**PENNEY’S WOOD COMMUNITY WOODLAND AGM AND GENERAL MEETING**

**HELD IN PENNEY’S WOOD ON SUNDAY 13 JUNE 2021 AT 3.00 pm**

**Present:**

Janine Brodie; Judy Dobson; Hazel Cameron; Julie King; Helen Cassidy; Gill Kerr;

**Apologies:**

Alan Cassidy; Willie & Helena Thomson; Iain Campbell; Alistair Kerr; Phil Brewster;

**Friends of Penney's Wood:**

Helen and Iain Davidson

**AGM**

Janine opened the meeting by welcoming all to the AGM on a lovely sunny afternoon – the second held in Penney’s Wood.

The Minutes for the 2020 AGM were circulated prior to the meeting and were taken as read.

**Chairperson’s Report**

This was read by Janine and agreed by the Committee. Copy attached.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Judy circulated the financial report. Copy attached.

Judy advised that the closing balance of the bank account was £12,094.79. The sum of £800 from the Community Benefit Fund had yet to be paid in and £300 to cover Insurance to be deducted from this figure. Julie advised that there were still some monies accruing from face masks, sales of which are still ticking over.

**Office Bearers**

Janine agreed to stay as Chairperson for another year; Judy Dobson agreed to continue as Treasurer; Julie as Web Site Manager and Gill agreed to stay as Minute Secretary although she would be unable to attend any work parties.

There being no AOCB, the AGM closed.

**GENERAL MEETING**

**Care and Maintenance**

Judy has been on a tree pruning and cutting course and advised that the best time for pruning is the Winter, probably around November/December. She noted that when taking the tree guards down some trees had branches which had 'wrapped' themselves around the trunk and these would have to be unwrapped and some pruned or cut off if they crossed over each other. Some of the willows would need to be coppiced and many were sprouting from the base although they seemed stable. Judy will email her course leader to ask advice regarding this.

 **Action : Judy**

It was agreed that two work parties would be arranged for Tuesday 22nd June at 7.00pm and Saturday 26th June at 10 am to free trees from their guards, remove dead trees and take off any dead wood caused by deer damage if it was causing a problem. Some trees will also need staking up. If you are unable to make these dates, please just free a tree when you have some spare time.  **Action : All**

A notice to be put on the Noticeboard regarding the work parties and emails sent to volunteers who have helped in the past, and Judy would put a note on the Drum Whatsapp group. **Action : Judy & Gill**

**Paths**

The first cut of the season had been carried out and there had been a belt slipping problem with the mower. Janine contacted the company and they would either send someone out or take it back to their workshop. (This has now been fixed).

Willie asked if we could purchase a strimmer to trim round the benches (he has been using his own). Discussion took place regarding the use of strimmers, particularly the problem of microplastics. It was decided that we would purchase one if the mowing rota team thought it necessary and to use minimally.

**Ditches**

Due to Penney’s Wood stream twice bursting its banks last year and causing flood damage to surrounding property. P & K Flood team paid a 2nd visit to the Woodland to undertake a technical inspection & offer advice.

On the 2nd inspection, initial comments by the engineer from P&K Council advised that the ditches were in good order and should be left a they are in certain places. He said that we should hold back as much water in the woodland as possible. Julie advised that a bund extension may be required to stop more properties being affected by flooding. We are currently waiting for a formal letter from the P & K Engineer and will discuss the wider issues when this is received.

CC Mike Barnacle is involved and also pushing for a flood review across a wider area to form part of the newly established community Development Trust.

**Boundary** - to be discussed at a later date.

**Future Plans**

Judy suggested that we should think about formulating a 5-year plan. This would be discussed when we meet next.

**AOCB**

**Fundraising**

Helen suggested that we could produce a calendar of photographs for sale. She kindly volunteered to sort out some of the great pics she has taken in the woodland and get prices for printing.

**Fossoway Gathering**

The Fossoway Gathering will be held on Saturday 4 September and it was agreed we would take a stand.

Suggestions for the stand:

Julie - making bunting and small items for sale and for the children to make monkey nut bird feeders.

Helen - set up a 'hang bar' test which would be fun and something different for children and adults to have a go.

Hazel - homemade bread and goodies!

A signboard with photos.

We would draw up a timetable of people willing to man the stand nearer the time.

**Farmer's Market**

It was agreed that we would continue to do the Farmer's Market provided there were enough people able to help.

The next market is on Saturday 24 July. Gill to send email out. Currently volunteers are: Alastair Kerr, Phil Brewster, Helen & Iain Davidson, Hazel & Ewen Cameron.

**Amazon Smile**

Julie suggested using Amazon Smile to make group or individual purchases on Amazon which would raise a small amount for funds. We would need to raise an electronic bank account first. This is being looked into by Judy.

There being no further AOCB, the meeting closed at 4.05 pm.

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| **Next meeting dates for 2021 (dependent on COVID-19 restrictions):** |  **2021** |
| ***Work Parties*** | ***Tues 22 June 7.00 and Sat 26 June, Penney's Wood*** |
| ***Farmers Market set up*** | ***Saturday 24 July***  |
| ***General Meeting*** | ***Wednesday 4 August, 6.30 pm Penney's Wood*** |
| ***Fossoway Gathering*** | ***Saturday 4 September***  |