**PENNEY’S WOOD GENERAL MEETING**

**HELD AT FYRISH ON WEDNESDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2019 AT 7.30 pm**

**Present:**

Janine Brodie; Judy Dobson; Stuart Dobson; Gill Kerr;

**Apologies:**

Julie King; Duncan Pritchard; Penny Pritchard; Ewen Cameron

Janine opened the meeting by welcoming all to her lovely new home, Fyrish

The Minutes for the previous meeting were read, proposed by Judy and seconded by Janine.

**Opening Day**

It was agreed that this had been very successful - the weather had even looked kindly on us and it stopped raining for the first time that week! Many thanks all who bought food and drink, and particularly to Helena and Willie for letting us use their home to prepare the nibbles and mulled wine - which was very well received by all! It was good to see the school so well represented.

**Zoning**

This will be discussed when Ewan is available to outline his idea for action.

**Constitutional Changes**

An update will be provided at a later date. It is hoped that the Group name change - Fossoway Woodland Group - can be agreed at the AGM in April.

**Fossoway Gathering**

This will be held in the afternoon of Saturday 25 May 2019 in the sports field (Waulkmill). Discussed in detail and decided that we would book a table (£25) to support the Gathering. Judy & Stuart will provide small holly seedlings for the raffle prize and to sell; Janine will donate a ceramic pot to put raffle prizein. Stuart will obtain an A3 map of the woods, marked into squares . We would sell the squares (approx 140) at £1.00 per square with a £10 first prize for the person who picked the ‘winning’ square. For the children, at no cost, we would provide materials for making 'bug boxes' which would then be incorporated into a larger construction for placing in Penney's Wood. It is hoped that we can all get materials together, old tree guards, twigs, and other appropriate materials ready for this.

Please let Gill know if you are available on the 25th for a stint manning the table and have anything that we could use for bug box creation!

If anyone has a gazebo we could use if necessary please advise. There may be existing signage for the stand (but not weatherproof) and we will have a small float of change.

**Action: All**

**Trees: Planting & Maintenance**

New trees expected from 1st week in March.

Preparation day: (Saturday 23 March) to strim about 1ft around dead trees to ease planting of new seedlings. Stuart & Judy advised that there are 51 dead trees in situ and 45 recycled tree guards and stakes. We therefore need 9 more stakes and guards for the 105 trees being delivered We plan to place the spare stakes and guards so it will be easier on the Saturday (30th) to see where to plant the new trees.

Judy suggested that Downy Birch be planted nearest the ditch due to the wet soil there and the greater height of the tree.

There are also 5 trees down that need re staked.

Gill to put working party dates on the Noticeboard.

Helen & Ian Davidson and Norman to be asked if they could spare some time to help. **Action: All**

**Fencing**

The fencing is down between Mr & Mrs Wallace's and the woods. It was suggested that we could plant a Hawthorn hedge along the boundary or perhaps mixed planting of suitable spare trees in a hedgerow style

**AOB**

There is a black cable at the side of the path (Main entrance, left path) which could be a trip hazard. This is to be investigated**. Action: Janine**

Our thanks to Stuart who has kindly replaced the snib on the bottom gate which had broken; Tom White who has put a small metal bar on the West gate to stop the latch catching on the wood; someone who has very kindly put a rustic trough planter underneath the main Noticeboard for flowers and another kind soul who has been fighting a battle with the many molehills that keep appearing - raking them out flat so the grass is growing through again. Many thanks to all.

**The meeting closed.**

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| **Proposed meeting dates for 2019/...** |  |
| ***Spring Maintenance working parties*** | ***Saturday 23 March - Preparation for planting, 10am***  ***Saturday 30 March - Planting new trees,10am*** |
| ***AGM*** | ***Sunday 28 April – 3.30 at Fyrish*** |
| ***Fossoway Gathering*** | ***Saturday 25 May*** |
| ***Meeting to discuss Summer Event*** | ***Wednesday 19 June – 3.30pm at Fyrish*** |
| ***Summer Picnic/BBQ Event*** | ***Sunday in July/August?*** |
| ***Meeting to discuss Autumn Maintenance*** | ***Wednesday 2 October – 7.30pm at Fyrish*** |
| ***Autumn Maintenance working party*** | ***Sunday 13 October and follow up on***  ***Saturday 19 October if required*** |