

MINUTES FOR 20.8.19 MEETING PCWG

1. Present; Stuart, Krys Jeff, Louise, Dave B, Dave C, Elaine, Sheena, John, Marje, Charlotte

2. Apologies; Graham, Lesley, Mike, Gary, Stu, Callum

3. Minutes of the last meeting; VG - no further amendments

4. WTS update including scrub control, maintenance work, PhD student: PhD student; very welcome by the group and we will invite he/she to our meetings

Boardwalk to be repaired along with the decaying wood on steps and bridges

Gary has revised plan on scrub control which will now be done in Sept/Oct

5. PCWG report for WT (unsafe trees/bridges etc)

Grass cutting is required in Kilmagadwood paths

A hazard has been identified at the Grahamstone entry to the Moss - large pieces of broken glass are lying on the surface of the paths

Louise will ask Gary to clarify the Peatland Action funding plan and find out how we, as a group, can help with the process

6. Treasurer's report;

Portmoak Community Woodland Group

Treasurer's Report : 20 August 2019

Transactions between 16 July and 20 Aug 2019:-

Paid to

Marjorie Smith (plaque for Chris's bench) 8.00

Wellside Power Wash (6x orchard mows) 180.00

Income

Interest earned to 13 June 2019 0.87

Portmoak Festival grant (for Bog booklet) 395.00

estimated balance in bank **£5,615.87**

7. Portmoak Fest funding and the Bog booklet

Many thanks to Elaine for processing the funding application which has been met in full. Ideas of the contents of the booklet should be passed to Marje.

8. Dipwell data

Sheena and Stuart are planning more dipwells and the data will be sent to Jeff ASAP.

9. Events - birch pulling 15.9.19, apple day 22.9.19 WTS training day 7.9.19

Birch pulling; Mike has kindly provided a plan of the bog with areas 1-15 mapped on. Various conservation groups will attend along with most of the committee.

We will need all the saws and the poppers, priority is to take up the smaller trees first and those that can be cut at the roots with the saws. We will also need trugs.

All the groups have their own lunches, first aid and leaders etc.

At the meeting it was suggested that Lesley was the leaser for this day.

John will provide toilet facilities.

Apple Day; Louise will be the leader for this day. The event has been advertised in the Kinross newsletter and more information will go out via our email network and posters. Everyone needs to be thinking of good apple recipes, Dave C has already offered to provide his 'rustic tarts'! A list of actions will be provided at our next meeting.

WTS training day; an invitation has gone to those involved

10. Dragonfly meeting 10am car-park 22.8.19

A document has been sent out to all involved with this day. Please find the response from Peatland Action below:

I'd agree with Andrew's advice that if small ponds need to be created, they should be well away from the edge and located centrally where possible.

The photo of the drain with plastic dams; this looks like the main drain running close to the eastern edge of the peatland. I'd recommend that this isn't tinkered around with anymore.

The 'dragonfly' group could perhaps consider creating a few shallow bunded pools centrally? Essentially these are a bit like the scrapes that farmers put in their fields to benefit waders.

Small scale work to create suitable dragonfly habitat I feel is acceptable, but the key issue is to make sure it doesn't lead to water loss from the peat.

Colin

Colin Castle | Operations Officer Tayside & Grampian | Project Officer [Peatland ACTION](#)

11. Himalayan Balsam

John provided a very useful map showing the areas which have been cleared and the areas where the infestation is still rife. Approx. 50% has now been cleared from the area within the map. More work to be done!

12. AOB

Graham provided the files of photos of the posters showing the work done by the children from PPS. Jeff will put these onto the website and give the files to Mike.

Stamash is advertising the Apple Day

Dave/Louise to ask Angus to check out our new bench re treating it

Please pass Red Squirrel sightings to Nic - nitlaanee@hotmail.com

13. Date of next meeting 17.9.19