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

**HELD IN PENNEY’S WOOD ON SUNDAY 24 APRIL 2022 AT 3.30 PM**

Present: Janine Brodie; Judith Dobson; Julie King; Willie & Helena Thomson; Chris McCaughey; Hazel Cameron;

Helen Cassidy; Gill Kerr;

Apologies: Alan Cassidy; Phil Brewster; Alistair Kerr; Iain Campbell;

**AGM**

Janine opened the meeting by welcoming all to the AGM. The minutes of the 2021 AGM had been circulated

by email prior to the meeting and were taken as read.

**Chairperson’s Report**

Janine read her report to the Committee (copy attached). Despite varying COVID restrictions we had a good

year with work parties to remove blackthorn, plastic sleeves & pruning. The successful funding application

from the Fossoway Community Benefit Fund meant that we were able to award a contract to replace fencing

along the south and south-west boundary. Funding is also supporting our purchase of an electric strimmer.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Judith had circulated the Treasurer’s report to the Committee prior to the meeting (copy attached) and the

bank balance stood at £14,948.

**Office Bearers**

Janine advised that she would like to stand down from the position of Chairperson and asked if anybody on the

Committee would like to take this on – or at least think about it! She kindly agreed to carry on in the

meantime. Judith agreed to continue as Treasurer, Julie as Web Site Manager, and Gill as Minute Secretary.

There being no AOCB, the AGM closed.

**GENERAL MEETING**

**Matters from previous Minutes**

Keys

General discussion to clarify the situation regarding keys. Phil had agreed to look into getting a key safe but

there seemed to be nowhere suitable for it to be situated in the woodland. It was therefore agreed that

Helena would arrange for two more keys for the padlock to be cut and held by Willie, Alan, Janine and Hazel.

The key to the Noticeboard had also gone missing – Janine has a spare key which she would hold.

**Action: Helena**

Risk Assessment

It was agreed that Alan had done a great job on producing risk assessment notes (copy attached) and these

would be shrunk to 1 page per activity and kept in a poly pocket in the shed for folk to read, initial and date

when using any equipment in the woodland. For the sake of hygiene and convenience it was agreed that

anyone could bring their own PPE (goggles, ear-defenders, gloves, etc.)

No Mow May

It was agreed that we would monitor growth and adapt the frequency of cutting according to the weather.

Audrey & Shane (Fossoway Garage) generously agreed to pay for the petrol for the mower and the Committee

thanked them for this. Shane also advised that he had a small tractor which could remove the ‘clumpy grass’ at

the side of the paths but it proved too big to be useful. Looking at the possibility of getting a

heavy duty strimmer to do this.

**Trees**

Free a Tree! A work party has been arranged for Sunday 8 May, 10-12 am to remove plastic sleeves and stakes,

free twisted branches and remove dead trees.

A large area of blackthorn has been cleared and our congratulations and grateful thanks to everyone who

cleared this and most particularly to Stuart and Judith for their hard work on this prickly job!

It was queried whether if new trees were planted would they be choked by the blackthorn roots? Janine

advised that John has some oak saplings which could be planted. John also has glyphosate which may

work to kill the roots although Judith thought we might have left it too late as the sap has dried. John will

assess.

**Action: John & Alan**

Hazel asked if anything could be done to hide the plastic sleeves and stakes currently stored at the side of the

shed. It was agreed that plastic sleeves which cannot be recycled would be taken to the skip

and the stakes sorted out and inspected on the day of the Work Party to see which were worth

keeping. (Subsequent to the meeting, Phil advised that his neighbour could use some and would make a

donation and this seemed a good solution).

**Fencing**

Janine had not heard back from Graham Livingstone, Glendevon Fencing, since February when he advised that

they were very busy but would hopefully be in touch soon.

The latch on the south gate had gone again and Janine would email Phil to ask if he would be kind enough to

put on a new one the same as the top West gate.

Concern was expressed about potential damage to the bottom fence where vehicles came down

from the main road and couldn’t turn round as there was no turning circle. When the new fence is erected, we need to consider mitigating potential damage by delivery company vans.

**Strimmer**

An application for funding has been sent to the Kinross Fund for the strimmer and the meeting is on 6 June to

find out if we have been successful.

Janine has ordered the strimmer and this is being held for us.

Discussion on who would recharge the strimmer. Willie would ask the grass mowing rota group for their

thoughts on this and the small cost could be reclaimed from the group if necessary. It was agreed that after

use the strimmer would be charged and put back ready for the next user.

**AOCB**

Alicia has asked for permission to use the woodland to host a Jubilee picnic and this was given.

Helen asked if we could try to hold more meetings on a weekday night.

There being no other business the meeting closed.

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| **Dates for 2022** | **Event** |
| ***Work Party to remove plastic sleeves, dead trees, pruning etc.*** | ***Sunday 8 May 10-12 am*** |
| ***General Meeting*** | ***Tuesday 14 June, Woodland at 7.00 pm*** |
| ***Fossoway Gathering*** | ***Saturday 3 September*** |