

## Draft Minutes for Maryculter Woodland Trust Board Meeting on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2018

**Members Present:** Ed Thorogood, Bill Caffyn, Inga Milne, Nigel Astell, Susan Astell

**Apologies:** Alice McAra, David Brainwood

**Minutes.** The previous minutes were accepted

**Finances**      Current Balance                      £26,989

### Known Liabilities

1. Forest Road ~£20,000 (ex VAT)
2. Lower (burnside) road. We have spent £1,300 so far on the road to scrape, dig ditches, install a pipe and roller the lower section with a heavy roller. Nigel estimated that to complete the road (roll, tar planings and a final roll) would cost a further £5,800 – using up most of the income expected from timber sales.
3. Orchard/tree nursery £4,050 for construction + £1,080 for plants
4. Signs £130
5. Mulching new path £2,000 (agreed at last meeting but contract not yet awarded)

### Known Income

1. Vat reclaim
2. Timber Sales to come
3. Giftaid claim

### Projects

1. **New Forest Road.** The first invoice from Alan Whiteford has been received (£18,768 + £3,753 VAT) which matches his quote for the project. Scope additions have not yet been invoiced. These additions (mostly drainage works) will add a further £880 and we have also spent £360 on scraping the top road. A couple of sections would benefit from additional crusher run. The drainage on the new E-W section of road is still not satisfactory and the drainage ditches dug by Alan have made the situation worse (water flowing from the wood onto the new road, not off it). **Action:** Ed & Nigel will investigate the cause of the poor drainage and

report back. **Action:** Alan Whiteford will supply a quote for different road finishes and invoice us for the work already done on scope additions.

2. **Lower (Burnside) Road.** The Invoice for £343 incl VAT from Davidson & Murison (widening the roadside entrance to allow timber extraction) has been paid. The invoice was a lot below the money allocated (£1,000). Nigel got us a good deal! The Board asked Nigel to express our thanks to Roy & Jordi. Tar planings are in short supply in the region, hence may not be affordable. We await a quote from Alan for the scope remaining to finish the road.
3. **Mulching.** With all the additional costs associated with the new roads the Board agreed that we could not afford to mulch any more paths using existing funds. Luckily no contract had been awarded and so the allocation can be released. Funding for more mulching will need to come from new fund-raising
4. **Thinning licence.** Ed & Nigel met with Bill Munro and we all agreed that it was uneconomic to thin any more stands listed in the felling licence
5. **Orchard.** The area has been cleared of vegetation, stumps and large rocks, at a cost of £560. This is within budget. The first load of topsoil has been spread but Nigel thinks that he can afford additional topsoil within his quote for the work. **Action:** Nigel to arrange topsoil with Alan Whiteford. Ian Moir will carry out the fencing for the orchard.
6. **Main drainage ditch.** The AWPR came to our rescue and donated a replacement pipe. This has now been installed. **Action:** Ed to write to Yvonne Gilfillan (AWPRCJV) to thank her.

## Events

1. **Quiz Night.** The quiz night was held on 28<sup>th</sup> March and was enjoyed by all who attended. Thanks are due to Inga for organising this event. We raised £328 less £54 expenses.
2. **Work Party.** The Sunday work party was postponed to the 8<sup>th</sup> of April and will be used for tree planting. Ed will organise the drinks, Sue will do cakes.
3. **World Earth Day** on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April will also be a tree planting day. **Action:** Ed to advertise and ensure that we have enough materials for the day. Trees were donated from TCV (OVO Energy) and the Woodland Trust
4. **Tree-planting with Lairhillock School.** Provisionally agreed Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April. **Action:** David to confirm logistics with Lairhillock

## **AOB**

- Ed has registered MWT with Amazon Smile. **Action** Ed to pass on details of how people can donate to us using Amazon.
- Data protection. Members will need to confirm that they want us to continue to hold their data – this will require action by the board (Ed & Alice). There is an awareness event on GDPR on 19th April at 7pm in Mearns Academy.
- Website. Lots of pages require updating. **Action:** Ed to pass updates to David
- Equipment. Ed will purchase four new spades in time for Earth Day, Bill will procure more adjustable ties.
- Gate. Nigel will adjust the catch to make it easier for Ann to open

**Next Meeting** Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 8pm, Eastland.