

Draft Minutes

Meeting 20.06.2023 19:30 Well Country Inn

1. **Present:** Jeff, Louise, Dave, Sheena, Elaine, Dave C, Charlotte, Simon, Izzy
2. **Apologies:** Tanji, Marje, Graham, Stuart, Stu, Nic, Lesley, Michael
3. **Minutes** from 16.5.23

Approval Charlotte, seconded by Jeff

4. **PCWG report**

Welcome to Izzy

Discussion highlighted that the focus of efforts is the continued restoration of the Moss. The need for a long term strategy to deal with birch regeneration is vital (recent treatment of birch with a brush cutter has resulted in coppicing) and the group are keen to participate in the revision to the Management Plan.

Jeff requested a kick off meeting with Izzy and Roy around the roles of WT and PCWG going forward. It was noted that the long term vision which Alistair Seaman challenged the group to develop, along with thoughts for the revision to the management plan for Portmoak Moss and the group's position on future make up will all be key to informing this forthcoming discussion.

Current site issues

The structure which supports the steps at Kilmagadwood needs repaired

Action – Simon to take photos and send to Izzy

Orchid strimming – discussion around timing/ necessity – wall photo used to show Izzy where the orchids are found, on the north side of the path on the seat side of the main ditch on the peat dome

Need for update on PCWG involvement on the VIP day – Louise is contact

CBeebies are to be filming at the Moss at the end of July

5. **WT Update**

Izzy to have a walk around with Roy, and separately with group members in advance of sit down meeting referred to above

Action – Izzy to confirm date to Jeff in due course

Izzy identified that there is potential to seed the recently re-profiled area, with sphagnum plug plants set into coir matting – could be a volunteer activity

Signs highlighting no fires on site provided to group for Kilmagadwood and the Moss

Action – Louise and Dave to put up at entrances

Used tree guards – Lesley to contact Izzy with regards collection of tree guards removed from Kilmagadwood – hopefully good quality ones should be able to be re-used by WT

Action: Lesley contact Izzy

6. Treasurers report

Transactions since last meeting (16 May)

Paid out

Kiri Stone 4 Whittling Workshops 142.00

(19 persons x £6 each + £28 travel)

Income since last meeting

Donation from group Stitch Colour Cloth 50.00

Michael gave a talk on the Stone of Destiny

Cash donations from Whittling Workshops 127.00

(there will be a little bit more as 1 person's contribution was made by bank transfer and the amount isn't known until a bank statement arrives).

7. Plan for the year

Action: Stuart to share plan for year with Izzy

Action: Louise to contact Michael with regards 13th August birch pulling

Action: Jeff to undertake risk assessment for 4th September SEPA volunteer birch pulling – request to all again for support/ chatting on the day

Action: Louise to do risk assessment for PCWG Apple Day

Action: Dave B to speak to Stuart and others regarding bird box making event – Mid October

8. Updates

Interpretation work continuing in WT

Costs too high for installation of monitoring equipment for data to be collected for Forth ERA project – link to data from NatureScot continuous monitors on site shared with project team and interest in future involvement indicated, with understanding that any such would be discussed and agreed with WT

Portmoak PS pupils undertook ash die back study with results to be shared with WT

Portmoak Festival events were a success!

9. AOB

Sale of church and car park – the importance of the car park for many users, including access for Kilmagadwood discussed

Action: Louise to write to head of Community Council with suggestion of a public meeting with regards proposals

Dragonflies are back at the Moss