

## **Minutes for Maryculter Woodlands Trust Board Meeting, Mon 7<sup>th</sup> Sept, Eastland garden**

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

**Apologies:** Inga Milne

**Minutes:** The minutes from the Aug Board meeting were approved.

### **Accounts**

The current bank balance is £7,510

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

1. none

The following payments were received (credited to bank account since last meeting):

1. £600 donation from community member
2. £7.21 Amazon donation

Known Liabilities (not yet debited from account):

1. ~£100 to GoDaddy for renewal of email & website services
2. £81.66 Ed's expenses for replacement gloves
3. £5,000 + VAT Road refurbishment

Known Income (not yet credited to account):

1. Gift Aid still to claim
2. £20 donation from MaryculterFest

Bill is still learning the replacement service for online banking.

### **Projects**

All projects are on hold due to Covid lockdown and the unresolved planning issues with Aberdeenshire Council. The planning dept have got in touch but are unable to meet us in the wood - they are prioritising active planning applications that protect jobs (reasonably enough). The Board expressed a clear desire to get on with pond creation (incl de-canalisation) as a matter of urgency – the delays are really unacceptable

**Action:** Ed to continue discussions with Council via phone & report back to the Board

Aberdeenshire Council have some funds available in current year (Henry sent the application form to Ed). The condition is that the work must be completed by end Dec. The options are:

- 1) Mulch the main tracks i.e. avoiding any planning issues. Ideally we would need to hire a mulcher for 10days.
- 2) Increase the fenced area around the veteran Scots Pine.
- 3) Build bird hide

**Action:** Nigel & Bill to meet at fenced area to determine scope of work.

**Action:** Bill to investigate deadlines for the Meikle Carewe Wind Farm Community Fund.

### **Events**

Oct workparty (4<sup>th</sup> Oct).

AGM. Three Board members have reached their 3-year terms (Inga, David & Susan). We could delay the AGM until as late as Feb but the Board felt we should stick to the normal date sometime in Nov. The church is not allowed to hire the hall out. Outdoor venues are weather dependent. The underpass below AWPR was suggested but the most likely solution is to hold the AGM online & ask members to find a household bubble with internet access.

**Action:** Aileen & David to check OSCR guidelines on holding AGMs during lockdown

### **AOB**

Red squirrel week 21-27 Sept – Ed to ensure trailcam is operational this week

#### **Actions carried from previous meetings:**

**Action:** Ed to investigate costs of fire insurance

**Action:** Ed to deposit in bank a final beerfest donation of £20 (from David McAra)

**Action:** Ask KDP if they will fund our website/email subscription

**Action:** Nigel to obtain replacement orchard trees from Ben Reid.

**Action:** Get the signs installed!

**Action:** Ed to write letters to send to professional dog walkers & share draft with Board

**Next Meeting: after Oct workparty Sun 4<sup>th</sup> October, in wood**