at Blairhall Community Centre: Thursday 7th February 2019

### Members Meeting

#### Attendance

Hilda Carmichael (HC), Alistair Hendry(AH), Frank Waterworth (FW), Ronnie Collins (RC), David Welch (DW) Andy Trumper (AT) Alan McGuckin (AMC) Maggie Dalgleish (MD) and Stan Welch (SW).

#### 1. Chair's Welcome

Chair Stan Welch welcomed all to the meeting.

#### 2. Apologies

Lynda Milne, Liz and Peter McMullan.

#### 3. Minutes of Previous Meeting 10/1/19

Proposed by Hilda Carmichael, Seconded by Alistair Hendry .

#### 4. Matters Arising

RC to get quotes for WFW cards. To change name of secretary and insert Charity number. **ACTION RC.**

SW/AT/FW met Gordon walker re works in Valleyfield Woods. These are likely to continue into March. Type 1 path above ice cave to proceed. WFW asked if the lower section of path from top wood path to second rustic bridge could be attended to. The car park will not be relaid until contract is finished, probably after the Festival has finished.

WFW looking for financial assistance to maintain bridges and benches.

AT submitted work time sheets for 2018/19 to Gordon Walker for discussion with Council and Forestry Commission.

#### 5. Treasurer's Report

FW provided details of the group's current financial position. Expenditure over the "floor limit" of £200 this month- £287 to Multiprint. £2,527.68 to Graham Construction for latest valuation for new footpath.

AT confirmed the group had received funding of £1,170 from Fife Council LCPB fund following a successful application. £600 is for training and group agreed this would be used to train John Thompson to Forestry Commission standards to drive a quad bike and trailer on Forestry land. Also brushcutter training. **ACTION SW to speak to FC.**

#### 6. Correspondence

FW received an email from sue walker at IFLI stating the interpretation board at the orchard would be replaced free of charge as there has been experience of warping at other sites. **ACTION FW to respond.**

AT reminded group of the Valleyfield Heritage Project meeting on 20 Feb. **Action SW/AT/FW to attend.**

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RC has been in contact with SEPA re pollution of Bluther Burn.

### **7. Membership**

**AMC** informed group John Thompson had applied to be a member of the group. All Trustees at meeting agreed to this.

AMC advised he had received 29 positive responses to the e mail to all re continued membership of WFW. AMC circulated the list to the group and this was agreed by all in attendance.

### **8. Snowdrop Walks-sub committee update**

The guided walks started last weekend. STRC agreed that visitors for guided walks could use their car park. Signage prepared.

The guide books will be left in the container after each walk.

The stall at the Kingsgate last weekend was a success. 21 maps were sold and well as speaking to a large number of interested passers-by.

AT had a press release in the Press and has submitted an article to the Glasgow Herald which it is hoped will be published this Saturday.

SW and DW are taking a number of groups around outwith the weekend walks.

### **9. Muirhead to Devilla Forest path project – update**

**FW** speaking to FET and Leader regarding the final valuation. The gates have now been installed. MD to review. Project Managers fee and additional payment to contractor for strainers to be paid. Project close to being finally completed and signed off.

**ACTION FW**

### **10.Path network signage**

AT circulated the sub-committee minutes to the group.

### **11. Woodland Workouts – scheduled activities to next meeting**

The planned activities as follows:

**11<sup>th</sup> February**- Finish repair steps on footpath behind the Shiresmill Therapy riding centre and complete maintenance in the orchard.

**18<sup>th</sup> February** –.Pruning of orchard and erection of bird and bat boxes.

**25<sup>th</sup> February**- Maintenance of wildflower meadow on west bing and cleaning of bridge over Bluther Burn.

**4<sup>th</sup> March**- Clearing of drainage ditches in Valleyfield.

### **13. AOCB / Date of next meeting**

RC waiting on decision on funding from Scotsmid.

AT to contact Winterwatch re recent programme on wildflower meadow on Speyside.

#### **Action AT**

SW and RC seeking permission to work on Bath Moor woods to open up existing footpaths.

**Next Meeting -Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March** commencing 7pm at Blairhall Community Centre.

Meeting ended 8.55 pm.

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

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