

Board meeting minutes, 4th June

Present – David Blair, Fraser Brown, Rob Borruso, Andrew Graham-Weall, Jamie Chaplin-Brice, Fiona Hamilton, Willie McAllan, Steve Williamson, Colin Willment, Craig Blair, Nikki Woolf

Welcome from David

Previous minutes - Proposed – WM, seconded – FB

AGW co-opted back on the board

Volunteer Co-ord report

- Training dates – chipper 9th June; telehandler 11th June (Colin, Rob, Alec) AND 12th June (Andy, Graham, Colin, Craig); ATV 13th June (Jamie, Steve, Rob, Willie). Pesticides – 2 x Colgen and others TBD.
- Community payback – still keen to come for the open day, CB to firm up.
- VAF – money should be spent by June, VAF are willing to extend until July.
- Archaeology – 4 new local volunteers, working with the school (CB contacting parents' council).
- School placements – open for young people to apply; 4 weeks 21 hrs p/w, 15/16 yr olds. CB/NW to coordinate. Date to be set for interviews. To be paid weekly in cash.
- 16th June, prep week with volunteers ahead of open day.
- Caledonian woodlands – tasks for weekend volunteering, suggested tidy up along the burn. CB to discuss with them.
- Compost signs – CB to organise with Judith.
- CB contract – end of October; NW to look into alternative funding.
- Volunteering leaflet for doctors surgery – NW and CB to discuss.

Operations Manager report

- Finest Woods Awards prize – whole budget to be spent on a forest sculpture; JCB to contact Dunoon wood carver to discuss options. Awards will visit the forest to do a prize giving; JCB to contact and ask for them to come on open day (21st June).
- Egger – Due back before 11th June; DB to show them in.
- Euroforest – JCB to discuss separately with SW & DB.
- LTFP – JCB to organise printing of four bound copies.
- Windblow - Now only 4-5 trees to get down; will require big winch (Steve organising). Ross's team due back to continue clearing Rhododendron to allow clearance of logs. Thanks to Steve for organising strops for the buggy.
- Stone path from sawmill site back up the hill c. £400; wood to be used instead.
- Open day – suggested we put down type I for marquee base.
- Rhododendron - 2nd claim has passed, SIS have been approached thanks to Willie to pay RP.
- Sawdust - 4 dumpy bags for Fraser to collect from the sawmill.
- Knotweed spraying - treatment is in the COSHH box (we will need to build a bigger/safer COSHH box as we have more chemical/fuel than space).

- H&S – agreed we don't need fire extinguishers for vehicles. JCB to get a quote for PAT testing. List of all electrical equipment on maintenance schedule.
- Chainsaw – JCB has ordered a new chainsaw as arranged, this is yet to arrive. The small 170 needs spare parts; JCB looking into.
- Maintenance Monday – RB/ SW to sort out Polaris before training. Polaris tax due; going for 0 rated road tax because it is a forestry vehicle.
- COSHH Box – A larger COSHH box is needed to store fuel and chemicals, this ought to be banded.
- Lifeboat planter – pledged for an event on 22nd June; to be kept at the forest event with a note advertising the lifeboat event.
- Products – JCB/ CW to make some for the open day.
- Firewood delivery to Colintraive (Peter & Fiona) – yes on the basis that the wagon is their liability as soon as it leaves our yard. £35 per tonne.
- Logs for winter – need a firewood push; Craig's volunteers to focus on once windblow cleared/ event is over. NW to promote as 'stock up now for winter'.
- Volunteer Tuesday – agreed we should get this going again, prioritising firewood and path clearance.
- Sawmill – CW and John to do milling on Monday.
- May sales – NW to send update.
- Don's signs – hope to be ready by the open day. Thanks to Don, and to SW for planing.
- Beer barrels – WM to take away.
- Event – paths are reasonable although more work needs to be done; NW to send over a list of board/ staff duties for the day.
- Planer – JCB to bring up.
- Rubbish – FH has offered to take.

Housing report

- RB still waiting on architects; working on masterplan. No previously existing format/ template to work from. RB to run past Steven Gove.
- SW has organised for a lawyer to sort out contracts.

Treasurer report

- Drawing down rhodie money (SIS).
- £30K EGGER money due in - £15K to pay off debts, SW/ RB digger to be purchased.
- SIS hydro loan – conference call to take place on Friday; WM to organise.

AOB

- FCS meeting – 8th July. DB, SW, WM & NW to attend.
- AGM to be organised for October. NW finishing bank rec.
- Royal Highland Show – DB and MB attending to collect prize.
- NW to provide report on dev manager priorities by next board.

Date of next meeting – 18th June