**Minutes of Penney’s Wood AGM**

**28th April 2019**

**Present:** Janine Brodie (Chair), Iain Campbell (Treasurer), Duncan and Penny Pritchard, Judith & Stuart Dobson, Julie King, Willie Thompson. Hazel Cameron

**Apologies:** Gill Kerr (Secretary), Alastair Kerr, Helena Thompson

* **Minutes of the interim AGM held on 21 November 2018.**The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed by Judith Dobson and seconded by Penny Pritchard.
* **Chairpersons Report**

This Report transitions the gap between our last (Interim) Report in November 2018 and our new AGM which is now set to coincide with the financial year end.

Penney’s Wood committee, friends and neighbours gathered in the woodland on 2nd December to celebrate the earlier installation of signboards and benches and the opening of our new noticeboard. The weather was kind and the event well attended by volunteers and supporters including representatives from Fossoway Primary School and Alan Tennant who very kindly donated his time, materials and expertise to create and erect our signboards. Mulled wine, soft drinks and savoury snacks were appreciated. We are delighted to know that the school children are making regular use of the woodland and enjoying their experiences.

On 23rd March a work party of Committee members and partners, along with extra volunteers, planted 105 trees from the Woodland Trust and a handful of surplus trees via Crook and Drum Growing Together. Markers were in place to show gap planting and red paint on tree guards indicated dead or diseased trees to be replaced. It was hard work but an extended session completed the task without need for a second day. A small number of trees were also reset. This was probably the last chance to insert new trees successfully before competition from growth of root and canopy would make this less viable.

It is with great regret that we bid farewell to Rory Sheehan who has done so much in the creation of the woodland and in particular the layout and maintenance of the wonderful paths network. We wish him and his wife Val health and happiness in their new home back in Wiltshire. Our grateful thanks too for leaving the sit-on mower with the new house owners with whom we will make new arrangements.

Future plans for Penney’s Wood include:

* participation in the resurrected Fossoway Gathering on 26th May to promote awareness of Penney’s Wood in the community
* installation of bug hotels with the help of Fossoway Primary children
* art installation in Penney’s Wood through the collaboration of Fossoway Primary and local artist Nichol Wheatley
* removal of tree supports where trees are 3m tall or filling the guard
* weeding around new saplings
* enhancement of the ditch crossing on the main path
* **Treasurer’s Report**(to be sent to Gill for circulation)  
  Iain reported that the bank balance currently stands at £10,150 and that Public Liability Insurance is likely to be the biggest cost in 2019 at £168. There were concerns that there is no information about the cover provided by the existing insurers (RAP). Duncan Pritchard offered to look for an alternative provided before the policy is due for renewal at the beginning of June.  
  **ACTION: Duncan Pritchard to source an alternative public liability insurance policy.**
* **Election of Office Bearers**The current office bearers all agreed to continue in their role as follows:  
  Janine – Chairperson  
  Ian – Treasurer  
  Gill – Secretary  
  Julie – Web Site Manager
* **Change of official name of group**It was agreed that the group name should be changed from ‘Fossoway Amenity and Access Group’ to ‘Penney’s Community Woodland’

**ACTION: Iain to change the official name of the Charity on the Charity’s Commission database.**

* **AOCB**There was no AOCB so the AGM closed.