

Portmoak Community Woodland Group

Annual General Meeting

16 April 2019

Attendees

Elaine Carruthers	Leslie Botten	Charlotte Vlasto	Mike McGinness
Stuart Garvie	Dave Carruthers	Jeff Gunnell	Graham Smith
Marje Smith	Louise Batchelor	Sheena Buchanan	John Whiteford
Gary Bolton			

Apologies

Nic Cassidy	Stuart Byers	Dave Batchelor
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Date

16 April 2018

Location

Well Inn, Scotlandwell

1. Election of office bearers

Current Chair: Jeff Gunnell
Current Secretary: Louise Batchelor
Current Treasurer: Lesley Botten

All prepared to serve again. Nominations, proposers and seconds for each position as follows:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominated</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Seconded</u>
<u>Chair</u>	Jeff Gunnell No other nominations Jeff Gunnell elected	Louise Batchelor	Marje Smith
<u>Secretary</u>	Louise Batchelor No other nominations Louise Batchelor elected	Stuart Garvie	Elaine Carruthers
<u>Treasurer</u>	Lesley Botten No other nominations Lesley Botten elected	Dave Carruthers	Charlotte Vlasto

This will be the fifth year for this group as the office bearers. We'd like there to be some change from time to time to keep things fresh and not to over burden the incumbents.

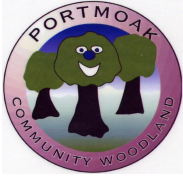
2. Accounts

Submitted by the treasurer, Lesley Botten.

Opening balance	£6931.33
Closing balance	£6930.00
Surplus for 2017/18	£ -1.33

Full accounts attached.

Overall we are pleased with the state of our finances. We have enough in the bank that we can continue to make our events free of charge, (donations accepted). We can organise the Burns event without worrying that we could end up in debt. We can respond rapidly if an important opportunity crops up, like buying more land or matching funding for a project. We can take the lead on things that the WT might not be able to fund.



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3. Review of the year

- Many events were put on - for a full list see the website. Included in the list were Scotland's National Bog Day in July, Apple Day in September, Christmas Tree Day in December and the Burns Ceilidh in February.
- We have put much time into popping and pulling to control birch regen and large areas are now looking good. This effort will continue.
- The water table continues to rise. After a long dry period when it fell to a level as low as when we started, as soon as we got rain, the level rapidly increased to be nearly at the surface again.
- Chris's project has created a flat play and activity area at the orchard. Benches and a table will be put in place soon.
- Groups continue to monitor and count insects (moths, butterflies, damsel flies, dragon flies, bees) and birds.
- Six members of the team were training as first aiders to support our events.
- Marje Smith's educational work on 'Let's Talk Bogs' continues and many teachers have been training. Visits by classes are scheduled.
- We were visited by our local MP, Luke Graham and by Roseanna Cunningham, MSP and Cabinet Secretary for Environment, to learn more about the importance of peatlands..
- The Woodland Trust Volunteer Management Team visited us as part of their annual get together.

Overall a good mix of work activities, community events, education, publicity and awareness raising.

4. Changes to the constitution

- None proposed