

Minutes of Woodland Group 16th March 2021 – Zoom meeting

Woodland Group attendees: Louise, Dave, Stuart, Jeff, Mike, Lesley, Marjorie, Graham, Charlotte, Nic, Dave, Elaine and Sheena

Apologies: None

WT update

Portmoak

- Wobbly bridge will be repaired.
- Plan to thin on the North West of the Moss and any seedlings that have grown on the Moss. Intent is to take trees out via Grahamstone entrance.
- Gary has money for Peatland restoration and we could get some re-profiling in the North West corner as well – potentially next month. Stuart to follow up and ensure that there is some form of proper notification.
- Stuart highlighted areas of the moss where we have leakage and agreed that dams would be needed. Suggestion that PCWG put the dams that Gary provides ourselves.

Kilmagad

- Orchard sign feedback has been given by Louise. Awaiting 2nd draft for review and approval

PCWG Report to WT

- Resubmit last years application for Peatland Action funding plus £5000 to address issues with leaking from the Moss and new steps
- Marje to contact Angus regarding the sign – delay until Gary's work is completed. Proposal to delay any further contact at this stage until the group have **clearly** defined the purpose and then the design – make it an agenda item
- Large branches above the limekiln in Kilmagad Wood are dangerous.
- Birch trees at entrance to the wood from Grahamstone end are leaning dangerously – remove the trees or close the path. A couple of branches are about to fall from trees at the Scotland Well entrance - Stuart will take a look and report back to Gary.

Treasurers report

Actual bank balance at 26 January 2021 £5,576.55
February bank statement not yet arrived.

Transactions since last meeting:

paid to Jeff Gunnell for Linux essentials yearly renewal (website) to 123 Reg

£71.86

Priorities for planning.

- 3rd of October Apple Day
- Burns supper in January
- Birch pulling in October – Bog squad et al

Activities

Dave's Gate

- Final plan for Dave's gate to be agreed - ? best access to the field to install the new gate/fence

Nature notes and blog

- Louise has asked Fair Isle group about blogs . Now looking at Tumbler app as a way to record sightings attached to your website etc.
- Take a look at Forestry and Land website to see examples of blogs

Bird survey in the Moss

- Dates to be finalised -1st of April for 2 weeks?
- Provide details to go on website and facebook

Squirrel debrief - Charlotte

- 120,000 animals in Scotland
- Three point plan to allow them to recover numbers
 - o Pine Martin introduction
 - o Culling Grays
 - o Contraceptive in food for Gray squirrels
- Charlotte to follow up with the sighting website/reporting to ensure our sightings are captured

Bogtastic booklets

- Can we install a Perspex container for the booklets in the Moss? Lets do it!
- Get prices on different designs for group review
- Stuart to tell Gary what we are doing once it is installed
- Re-fill existing dispenser on the Moss as well

AOB

1. Louise has started pruning the Orchard. Individual activity at the moment but others are welcome to participate. Wear vests...
 2. Charlotte to take minutes the next time
 3. Send emails that are topic specific not tag ons. Jeff to share mailing list
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