

MINUTES OF MEETING OF PORTMOAK COMMUNITY WOODLAND GROUP held on 16TH September 2014

PRESENT: Jeff Gunnell (Chair), Dave Batchelor, Louise Batchelor, Lesley Botten, Alison Bradley, Elaine Carruthers, Stuart Garvie, Mike McGinness.

APOLOGIES: Gary Bolton, Dave Carruthers, Karen McDonnell.

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: Approved by Committee.
2. WOODLAND TRUST UPDATE: (1) Kilmagadwood - Louise said that Gary had sent her information for judges of Kinross-shire Environmental Award. They were very pleased with the trees on the hill noted they were coming away very well, and asked who the supplier was. They were very impressed with the orchard. The meeting was successful, but this was the first on a long list of venues the judges had to look at. An awards ceremony will be held where the successful applicant will be announced. Woodland Trust was congratulated on the mowing of the square and the path in the orchard prior to the visit of the judges. **Action: Gary to be asked to check for ash die back.** (2) Portmoak Moss - **Action: Gary to be asked to get SNH to review work.** When is sphagnum to be squirted back on to bog? **Liaise with Gary as to when – within next 6 weeks?** Ask Gary what happened to new sign. Would Matt be able to refurbish the old sign to erect on the other side of the Moss.
3. LIVING LOMONDS LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP: They will finish before Xmas. **Tell community about this and let them react to proposal. PCWG will publicise proposal.** Very impressive list of contacts for funding. Successful meeting of Mike McGinness, Jeff Gunnell and Stuart Garvie with Robin Payne. A 5 year commitment from WT would be helpful – ideas and ballpark figure at this stage: establish cost for paths and then consider routes. Jeff to act as consolidator and communicator with Robin Payne and the sub-group will receive emails. Whole Group will have a monthly conference call. Robin Payne to meet committee before appearing before community. Lesley has started spreadsheet of hours, Caroline wanted to know our volunteer hours some of which had been incurred before work was formally started. Lesley is clearing this with Caroline Collie. There were 50 hours of preliminary work. Robin wants to do work in two intensive sessions. The sub-committee is to clarify instructions to Andrea Partridge: WT maintain the existing paths so they do not require to be surveyed but we too require advice on where paths may most appropriately be sited for the long-term stability of the Moss and also to allow access.
4. SIGNAGE ON KILMAGAD: Raised at Community Council. Signs provided by George Lawrie, Chair of Living Lomonds Landscape Partnership. Complaints about nature of signs which are warning signs about cattle and calves..
5. ORCHARD: There was discussion as to whether Appletreeman should be recalled but it was thought preferable we should consider whether to join the Community Orchard Association. We should also clear the excess of native trees from the North side of the orchard. A basket of apples is to be taken to the village shop.
6. TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer reported the following transactions since the last meeting:
Paid to Robin Payne £135.45 re travel expenses for Robin, Andrea and Carol for attending interview.
Paid to Richard Lockett £40.00 re travel expenses for attending interview.

Balance in bank £2,806.02
7. AOB: (1) Vision for Kilmagadwood – to be considered at next meeting. **Each committee member to consider how this should progress.** (2) List of events – draw up calendar for January – December 2015 showing one event per month. Encourage WT to repeat Lantern Event in Moss, scything; the Burns Supper will be considered at next meeting

Meeting closed 8.58 pm