

Minutes for Maryculter Woodlands Trust Board Meeting, Tues 3rd Sept, David's House

Members Present: David Brainwood, Ed Thorogood, Inga Milne, Bill Caffyn, Aileen Roberts
Susan Astell, Nigel Astell

Minutes: The minutes from the July Board meeting were approved.

Finance: The current bank balance is £6,785

The following payments were made (debited from bank account since the last meeting):

1. £30 to hire the Church hall for the quiz night (May 2019)
2. £30 CWA membership

The following payments were received (credited to bank account since last meeting): None

Known Liabilities:

1. £1000 to complete pond (geotextile, sand, digger time, plants) + liner + planning fees
2. ~£100 website hosting fees (paid by David)
3. £193 to Ed (keysafe, dog signs, pond plants for planting in working week)
4. £50 VAT to HMRC

Action: Bill to set up payment of expenses incurred by Ed, David & Inga

Known Income:

1. Gift aid still to claim (£500).
2. £257.30 SDV Plant sale proceeds. **Action:** Bill to deposit cheque in bank a/c
3. £40 donation from community member (Paul)

Action: Reserve a bag of birch logs for Dean in recognition of preparing the annual MWT accounts
(Note: assumes that we gather birch logs this autumn)

Projects

Second wooden bridge. Inga has spoken to Kevin and confirmed that the materials and time used to build the second bridge will not be charged to MWT. The Board expressed their gratitude.

Pond (by Ian's garden). The Board approved expenditure of up to £700 for materials to complete the pond. The board also allocated £300 to cover the planning fees, hence the total liability has been raised to £1,000.

Action: Nigel to obtain planning and commence work as soon as application has been submitted.

Spruce Thinning. Work continues by hand (ie using bowsaws) but this will not be fast enough to complete the thinning scope listed in the current thinning licence. The Board agreed to hire a chainsaw crew for 5 days (£3,000 + VAT) to continue thinning spruce before the licence runs out.

Action: Nigel to arrange chainsaw crew

Nest boxes, Recycled Deer Fencing:

Action: Bill to co-ordinate the application to wind farm community fund.

Action: Ed to give Bill the bags of staples needed to fix deer fencing.

Events

OctFest. The Board agreed to run the annual OktoberFest on Sat 5th Oct, again in Ed's garage. David suggested contacting local homebrewers to supply some of the beers on the night

Action: Inga to arrange flyer

AGM. The date of Weds 20th November was chosen

Action: Ed to book church hall with Anne & create invite for mailchimping

AOB

Gate & road. The main gate has now been moved - good job & it looks to be an improvement for everyone. We had asked the church to agree the final scope with us (exact location for the gate, fence design etc) but unfortunately the work was done without any further communication with our Board. The Church (John McCafferty) sent an email to Ed apologising for the poor communication surrounding the moving of the main gate. Ed sent a reply which was positive but also reminded the Church of the duty that we have as Board members to protect the assets of the MWT. The Church lawyers mentioned in a phonecall to Ed that they had uncovered documents which suggest that they may already have the access rights that they need for the plot behind Kirkton Cottage. Ed will ask for a copy of this document for our consideration. Ed shared with the Board all the maps and plans given to us by FCS which ALL demonstrate that FCS regarded themselves as the landowner of the road outside Kirkton Cottage prior to the sale to MWT.

Ed shared the article written for the next issue of SDV

Ed advised the Board that it was time to replace the existing padlocks. The Board agreed.

Action: Ed to investigate the cost of 5 keyed-alike padlocks & 15 keys

Action: Ed to send maps to Nigel for printing

Action: Nigel to suggest a date to bring in his tractor/trailer into the wood to collect birch logs

Action: Ed & Susan to finish the draft AGM minutes

Next Meeting: Weds 2nd October, 8pm, Eastland