

## **Portmoak Community Woodland Steering Group**

**Meeting:** 18th October 2007 The Well Country Inn

Present: K.McDonnell, Anna Caine (WT) M.McGinnes, L.Botten, J.Shepherd, S.Garvie, J.Gunnell, E.Carruthers

Apols: R.Barlow,M.Brown,A Bradley, R.McDonnell, L&D Batchelor

No matters arising from September minutes

### **Woodland Trust Update**

Weclomed Anna Caine Assistant Woodland Officer who will be involved with both the Moss and Kilmagadwood particularly birch control and dam monitoring.

#### **Birch control:**

AC monitoring impact of weed wiping activity in relation to birch control, advised that a lower concentration of chemicals had been used than previous attempts and that these had been used over a wider area. Initial 'die back' looks promising there will be ongoing survey of this, a further early weed wipe to coincide with leaf flush in the spring followed by activity in August will be undertaken by contractor under supervision of AC.

HR to contact David Pickett Reserve Manager at Flanders Moss to identify their success criteria in relation to birch control and overall 'health' of the moss. Also to arrange a mutually convenient date for site visit.

#### **Path repair:**

Wheelchair access under further consideration, RB had requested that a group member could accompany himself and AC to undertake a walkthrough survey, JS volunteered to attend. 29th October suggested as a suitable date.

#### **Large Logs:**

KMcD has contacted Mike Demsey, he is busy over the next few weeks but will arrange a mutually convenient date to visit site.

**Padlock at Moss** : has been replaced standard WT Squire padlock.

#### **Kilmagad path**

Works are complete, cost £700 will review again in Spring. WT extended thanks to PCC and PCW for donation towards path repair. There has also been a significant amount of gorse clearance, contractor to flatten stumps.

Access to Kilmagad, rotten fence to be replaced, dog access to be provided at stile.

#### **Visit to Flanders Moss**

Hilary Rolton had provided a number of dates to undertake a site visit of Flanders Moss, unfortunately these are week days and unsuitable, principally as a result of work commitments. HR to seek a weekend date.

## **Interpretation**

SG has arranged to take this forward, should there be an interest in producing the artwork, KMcD to draft a project brief including a history of the Moss, peat cutting etc.

**Viewpoint Indicator**

Ongoing

**Treasurers Report**

£1322.95

**Postcards/Greeting Cards**

To be resolved at November meeting.

**Squirrel Monitor**

L. Botten to update with MSc Student prior to November meeting. KMcD to contact RStrachan regards new squirrel officer/wardens in Fife.

**Community Woodland Association**

JS/SG interested in attending 9-11 November.

**Micheal Bruce Way Leaflet**

DB had circulated prior to feeding back to Charles McConnell and Niall Lobeley who is coordinating this activity.

**Burns Supper**

Following a discussion regards the costs per head of delivering the Burns Supper, it was decided to revise ticket cost to £19, KMcD to have tickets and posters printed by Trojan Press asap.

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