

## **Portmoak Community Woodland Steering Group**

**Meeting:** 17th April 2008 The Well Country Inn

Present: K.McDonnell, R.Barlow, J.Shepherd, S.Garvie, J.Gunnell,E & D.Carruthers, L&D Batchelor, M.Brown,A.Bradley,M.McGinnes, L.Botten

Apols: M.Hogg, J.Gunnell

March mins agreed.

### **Woodland Trust Update**

**Additional Land Purchase:** Process moving forward, positive news regards potential to access legacies for funding purposes, land is 4.76 ha extends from access to kilmagad along to sheep pens. There will be a national campaign plus 'local' leaflet, a number of photographs have been taken to support this. PCW group to draft some text to encourage locals to donate in order to improve access, and safeguard both the environment and future of landscape, 1,000 coppies to be provided and deelivered locally  
WT in touch with Church of Scotland regards 0.18ha apparently 'ear-marked'for a carpark (last 40years), looking at acquiring/leasing or working in partnership, whilst this has been discussed locally, has to go thourgh Churchj of Scotland HQ in George Street.  
WT property management committee meet on 22nd April to finalise RB very hopeful.

### **The Moss**

M.McG advised that there is the potential for a dam collapse at the far end of the raised peat bog, Anna (WT) to liaise with M.McG to address, potential for 4oft of water to 'escape'. Mike also reported that there had been a significant increase in the growth of sphagnum on the peat crown

### **Horses**

Continue to monitor use of paths and any adverse impact on surface as a consequence of riding through Moss.

### **Ramp removal**

WT advised this would be time consuming and therefore costly versus potential benefit, meeting agreed that removal not a current option

### **Duke of Edinburgh Awards**

Calum McIntyre is to undertake voluntary activity within the Moss includes, path repair, rhododendron and holly removal. Risk assessment for young person required, work will be supervised by members of PCW steering group.

### **Interpretation**

S.Garvie advised that this is progressing well, J.Gunnell to provide pictures of mosses, suggested the use of tree stumps to creat base for boards.

**Viewpoint Indicator**

Ongoing

**Treasurers Report**

£2271.39 in account, D.Batchelor to submit receipt to allow chainsaw and first aid training fees to be refunded. Agreed that following settling these fees 50% of remaining funds be contributed to the purchase of additional land at Kilmagadwood.

**Postcards/Greeting Cards**

Ongoing require to resolve to raise funds at Christamas fair

**Refuge Area:** WT involved in drawing this matter to a close...

**Next Meeting: Thursday 15th May The Well Country Inn**