

PORTMOAK COMMUNITY WOODLANDS GROUP

Mar 21 2017 7.30pm The Well Country Inn

Minutes

1. Present **Dave B, Louise B, Mike McG, Stuart G, Alison B, Nicola B, Stewart B, , Lesley B, Sheena J, Jeff G, Elaine C, Dave C Charlotte Vlasto, Chloe Vlasto. Kirsty J**
2. **Apologies. Gary Bolton**
3. **Matters arising** not covered elsewhere in the agenda
 - A - **Burns supper 2018.** Tich and Missus Booked
 - B – **Lantern event** – aff!!
 - C – **Peatland Action** report Mike McG was there for us. Nobbling MSP's etc organized by Andrew McBride. **Scotland's peatlands lock up the equivalent of 100 years of Scotland's Carbon emissions.** £10 Mill available for peatland restoration. Other sources of funded from carbon offsetting.
 - D – **Peatland Action 2.** Jeff and the climate change seccy Scotland. Chloe and Kirsty established that she is Our MSP Roseanna Cunningham. Andrew McBride ran it.
4. **Woodland Trust update.** Went to Portmoak CC meeting – went fine. Someone wants to do bird ringing in Kilmagad. British Trust for Ornithology.
5. **PCWG report for WT** (unsafe trees/bridges etc)
 - A – **Need a Hazard sign** at the steps/boardwalk!!
 - B – **Cuddies.** Been walking even off the path. Need signs to warn them. Much concern about cuddie safety. Can we put in something that takes them away from the expensive furniture?
6. **Tree poppers.** Bog squad dude reckons they're not great on Bogs. He's going to lend us one to try. **Jeff** to fix, **Mike** to collect
7. **PCW update** (dipwell data etc)
 - A - Dipwell No Update.

B – Orchard Tree pruning last Sunday. Didn't get it finished. Need More. **TBA** .

C - Need to maintain the grass square. **Dave C**

8. **Treasurer's report.** Following the celebration of Chris's life, Charlotte and Chloe wanted the church collection to come to PCW. The sum was £1100 and we expressed our enormous gratitude.

9. **Dawn Chorus** Saturday 6th may 0400. 12 people.

10. **Photographic competition** Camera club can supply judges. Problems with folk to do the work. Sheena suggested leaving it till after summer holidays. Postpone to next year?

12. **Application from MSc student for fieldwork.** David Delsart. We've made encouraging noises. Follow up phone call and invite to meeting. **Louise/Jeff**

13. **PCWG response to Portmoak Moss management plan.**

A - Once it's a raised bog and public money has been spent, SNH cannot allow it to be damaged.

B - It physically cannot be a wet woodland. It will revert to birch scrub.

C - The WT plan doesn't seem to follow Forestry Commission guidelines re deep peat and stocking density.

D - Who has the WT consulted on peatland regulation?

E – P11 of the plan. It acknowledges that raised bog management takes decades but the WT may allow it to become birch scrub in 5 years

F – We want them to acknowledge and accept the management plan we commissioned.

G – redesignate scrapes as ponds – deeper and more useful

Jeff to summarise and circulate – also to Andrew.

14. AOB

A – Michael's grand plan and map

Next Meeting AGM 18 4 2017