



# Cormonachan Woodlands

Cormonachan Community Woodlands Ltd.  
The Secretary, Douglas Locke,  
Cruach House, Carrick Castle, Argyll, PA24 8AF  
T: 01301 703098 M: 07748 130976  
E: Secretary@cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk  
W: www.cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk

## Minutes

A Board Meeting was held on Friday 13th August 2021  
at 2 pm by Zoom online

- 1) Welcome to our Board Members & any apologies.  
Attendees: Alastair Moodie (AM); Douglas Locke (DL); Don Kamsley (DK); Frances Walker (FW) & Richard Hall (RH).
- 2) Approval of the Minutes of the last Committee Meeting held on 13th July 2021. Future Minutes to continue to be provided by each section leader using template attached and forwarding text to the Secretary.  
The minutes were approved and signed by FW and seconded by DK and to be signed by AM.
- 3) Chair's Report including approval for final CCW Business Plan and updates on progress of application being made to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for funding for the 'Cormonachan Community Woodlands Heritage Project' and update on the 'Heritage Project'. Comments received following Chair's Letter to Members.
  - a) Chair sent a letter to members by e-mail with an invitation to meet him by Zoom with a choice of two dates. He reported that the first meeting had been attended by the secretary and three members. No-one attended on the second occasion. There was just one response from members to the letter. The level of interest or the lack of it was discussed. Few seem willing to volunteer. This is relevant to the Heritage

Project and the proposal to train volunteer guides. To strengthen the Heritage Fund application, the Chair presented several job descriptions for consideration, for a project manager along with two trainee woodland rangers. DL questioned the costs including training. Are we too small to employ anyone? DK suggested making an arrangement with Lochgoil Community Trust or Ardroy to share an employee. Otherwise, how could it be justified? FW asked if they could work part-time, with the comment that this was a bigger project than anticipated. RH thought it looked good, but DL was totally resistant. AM reminded them that the HF people were pushing us beyond our comfort zone. Feedback had made it clear we were not satisfying their criteria. It was mandatory to itemise month by month what activities would be happening, for whom, by whom, for what outcomes. The Business Plan was approved, subject to any changes made necessary by decisions about staffing.

4) **Treasurers Report:**

- a) Treasurer's report from RH as follows:  
Bank balance at 13th August 2021:  
£14,169.89 less amount held for Paths project of  
£13,500  
Net balance - £669.89  
Nothing else of note to report.

- 5) 1) **Secretary's Report including an update on donations received to date for the "Cormonachan Community Woodlands Heritage Project Fund"; donations received in the Red Squirrel Hide; donations received in the Donations Post; Argyll Community Lottery, Smile at Amazon and from 'easyfundraising' and the 'People Counter' July visitors numbers. Website and Facebook updates.**  
Update of BBC Scotland's 'Loggerheads' television programme being filming 13th to 16th September 2021.  
An update on LL&TTNPA grant application made to clear the remainder of the *Rhododendron ponticum* in the woodlands.  
Update on application made to Co-op Local

Community Fund for funding from October 2021 to October 2022 for brown tourist road signs for two car parks and another Donations Post for the Cormonachan Falls area.

Update on National Park's planning approval of conditions and the grant applications including the Scottish Government's grant (SRDP -AECS -IPA) that was submitted by the Secretary on 28th June 2021.

Update of MoU between CCW & Ardroy.

Report provided by the Membership Secretary on current membership to date will be given.

Approval of any new member applications.

a) Secretary's Report including an update on donations received to date for the:-

a) "Cormonachan Community Woodlands Heritage Project Fund" £17,500.00; (£1,256.67 spent in costs = £16,243.33 less £4,000 not yet received from LLCT = £12,243.33 cash in hand).

b) donations received in the Red Squirrel Hide £23.53 in hand plus about 20 kg peanuts in stock (£474.70 donated since collection box installed);

c) donations received in the Donations Post £157.99 this financial year (£172.45 since post installed);

d) Argyll Community Lottery £80.00 to date;

e) 'easyfundraising' £171.50 from 14 supporters.

The 'People Counter' July visitors numbers were 873 (28 pd).

Website and Facebook updated.

BBC Scotland's 'Loggerheads' future television programme - producers have confirmed filming will go ahead 13th to 16th September - DL to be a judge.

Results of LL&TTNPA grant application of £11,160 awaited to clear the remainder of the Rhododendron ponticum in the woodlands - this goes to their decision making team on 12th August 2021.

Results awaited for an application made to Co-op Local Community Fund for funding from October 2021 to October 2022 for brown tourist road signs for two car parks and another Donations Post for the Cormonachan Falls area.

No updates regarding planning permission.

No updates regarding SRDP IPA funding.

Ardroy/CCW draft MoU Agreement in process of being completed with copies to be sent to board members and Ardroy HoC for approval.

The Membership Secretary, Dennis Bolt (DB) has

advised the 11 of the current memberships (9 full, 1 associate and 1 corporate) have still not paid their subscriptions for 2021/2. These have all been e-mailed again. 3 full, 1 associate and 1 corporate membership applications have yet to complete their membership application forms so until completed they are not members even though they have paid their subscriptions.

There were no new memberships for approval this month.

6) Report by the Volunteers Leader on the Volunteers Day of 6th August 2021 and future strimming and maintenance requirements in the woodlands.

- a) FW said that volunteer day on 6/8/21 was cancelled due to bad weather forecast, rescheduled to 13/8/21 this was a success with 4 members strimming most of the squirrel trail, Loggerheads camping area, area around totem pole & contemplation shelter and area around sheds & Jan's Hideaway, completion of squirrel trail carried out by 2 members on 18/8/21. Future date for strimming is 27/8/21 so far FW will be attending.

7) Any other business:

- a) a) Any other Business?
- 1) Agreement to apply for a grant for another 'People Counter' for the Clach Bhadach entrance to the woodlands.
  - 2) Agreement to apply for a grant for a Quad Bike with Mower and storage shed?
  - 3) Help required for manning CCW stand in Village Hall 4th/5th September for 'Lochgoilhead Past & Present' Event.
  - 4) Cormonachan Woodlands Art Trail - 2nd to 30th October.
    - 1) DL will apply to Paths for All for a £1,500 grant for another People Counter to be sited at Clach Bhadach entrance to the woodlands when their next grant opportunities open again.
    - 2) DL will look into costs of a quad bike, flail mower and suitable shed with a site and planning costs for grant funding should this be agreed in the future.

3) AM, DL & FW agreed to help man the CCW stall by rota in the Lochgoilhead village hall for the local History Exhibition of Loch Goil on 4th & 5th September.

4) DL advised that the CCW Art Trail in association with Argyll Arts Collective will take place between 2nd & 30th October 2021 and that 7 artists had already signed up with a further one expected.

5) It was agreed to close Cormonachan Woodlands to the public between 13th & 16th September 2021 for filming.

b) **Date of next committee meeting?**

Tuesday 7th September 2021 at 2 pm by Zoom