

Minutes for Maryculter Woodlands Trust Board Meeting on Thursday 3rd May 2018

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

Apologies: David Brainwood

Minutes. The previous minutes were accepted

Finances Current balance in bank account: £14,402

The following large payments were made:

£22,521 incl VAT to Alan Whiteford for the new forest road prime scope

£2,377 incl VAT to Alan Whiteford for additional scope

£1,050 incl VAT (via Eastland Foresters) for additional stakes and collars

Known Liabilities

1. Forest Roads. Invoice received from Alan Whiteford (£2,731 incl VAT) – the final invoice for all work completed to date.
2. Orchard/tree nursery £4,050 for construction + £1,080 for plants + £4,200 for expansion
3. Signs £130
4. Ed's expenses of £142 for 2 hammers, 4 spades and 500 ties
5. Bill's expenses of £60 for ties
6. Inga's expenses of £32 for catering

Known Income

1. Vat reclaim (submitted claim for £3,744)
2. Timber Sales (second payment)
3. Giftaid claim (not yet claimed)

Projects

1. **New Forest Road.** Ed and Nigel are to meet with Alan Whiteford to discuss the costs involved for the following scope to complete the work on the roads.

- a. Crusher run on top road (up to 400m)
- b. Crusher run plus tar planings/dust on Lower (Burnside) road
- c. Crusher run on new road to improve drainage
- d. Crusher run on main road from the T junction to the main drainage ditch

It is expected that the above scope will be in excess of £6,000. The board will decide on what scope to award once the quotes are in.

Inga has some breeze blocks available which could be used to fill large holes.

2. **Mulching.** No update
3. **Orchard.** Still waiting for additional topsoil. **Action:** Nigel to chase with Alan Whiteford. Ian Moir will carry out the fencing for the orchard. **Action:** Bill to check that donation from Austin Hand can be gift-aided
4. **Main drainage ditch.** Ed wrote to Yvonne Gilfillan (AWPRCJV) to thank her for the replacement pipe.
5. **Nest boxes.** Still some boxes to install, including the barn owl box. The plan is to put the barn owl box somewhere on the western boundary – potentially an activity for the July work party. **Action:** Nigel & Bill to arrange
6. **Deer fencing.** The board decided to use the old fencing donated from Altries to fence an area around a stand of veteran Scot's Pine in the SW corner of the wood.
7. **Ponds.** There are several places where ponds could be created.
 - a. Next to Ian Anderson's garden – to replace the one that will be lost when the field behind Kirkton Cottage is developed.
 - b. Expand drainage ditch on western boundary. There is a section of ditch which has filled-in. If we need a digger to do this we may as well widen a small section of the ditch to create a pond
 - c. Large pond in the lodgepole area (which has no direct drainage to the burn)
 - d. Small dams in selected drainage ditches – to raise water table.
8. **Second bridge.** A potential job for the summer? Will require felling a large sitka spruce

Events

1. **Work Party.** The work part in May will concentrate on the lower road.
2. **SWT visit.** Sat 7th July 10.30 am
3. **Midsummer Event.** This could be on 23rd June and those interested could gather at the fire pit and bring along food and drinks to either share or otherwise!
4. **Summer work party.** Provisionally in first week in July with chilli fest on Fri eve (6th July)

AOB

- Ed has drafted the annual report for OSCR. **Action:** Bill still to check final figure from Dean. **Action:** Ed to collect signatures on report and submit to OSCR
- There is a public awareness / empowerment event on 25th June
- The KDP booklet has space for an article to be written about the wood
- Data protection. **Action:** Ed & Alice to contact members and all on our distribution lists so that we can comply with the new legislation
- There will be 3 or 4 university students working in the wood over the summer.
- Children from Mucky Boots planted 12 trees which was fantastic. Total trees planted since ownership now stands at 2,331.

Next Meeting Thursday 7th June, 8pm, Ed's house.