



PCWG Meeting 16 May 23 7:30pm (at The Well Inn) Draft

1. Present: Michael, Lesley, Stuart, Elaine, Sheena, Charlotte, Jeff, Tanji, Roy, Simon
2. Apologies: Dave & Louise, Graeme & Marje, Dave C, Nic, Stu
3. Initial update from Roy:
 - Glycophosphate on tree cuts—generally ineffective
 - Birch pulling most effective; idea was to cut it very low then spray the regrowth (ie leaves)
 - Tara put money in the budget to cut the rest i.e. key control areas
 - Control of the Birch: if we could get it to the point of management

4. Convention on Wetlands: MM monitoring
5. Bird boxes: approved
6. Tetley Steps—Wait for new site manager- Izzy Filor; fence & gate can be removed
7. Dam 119 needs fixed/replaced-new site manager will look at
8. PCWG Update: Bog Squad, WL Conservation help with birch pulling, key to helping us to control birch. Roy suggested we (Roy, new SM, with some of our group) do a walk over the Moss to assess state of birch, also for them to understand what works. Ideal if chemicals can be avoided.
9. Roy suggested an MOU refresh (between us and WT)
10. WT continued update:
 - Izzy Filor starting as new Site Manager next week
 - Budgets: budget cuts implemented last year will continue
 - Path work has been cut, but paths aren't too bad. Where paths need treatment for safety it can be done; birch control is not affected by cuts; generally everything else has been left untouched
 - Management plan: proposed walk over the bog. Roy also suggested we add a sphagnum moss survey to the Management Plan ACTION: Jeff to email Roy a copy of our proposed management plan, as well as ideas for Kilmagad
 - We can collect plastic tree tubes in Kilmagad
11. Church and car park sale: car park is main car park for the hill & orchard, and hall overflow
12. ACTION: Charlotte & Jeff to check to see if barbed wire near the curling pond in Moss is on WT land or curling pond/hut. If ours we can remove it.
13. Treasurer's Report: donation of £60 from Climate Café. Balance £6702.51
14. Plan for the year:
 - Portmoak Festival: Jazz in the Orchard, Women Whittling in Orchard, MM doing photograph exhibit (photos & calendars for sale for the duration of the festival)
 - Dipwells: Sheena & Stu put in new ones around the edge to see effects of new profiling

15. Updates:
 - Birch pull: Lothian looking for September dates—MM to choose date
 - Dawn Chorus in May, looking to do an autumn (or a bit later) as well
 - Portmoak Biodiversity: Marje to work on a new leaflet



- PPS are doing an ash dieback survey in Kilmagad as part of P6 John Muir award; the children would like to submit their findings to WT

16. AOB:

1. Himalayan balsam: we have controlled it in our 2 properties
2. Micologist Cameron K found some species of fungi in Kilmagad which are the first record found in the UK