

Portmoak Community Woodland Steering Group

Meeting: 17th August 2006, The Well Country Inn

Present: J.Shepherd, S.Garvie, K.McDonnell, J.Gunnell, D Batchelor, A.Bradley, R.Barlow, R.McDonnell

Apologies: E.Carruthers, J.Gunnell, M.Brown, L.Batchelor

Woodland Trust Update

R.Barlow: Has surveyed path network, those present reflected on how the woodland had been used. Discussed the formal and informal paths within the Moss, recorded which required to be upgraded and/or be added to the maintenance schedule for the woodland. Agreed that a work day should be scheduled following the October holidays to clear birch along the path created by JS and RMcD (alternative route for walkers during 2nd phase of felling) .

2nd bridge put in by JS and RMcD to be relocated, in order to fulfill a more useful purpose. All-abilities route to be revisited, hopefully with input from Disabled ramblers group, slope adjacent to rhododendron to be re-graded.

Birch Pulling: BTCV to have involvement also Fife Air Cadets. PCW agreed to be involved in birch pulling within area 3a, minimum of 2 days per annum.

Kilmagadwood: RB to progress with draft plan, to suggest that lower segment is deer fenced, which is likely to be controversial. The medium term view being to gradually build up the tree density on lower slopes. KMcD booked room at Well Country Inn for September meeting in order this can take place.

BBC/WT Autumn Watch: RB in early stages of event planning for 7/8th October, group member participation sought if possible.

Leaflet Dispenser: ongoing

Interpretation: H.Rolton to be approached for input into interpretation board explaining raised peat bog restoration. KMcD to take forward.

Viewpoint Indicator: Discussed in detail, what will actual board dimensions be?, this will assist in identifying point size for text. Regards text, information has been provided by Dr Munro. M.McG to consider and select out 'general indicators' and subsequently focus on heightening awareness of local sites of interest. Once have text can ask Osprey to provide a mock up for our consideration.

Weather data: Collection on-going, 12mm rain over last 2 months

Treasurer's Report: £1507.32 in account, need to settle account for Kinross Show and rejoin Reforesting Scotland.

Website: www.portmoakcw.org.uk Up and running, JG has made a broad range of other bodies aware and links between sites have been established.

JG has undertaken 20hrs activity in relation to project equivalent to £500 funding. Discussed using images from calendar to produce postcards, perhaps take some local views also. JS to seek costing from Trojan(6 by 4 postcard, 6 images print run of 250?, plus associated costs for a blank greeting cards. Also considered purchasing an additional rail for the sawmill approx £300.

Timber (Community Use) Removal from Site: WT contractor unable to handle timber on basis of size, discussed 'locating' 4ft blade chainsaw. D.Batchelor to speak with Ali Hibbert regards suitability of woodmiser.

Kinross Show: Success, £16.20 income from trees/grasses.

AoCB

MSc Resource Management: student questionnaire in relation to peat moss utilisation, question set suggests that the student/supervisor have no insight into the significance of this habitat, KMcD to send over BBC weblink to topic for consideration.

Next meeting 21st September 2006 Well Country Inn 1930hrs