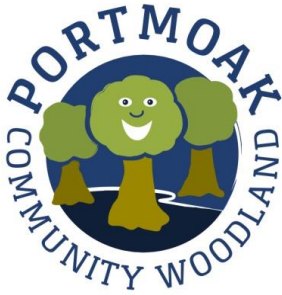




PCWG Meeting 18 July 23 7:30pm (at The Well Inn) Minutes-Draft

1. Present: Jeff, Louise & Dave, Izzy, Elaine, Dave C, Tanji
2. Apologies: Stuart, Marge, Graeme, Simon, Sheena, Nic, Stu
3. Minutes approved by Louise, seconded by Tanji
 - Meeting with Izzy, Roy : Moss/Kilmagadwood Aug 4th. Follow up at Perth office, date TBD. Izzy to find out if Alastair Seaman to join
 - Steps at Kilmagadwood: Elaine, Louise & Izzy to visit after this meeting
 - SEPA birch pull Mon Sept 4th: TRA and event notification: Jeff
 - Interpretation boards: no money until May 24/25 budget. Sub-committee will review Eilidh's latest report/photos/proposals
 - Church car park sale: in hand with PCC (per Louise)
4. WT Update: Izzy will do a "Woodland Assessment" so she has a baseline from which to start. Last one done in 2016.
 - Per DB, sycamores along Kilmagad-Michael Bruce Way are affected by something over the past 2 years—leaves showing effects
 - Ash Dieback-PPS & Marje report-Izzy willing to visit school to discuss/education tie-in
 - Action: Volunteer event to remove plastic tree guards
 - Izzy getting quotes for removing fence & gate in SE corner-above Tetley/MB steps
5. Website: would be good to have more updates (upcoming events, news, Marje's eco/school partnership info) uploaded. Michael B has said he is happy to field queries from the group. Ap-point owners of subject areas (Jeff?). Re-training plan-LB to ask MB and get back to group
6. Plan for the year:
 - i. Birch Pulling: 13th August JG Event notification & risk assessment; 4th September SEPA
 - ii. Woodland Trust Apple Days: September 23, 25, 26 **Louise is looking for volunteer support-please contact Louise if you can help. LB to liaise with MM re: number of PCWG volunteers required
 - iii. Apple Day: 1st October. Andrew Lear confirmed for that date. Cost TBD. Need to schedule apple tree thinning and grass cutting.
 - iv. Xmas tree day: 10th December
 - v. Bird box building: November weekend Date tbd. DB & SG liaising with bird box expert
7. Marje's Interpretation/Biodiversity booklets/Ash Dieback:
 - Ash dieback
SUMMARY
32 trees were surveyed within the Ash tree planting area.
94% showed splits in the bark indicative of the disease
88% had end branches which snapped easily indicating that they had no xylem or phloem.
This is characteristic of the disease
Many of the trees were still showing some signs of growth
69% had buds



47% had leaves

97% had side-branches

A further survey next year might help to indicate the disease progression

The children estimated that 6 new trees should be planted to fill in the gaps which will be formed when the ash trees die.

The method used to estimate this is not easily described in my wee summary but I could demonstrate with help from Mike and Lesley!

Portmoak Biodiversity Booklet

Funding of £400 from the Portmoak festival is confirmed - this will pay for the designer. I have already had one meeting with the designer.

Loch Leven's larder and Loch End Farm shop will pay for the printing

Now we just need to write the words and decide Captain Carbon's route for his latest adventure.

I have another idea about occasional posters on the route. I will await Lesley's return to discuss this with her when we walk some proposed routes. Any suggestions welcome and if anyone else fancies a Biodiversity walk with me just let me know.

- Many thanks to Marje for her work on obtaining Portmoak Festival grant funding for the Portmoak Biodiversity Booklet

8. AOB

1. Volunteer recruitment-JG to follow up
2. LB will write in Kinross newsletter people can help themselves to tree guards stacked at west entrance to Kilmagad
3. Next agenda: Query WT volunteer policy?