

MINUTES FOR 18.06.19 MEETING PCWG

1. Present; Charlotte, Sheena, Louise, Dave B, Elaine, Dave C, Stuart, John,
Marje, Stu, Nic, Callum

2. Apologies; Jeff, Graham, Mike, Lesley, Gary

3. Minutes of the last meeting;

Louise was unable to find any information about WT benches on the WT website - Stuart to follow this up with Mike Hogg
Marje has sourced designer and printer for the proposed *Bog Booklet* for children - Marje to prepare a planning doc for next meeting which we will try to fund via "Festival Funds"

4. WTS update - from Gary

Kilmagad - paths, some scrub cleaning & spot weeding have been done.
Portmoak - Ditto above and rhododendron has been treated. And we worked around orchids best we could. Thanks for flagging up.
Not much else to report on the woods front.
Be interested to see the group's report on site furniture (timber structures)

5. PCWG report for WT (unsafe trees/bridges etc)

Long duckboard long bridge is rotten. This info needs to be sent to Gary with location on the map - ? who is going to do this
Tetley Trail steps are also rotting in places - we need to coordinate this info and send it to Gary

6. Dipwell data - going well

7. Events past and future - update

WT volunteering day went well. An important message is that we have to continue to work together to ensure that the Moss flourishes. We will work to continue to encourage invertebrate habitat expansion in harmony with our vital work in the Moss. A site visit with the interested bodies is proposed for August.

The event in the orchard in memory of Chris was a very appropriate and lovely evening. To see the community come together was an important tribute.

Birch pulling on the 15th of September - note from Mike

Sorry we are not at the meeting. Update on birch pulling on sept Sunday 15th. It looks as if everybody wants to come on the same day. We have Lothian conservation volunteers booked in for the day (approx. 10 people). Provisionally booked in_ The Dirty Diggers (Edi Uni Group) (10), The Army Cadets(20). The Bog Squad(6). All these groups have their own insurance. I need to send risk assessment to the cadets. The other groups do their own. The cadets might need some safety gear(gloves) plus we are short of saws for the cadets. I hope to have an adult helper with each three person cadet group to use the saw on larger trees. All the other groups have their own equipment. It might be worth considering getting proper first aid for such a large group. (St Andrews/red cross). None of the groups require food. They bring their own. I still have to approach the SNH volunteers. (anyone got a contact.). If this all works I have calculated that we can clear 90% of the dome area with Gary doing the spraying on the edge. I will send diagram when I get back from hols.

In addition to Mike's ideas we can now use the data produced from the Portmoak P6 class to help to decide which areas to target.

Marje to collect data from the PS next week

8. Himalayan Balsam

The weekend of the 29th 30th of June is HB weekend. The morning of the

30th will be an all-out effort from as many members as possible.

9. AOB

Louise to contact Gary to get dates for birch spraying

Pine Martins are in the area

Mr and Mrs Nutkin are doing a great job (something to do with a wedding) - apologies 3 or 4 or even 5 glasses of prosecco makes it hard to work out exactly what this item was about!

10. Date of next meeting 16.7.19