



# Cormonachan Woodlands

Cormonachan Woodlands Association  
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## Minutes

A Committee Meeting was held on Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> June 2015  
at 4.30 pm at Cruach House, Carrick Castle, Argyll, PA24 8AF

- 1) Liz Evans welcomed the committee members, Marion McCune (MM), Douglas Locke (DL), Rowan Fraser (RF) & new member, Simon Garnett (SG), co-opted to represent AOEC Trust Ltd. (Ardroy Outdoor Education Centre) as a Corporate Member and a partner to the lease with Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS).
- 2) Approval of the Minutes of the last Committee Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015 were approved and proposed by Marion McCune & seconded by Rowan Fraser and signed after the follow ups had been addressed – LE said the Forest Schools was continuing with SG & RF who will need to keep a list of dates working with the school as 'work in kind' and the Community Fund was unsuitable for car park funding; MM said the permanent recording from the BBC was done and *MM would add to the CWA website*; DL said the membership form had been revised and that no funding was available from ACT; JS had reported by e-mail that Elizabeth Bain (EB) had the plans and copy lease for the Cormonachan Woodlands Car Park according to Argyll Holidays who gave them to her.
- 3) Report by the Chair on the current position of the Cormonachan Woodlands Association (CWA). LE said we now had twenty five members and two Corporate Members had confirmed they would be submitting their Membership Forms and payment within the next few days. CWA has been told by FCS that we will have to be patient for a lease as their solicitors have a full work load to deal with prior to our application. They have advised that they are willing to extend the previous boundary to include two additional accesses to the woodlands. One at the north east corner to allow walking/ biking from the Lochgoilhead road and the other to join up with the FCS forest road at the north west corner. This is currently a steep way up alongside the gorge and would need to be turned into a pathway at some point. To raise

awareness of the CWA, LE had led the Lochgoilhead Tuesday Walking Group to the woodlands on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2015. One of those in the group was in a wheelchair.

- 4) Report on the bank account and accounts for CWA. RF advised that the bank balance was £845.00 of which £625.00 was in donations, the balance of £220.00 being membership subscriptions. Payment of £165.00 was made to DL for the website's content management system (£150); ACT membership (£5.00) and Community Woodlands Association membership (£10.00). £10.00 would be paid for the Gala Day stand.
- 5) Secretary's report including update on the website. Douglas reported that he was keeping the website up to date. David Robertson of FCS has been chased with regard to the lease for the Cormonachan Woodlands again; out of the 25 members to the CWA, 21 are Full Members; 2 are Associates and 2 are free Child Members. The first Members' Update had been sent out to members by e-mail on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2015.
- 6) Lochgoilhead Gala Day on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2015. The objects of having a stand are: 1) To raise awareness of the Cormonachan Woodlands and the Cormonachan Woodlands Association, 2) To increase the CWA's Membership both with Individual Full Members, Associate Members, Child Members and Corporate Members and 3) Raise funds for the CWA. MM reported that the opening hours planned are from 12.00 to 16.00 hrs. The CWA stand would be 3 M x 3 M and was booked at a charge of £10.00. The Carrick Castle Boat Club had agreed to loan its gazebo to the CWA. The gazebo can be erected earlier that morning. DL has donated 12 hanging display boards with leaflet pockets to the CWA. 24 Enprint size photographs will be required for the display boards to cover history, location, activities, views, etc. The CWA will have to purchase 24 large 'S' hooks to hang these from the gazebo (*DL to purchase*). Ardroy will loan three or four fold up tables for use on the stand. DL & LE will provide red paper table coverings for the event. It was agreed that the CWA should accept the quotation from DisplayPro for a 850 mm x 2000 mm roller banner display unit for the CWA plus graphic design service at a cost of £87.69 that includes VAT and delivery. (*DL to purchase*). Two photos and plan/site of Cormonachan Woodlands together with enhanced logo and text are included. *DL & MM will look out the best quality photographs available*. LE suggested a table paper 'Treasure Hunt' where a grid of a site map (A2 – *LE to prepare*) covers Cormonachan Woodlands. People buy a grid square to win the treasure (*Ardroy to provide the prize of a good quality 'Hooded Sweatshirt' to the size of the winner with an example on show*). The charge to buy a grid square would be 50p each. A sticker with a number placed on a grid square for each purchase will have a number relating to a list of purchaser's names, addresses and size. MM suggested a 'Guess the Number of Nuts' in a jar to win a magnificent prize of a 'HP Stream Tablet' donated by Scotsts Ltd. There would be a Squirrel called 'Cormy' alongside the nuts (*MM to purchase*) as an additional prize. *MM said she would make up to 100 Squirrel Cookies with oak leaf decoration* (logo for

CWA) and these would be sold for 50p for two. *DL will give the CWA 24 Cambridge Favourite strawberry plants* individually potted up to sell at 50p each and *LE will give 12 Hosta plants* individually potted up for sale at not less than 50p each. *SG said Ardroy will provide some Squirrels and Hedgehogs* for sale at £3.50 each (some donated and additional ones provided at a cost price). *LE & DL will provide fresh strawberries in pots with cream* if their own crop of strawberries is available on the day, if not some will be purchased. These will be sold at £1.00 a pot. *RF will provide Squirrel leaflets. SG will provide Ardroy leaflets. DL will request further leaflets from FCS, ACT and the Community Woodlands Association and any other ones* that may be available. Membership Forms to the CWA will be available on the day. The stand will need to be manned by a minimum of two people at any one time. LE, DL, MM and Sheron Hambly (SH) have agreed to work on the stand on a rota. SH wished to know in advance a time and it was suggested that she should be asked to do the first rota at 12 noon for an hour and perhaps if willing to do a further hour later in the day. The committee members doing the rota would like to meet her prior to midday on Gala Day. There will be one further committee meeting prior to Gala Day on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July at 4.30 pm at Cruach House, Carrick Castle.

- 7) Plans for applications to funding partners. In view of the boundary and access points possibly being changed by FCS, it was decided that we would not apply for a grant from PathsforAll this year for an interpretation sign until the site plan was redrawn. We would still require six directional sign posts though and two additional posts if two further access points were agreed with FCS. We can't apply for any major funding for anything else until a FCS lease is in place.
- 8) Public Liability Insurance. DL has a quotation of £111.00 pa for this insurance from the Highland Council that offered not-for-profit organisations in Scotland P L insurance through Zurich Insurance. The insurance covers, visitors, volunteers, members and committee. Currently this is still the cheapest cover available but cannot be set up until the CWA has a lease for C W from FCS. Ardroy would still cover insurance for Jan's Hideaway. Ardroy's P L insurance will cover Dallas Seawright and the Fife Countryside Rangers (FCR) Volunteer Weekend at C W currently expected to take place 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> October 2015.
- 9) Car park development. The Lochgoil Community Trust (Elizabeth Bain, Secretary) was given the plans and lease according to Jimmy Sim (JS) in an e-mail advised to him by Argyll Holidays. *JS will need to follow this up again with EB.*
- 10) Other business – RF said the *C W Management Plan would need to be updated and LE said this would be done. SG said Ardroy would investigate obtaining free trees* for planting in the south west area of C W that had been cleared. The first CWA Volunteers Day is planned for 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> October 2015 joining the others (FCR) and subject to CWA having a lease from FCS. *(All items in italics for following up).*

The meeting closed at 18.15 hrs.