

Minutes of Woodland Group 21st of July 2020 – Zoom meeting

Woodland Group attendees: Louise, Alison, Stuart, Jeff, Mike, Lesley, Marjorie, Graham, Charlotte, Nic, Stu, Sheena, Gary

Apologies: Dave B. Callum.

WT update

- Twenty trees have been marked for removal as they present a potential risk
- Steps to Kilmagad Wood need replacement - money may be an issue for a total replacement. Site meeting with contractor will be planned to gather feedback
- Scrub clearing scheduled for August – money and contractor set up.
- Seeking permission from Scottish Forestry to clear larger spruce trees in North West corner and Birch on the Northern edge of the Moss – This is a thinning application and fully funded for 2020. This activity will greatly aid any reprofiling.
- Chair on the Moss is in poor repair – Gary will make the case to get a replacement funded which is great
- Peatland Action Funding will not be available this year

PCWG Report to WT

- Appears that some ditches are being cleared. Gary will follow up. Some concern as to who is doing this?
- Some evidence of fire damage to a mature tree – appears that this was done by kids
- Piles of wood are being collected around the moss at odd hours – quite an effort is underway to do this. Who is responsible?

Treasurers report

- Bank balance: £5,965. All paperwork sent to Ally for 2019/20. Accounts signed off. - AGM in September to approve the accounts.

Transactions since last meeting:

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| Jeff Gunnell (Web £28.78 / 2 off Zoom £28.78) | 57.56 |
| Alison Russell, accountant (postage) | 8.80 |
| Lesley Botten (postage, accounts etc) | 8.80 |
| TOTAL | 75.16 |

Paid in:

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|--|---------------|
| Burns Ceilidh (for drinks left over) | 10.00 |
| Portmoak Festival donation to next booklet | 210.00 |
| TOTAL | 220.00 |

Portmoak Bog Booklet, Kilmagad Wood Booklet and Posters

- Bog Booklet is completed
- A fact sheet on Kilmagad Wood Fact Sheet has been completed
- Marje has shared a copy of the Bog booklet with Elizabeth Porter who was delighted

- No additional feedback on Kilmagad Wood Booklet. Further opportunity to provide ideas as part of a Walk -Around. Marje will then generate a draft version for feedback. This will be ready for our August meeting
- A draft will then be produced prior to the meeting in August

Nature Notes

- Reduction in new content. Has this run it's course? Carry on with informal sharing of sightings
- Do we switch to a seasonal version – a winter feature should be considered for a wider public

Dipwell Data

- Stuart and Sheena have completed this – levels are low at 400mm but more rain is needed

Apple day

- Sunday the 27th of September is the proposed date pending release of new Government advice allowing such events. If guidance allows these events will WT support this?
- WT follow Government advice – Gary will check on the status of such events

Invasive species

- HB – great effort to clear this thanks to many peoples' efforts. Ditch near John's house has now been cleared by Lesley and Mike
- Email to see who can join a new removal effort

AOB

- Nic requesting more leaflets for the Moss. Gary will provide these to Nic