**PENNEY’S WOOD MEETING**

**HELD AT DUNISLA ON WEDNESDAY 3OCTOBER 2018 AT 7.30 pm**

**Present:**

Janine Brodie; Stuart Dobson; Judy Dobson; Duncan Pritchard; Penny Pritchard; Ewen Cameron; Willie Thomson; Gill Kerr;

**Apologies:**

Helena Thomson; Julie King; Alistair Kerr; Iain Campbell; Rory Sheehan;

Janine opened the meeting by welcoming all to Dunisla and, in particular, to Willie who has formally joined the Committee (although he has been to so many work parties that most thought he was already a member!)

The previous minutes were taken as read.

**Matters arising from the minutes:**

1. We are now Members of the Community Woodlands Association and apparently have our own page on the site. Could Julie please add us to the site? **Action: Julie**
2. Amanda James has offered us some bulbs (gratis) as part of a Council scheme. These should arrive in November and it was thought they could be planted around the noticeboard and seating areas, being aware of grass cutting and maintenance in these areas.

The Unpaid Work Team (via Perth Council) can hopefully help.

**Constitutional Changes**

Changes to the wording of the current Constitution were further discussed and agreed. The new Constitution is attached for your information. This will be submitted to the Charities Commission for approval and in due course the name of the group will be changed.

**Noticeboards**

It was agreed that the ladder noticeboard at the bottom gate looks great and really fits in. The second (and main) noticeboard will be placed at the North gate shortly and a small board will be attached to the West gate. Once these have been installed it is planned to have an official ‘ribbon cutting’ ceremony with photographs for the Kinross Newsletter and our web site

**Summer Picnic/BBQ**

Disappointing that ‘rain stopped play’ this year and the picnic didn’t go ahead as planned. This can be revisited next year.

**Planting**

Stuart provided a map of the woodland which looked very professional and was well received. Gill will laminate, put on the noticeboard and also provide an A3 copy. Gill will send electronically to Stuart, Ewen and Julie for her to put on the web page. **Action: Gill & Julie**.

Judy spoke of the Woodland Trust tree pack and that if we applied for the wild life pack (most appropriate for our wet ground) consisting of 105 trees we may get it in March if successful. Further discussion on where to plant will be required but at the rate of loss currently being experienced, 105 trees would not be too many.

**Action: Janine**

Ewen suggested that it might be helpful and look neater if we adopt a standard procedure for tying and staking trees with the stob placed at the west side of the tree facing the prevailing wind.

Stuart mentioned that some of the tree guards are now preventing the trees from growing properly and these should be either removed or cut to allow growth.

The October Work Party had been changed to Sunday 21 October between 10-12 am. Norman Malvenan had expressed an interest to help and the date should be mentioned to him. We also need to check the number of stobs as there are a number of trees which need more substantial staking.

It was felt that it might be necessary to purchase a strimmer to identify and strim round specific problem areas (round new trees to give them a chance against weeds; tall grass falling over paths; a particular area/variety of weed). Willie Thompson offered to take on this task next year. There was a suggestion to strim down each side of the burn to ensure that it is clearly visible (and possibly also plant bulbs along it). This can be revisited next year.

**Paths**

Thanks to Duncan for the rota and keeping folk on track!

**AOCB**

Zone Management – Ewen suggested we think about adopting a zone management approach to maintenance and care of the woodland. Each member of the committee would be given a specific area – to identify problems and to be responsible for communicating problems or issues back to the rest of the Committee for decision or action. Feedback on this was positive and Ewen will send an email to elaborate and explain how this would work and what would be required. Stuart’s map will be used to delineate the various zones and Gill will email this to Ewen.

**Action: Ewen & Gill**

Next Year’s Grant - We may need to consider purchasing a galvanised hut as Rory is leaving.

But before putting in a new grant application we need to report on how we have used this year’s grant.

**Action: Iain & Janine**

Fossoway Gathering is going to be held on 26 May 2019 and we may take a stall. A possible idea would be a Treasure Hunt. This will be added to the November Agenda for discussion.

**The meeting closed.**

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| ***Interim AGM and Meeting*** | ***Wednesday 21 November – 7.30pm at Dunisla*** |
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| ***AGM*** | ***To be held in April 2019*** |