

PCWG Minutes Meeting 18.04.23 19:30 Chris' place

1. **Present:** Lesley, Michael, Jeff, Louise, Dave, Sheena, Tanji, Charlotte, Marje, Graham, Elaine, Stuart
2. **Apologies:** Dave C, Stu, Nic
3. **Minutes** from 21.2.23

Approval Graham seconded by Marje

Matters arising

Still no reply to our query re management of birch resulting in resilient coppiced trees- will take photos of coppiced stumps and send to WT.

Convention of wetlands - ongoing

Bird box construction event - see below

Stuart has informed Tara of collapsed fence at Kilmagad wood.

Still waiting for response from Tara re dragonfly dams

TRA out the way for now

4. **WT Update** (Tara) No update received from Tara

5. PCWG Report

- i. Bog squad event on 1st April was great success, 1500m² cleared and Marje's crumbles gratefully received
- ii. Easter Egg day was well attended, they had lovely weather and it was enjoyed by all. Well done Marje and Lesley for organising.
- iii. Jeff, Louise and Lesley met MSc Student from Aberdeen Uni - assessing the WT management plan and going to present results as video blog.
- iv. AGM in Sept, long-standing office bearers want to stand down - Jeff to circulate job descriptions. Ali will audit accounts again. All need to think of how to recruit new members. Eg beer & cheese event, PR at apple day (ideas board, quiz on bog & biodiversity). Decide on our message at next meeting

6. Treasurers report

Balance in the bank at 24 March 2023:- £6,636.67

To be paid out: to Lesley Botten (Timpson, spare gate keys) 14.80

To be paid in: Cash donations from Easter Day (8.4.23) 18.40

7. Plan for the year

Stuart has sent out updated spreadsheet of planned events

Dawn chorus Sunday 7th May 4.30am. Stuart, Stu and whoever else wants to join

Birdwatching walk with Scott Paterson - late summer/early autumn - Stuart to confirm date

Bird box making - should we ask Scott?

Discussed practicalities of Mike's whittling friend and key ring carving workshop.

Plan for the year file updated with future events

Himalayan Balsam pulling May/ June - adhoc unless large volume

Portmoak Festival. Jazz at Chris' place 11th June and in hall 18th June. Also Portmoak Festival requested to use Chris' place.

Louise to generate a rota for supporting WT apple-pressing days in Sep

Xmas tree prep - just do adoc, as and when not disturbing nesting birds.

Elizabeth Porter going to advise us on feasibility of Apple-pay for card payments.

8. Updates

Discussed removal of old plastic tree guards. WT had suggested organizing a volunteer day. At this meeting we said we would do ad hoc but Stuart has since asked WT what we need to do.

9. All Think of personal contacts who may be interested in joining group

10. AOB

13th May ceilidh - contributions for PCWG prize to Louise by 10th May

Should we apply for NatureScot awards 2023 - deadline 30th May - Stuart will start completing form and see how he gets on.

Tree at Scotlandwell entrance leaning (roots compacted by car parking). Scot Water identified the threat of it hitting the pumping station if it fell. Not our remit. Curling club own land but no deeds.

Barbed wire hazard alongside side path. (first left, just before curling pond). Charlotte to elaborate next time.

Tetley steps - wood on bottom step broken. Stuart to tell Tara.

Safety of wildlife: Mike came across folk harassing meadow pipits by walking across the Moss and not sticking to the path. We will ask Tara if can put up sign re dogs on leads during bird-nesting season.