

## **Minutes of Woodland Group 18<sup>th</sup> August 2020 – Zoom meeting**

Woodland Group attendees: Louise, Jane, Stuart, Jeff, Mike, Lesley, Marjorie, Graham, Charlotte, Sheena, Nic

Apologies: Dave C., Elaine, Gary.

### **WT update**

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- Scrub clearance underway
- Plans to extend a further 25 metres
- Money for more clearance - we favour clearing the western end of the dome adjacent to the area cleared by Mike and Lesley Area 6A/3A. A second option would be to go inward on the north-east edge of 3B
- Twenty trees have been marked for removal as they present a potential risk (are these in addition to the ones that were cut down a couple of weeks ago?)
- Steps to Kilmagad Wood are being replaced
- Keep pulling HB out - it is appreciated

### **PCWG Report to WT**

- Please arrange a site visit to agree what more scrub clearance is to be done
  - Appears that some ditches are being cleared. Gary to follow up. Some concern as to who is doing this?
  - Can we invite the bog squad in November? Michael to contact Gary.
  - Can families continue informal pulling of small birch
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- WT 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. Pending update
  - Chair on the Moss is in poor repair – Gary will make the case to get a replacement funded which is great – awaiting update

### **Treasurers report**

- Bank balance: £5,918.

### **Portmoak Bog Booklet, Kilmagad Wood Booklet and Posters**

- A fact sheet on Kilmagad Wood has been completed and a draft visual produced. General feedback is positive. Consider making a sign or carving on a post as part of the new activity for children
- Green light for next steps. Marje and Mike to pilot the route
  - Marje will test the resource with a couple of kids - <10 years of age. Louise will ask Tangie

### **Dipwell Data**

- Stuart and Sheena to do this asap – perhaps this weekend

- Mike reports that some dams are weakened by recent rain. May need to replace one of the main dams. Dam 115. Do we need a peat or wooden dam or should the ditch simply be filled in. We need to share a detailed description of the situation to the relevant parties - dragonfly group and SNH. Jeff will make a first draft on this and this will be circulated to our group prior to wider circulation. Post meeting note: Stuart and Mike are going on site on Saturday 22/8 to assess the possibilities.

#### Apple day

- Sunday the 27th of September is the proposed date for an outdoor event in the orchard
- WT proposes that we promote this and advertise in Kinross Newsletter subject to Government advice. If the government does not raise the number of families that can meet outside. We are pending the release of new Government advice allowing such events.
- Andrew Lear will support us regardless of the delay in a final decision
- Dave and Louise will make a detailed plan of action based on the outline share at the Zoom meeting.
- Final decision to be made on GO/NO GO - Pending weather and Nicola. Will use Social media to confirm final decision
- Post the next Government update we will have a day to plan the Apple Day. Mike to organise a separate Apple Day working group including a site visit. Charlotte keen to take part.

#### Invasive Species

- Mike and Lesley have removed 90% of any remaining HP from the ditches near the Moss - a great effort! Other members are continuing to keep an eye out including within the Woodland Trust boundaries.

#### AOB

- ? Spam email regarding our email account. Jeff to check this out.
  - Marje to give Jane a map of the moss
  - Plums are ripe
  - AGM postponed to October
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