

Woodland minutes Mar 2016

Present Dave C, Elaine C, Dave B, Louise B, Mike McG, Jeff G, Stuart G, Alison, Nicola, Stewart, Chris, Sheena J, Gary Bolton, Lesley B, Charlotte M, Chloe

1. Woodland update. Gary talked about the management plan which becomes due in the autumn. He aired the possibility of taking out the trees in compartments 2a and 4a amounting to approx. 10 hectares = a third of the remaining conifers. This to be completed within the next 5 years. There would then be enrichment planting of oak and rowan and scots pine to supplement the regen birch. Questions about how it looks afterwards. Other discussion about the need to clear trees which are threatening to fall over. Observe the water table. Potential outcry from public. Need other works such as lag fen which improve the habitat. Areas of the moss will have to be closed during the works. Kilmagadwood management plan will be published next week. Not a great deal of change. A little more planting higher up the hill.
2. Hydrology. Data to go to Jeff for the website.
3. Map A2 size is at the printers.
4. Treasurers report. All burns supper transactions done £4800 in the bank
5. Burns Hall booked and Tich fixed for 21st Jan.
6. Lag fen funding. Jeff has applied to Patagonia and Esme Fairbairn. And will apply to the European Leda fund which P&K council hold. As SNH can't fund us, a plan B lag fen has been proposed to the right of the "dual carriageway"
7. AGM next month
8. Schools no change
9. Orchard Green sward . woodland trust not agin. O/W no progress.
10. Apple Day Oct 8 check
11. Apple pruning day 20th march Secateurs, pruning shears, eye protection, gloves and pruning saw
12. Signage at Grahamstone. Arranged for when Gary says.
13. Xmas pruning date 24th April
14. Loch Leven nature reserve management plan. Jeff, Louise and Gary attended. Formal proposal to include the Moss in the National Nature Reserve. Discussion of plusses and minuses. Group response required to SNH by 15th April.

AOB Stuart. Debbie's sphagnum ID event needs to be a weekend. And a public event.

Mike McG proposed an expedition to kill all the grey squirrels in the Lomond hills.