



Cormonachan Woodlands Association
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Minutes

A Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday, 19th April 2016 at 4.30 pm at Cruach House, Carrick Castle, Argyll, PA24 8AF

- 1) Liz Evans (LE) welcomed the committee members, Douglas Locke (DL), Rowan Fraser (RF), Sheron Hambly (SH) & Jimmy Sim (JS). Simon Garnett (SG), on holiday sent his apologies as did Jenny Allen (Ardroy) who was to have stood in for him as was unwell. David Robertson (DR) (FCS) sent his apologies.
- 2) Approval of the Minutes of the last Committee Meeting held on 22nd March 2016 were approved and proposed by JS & seconded by RF and signed by the Chair.
- 3) Chair's Report - LE advised a lot was currently going on and is covered under various headings that follow. Matters arising from the last meeting - LE advised the compost bags had been ordered; Mission Statement delayed to next meeting; 2 Geocache boxes were shown to the committee; DL had requested enlarged area of CW to Cormonachan Burn and up to FCS forest road above Upper Cormonachan old village and FCS had supplied a map of this new area; Car park project moving forward covered in Item 8); CW survey still to be dealt with by LE, RF & SG; Maintenance plan still to be programmed for the year ahead; 9 bags of Postcrete purchased for the erection of 9 way marker posts for the next Volunteers Day on 24th April; Open Day & AGM details covered in Item 13) & 3 places booked for 2 day 1st Aid Course for members at Ardroy w/c 12/12/2016 at £70 ph but grant to be applied for.
- 4) Treasurer's Report - RF advised that the bank balance was £597.30 after payment of compost bags and 9 x 20 kg Postcrete bags. DL raised that £202.00 will be required for the CW Car Park Planning Permission application to LL&TNP in about two weeks time and £25.00 for Ordinance Survey map of car park area for planning

- permission. A cheque for £25.00 was given to the treasurer for next year's membership of four new members to be shown in the accounts as a prepayment for 2016/2017 that commences 1st June.
- 5) Secretary's Report - DL reported that he was keeping the website and Facebook up to date. Facebook was working extremely well with a considerable following. He advised four new members had joined CWA since the last meeting and that there were now 40 CWA members and that 30 were Full Members, 4 were Associate Members, 1 was a Young Person Member, 4 were Child Members (free) and there was 1 Corporate Member. In view of the closeness to renewal of membership date of 1st June, these members will be for 2016/2017. The eighth Members' Update would be sent out to members by e-mail by the end of the month. DL showed the committee two information signs he had made for the Lochwood end of CW and for the Forest Road access to CW. He also showed an example post with coloured bands to show the walks within CW. DL also advised that the posts would have printed arrows and C W & walks on each post. A grant of £100.00 had been applied for from FOLLAT, a friends of Loch Lomond grant scheme. The Tesco's 'Bags of Help' grant scheme would not be followed up as the cost of the car park work would only be about half the grant amount that had to be applied for (£8k). See Item 8) for more details. The 'In-Kind' valuation to date amounted to £7,844 with time and donations made to CWA for the period up to 31st March 2016.
- 6) As David Roberson (FCS) was not in attendance at the meeting however DL had spoken to him the day before the meeting and he had agreed to send an enlarged plan for Cormonachan Woodlands, south to Cormonachan Burn and west to the forest road above Upper Cormonachan old village. This was received and handed to the committee for discussion. It was agreed by all that this whole area would now be preferred to come under the FCS Agreement with CWA. *(DL to make this request to DR of FCS)*
- 7) Car park development - Following support for the car park project from LL&TNP planning department and Argyll & Bute Council - Roads Dept., we now had approval of the project in writing from FCS and after having had a meeting on site at CW with Alan Campbell (AC), he agreed the car park area for 8 parking bays, including one disabled bay and the current minibus bay. AC advised that work could not start until the Loch Goil Community Trust had settled an outstanding debt with his solicitors. DL had taken this up with Dennis Bolt (DB) on the Loch Goil Community Council who was trying to get a resolve over this matter. SH said she would also contact Elizabeth Bain, Secretary of the Trust to find out why the solicitors had not been paid. The project will be held up until this matter is solved. The draft plan was shown to the committee at the meeting and member Anna Wynne (AW) said she would be willing to draw up the plans for CWA for the outlay cost of the maps (£25)

and do this for free if DL would help her with her funding project which he agreed to saving about £80.00 to CWA. The application to LL&TNP would be prepared by DL & LE and be checked over by AW before submission. AW said she would try and do the plans over the next two weeks. We would now need to find funding for the car park that will cost £3,600 for the work to be done. *(Action LE, SH & DL)*

- 8) Grant funding to be sought for the car park (DL). LE would prepare a Community Grant application for training, 1st Aid Courses and a volunteers programme. *(Action DL & LE)*
- 9) The CWA Annual Maintenance Plan agreed at the last meeting is now to be planned for the year ahead to 31st March 2017 by LE, SG & RF. *(Action LE, SG & RF)*
- 10) The sub-group of LE, RF & SG is now to arrange a meeting with regard to a survey of CW including the hazel & lichens. *(Action LE, RF & SG)*
- 11) Open Day & AGM on Sunday 12th June 2016 incorporating a display event and Open Day, followed by a barbecue for lunch and first CWA AGM using the new 6m x 3m marquee and Jan's Hideaway in CW. After discussion, the event hours will be 10.00 to 16.00 hrs. The marquee will be set up in the proposed car park area with displays on the work going on in CW (SH & DL). There will be three displays of craftwork between the marquee and Jan's Hideaway (details to be finalised at the next committee meeting) - Rowan Fraser will be using the Pole Lathe, Simon Garnett, the Shaving Horse and Kevin Smith, Spoon Making, commencing at 10.30 to about 12.00. The AGM will be held in Marquee at 12.30 (LE) as Jan's Hideaway can be locked during this period but the marquee can't be and so will have to be manned at all times and the barbecue will from 13.30 (JS) (charges to be decided at the next meeting.) There will be a Treasure Hunt on the Squirrel Trail after lunch (LE) followed by a Guided Walk (LE). There will also be an example of what goes on at a Volunteers Day with members & others being able to have a go at bracken bashing, pruning, etc. (DL & SH). There will also be a feed back for visitors to complete. JS offered the CWA his gas barbecue for this and future events. LE to ask Ardroy for some more donated items to sell at the event. The event will be looking to show why CW needs a good car park for visitors and will be asking for donations towards it. Parking will have to be at the large lay by 1/3 mile beyond CW access towards Carrick Castle and the Police will be advised of the event. *(Action SH, LE, RF, SG, JS & DL)*.
- 12) Gala Day on Saturday 30th July 2016 to be planned in the seven weeks after the Open Day. Space (6m x 3m) has been booked by SH. The site will either be in the field or car park in Lochgoilhead depending on the weather conditions.
- 13) Future Volunteers Days - In view of already having Volunteers Days on 24th April & 29th May 2016, then the Open Day on 12th

- June incorporating volunteers work and Gala Day on 30th July 2016, it was decided to give August a break and recommence Volunteers Days again in September and October. The Fife Volunteers to be contacted to see when they may come back again (LE) and RF to contact the Loch Lomond volunteers as they said they would be interested in helping out in CW (RF). (*Action LE & RF*)
- 14) FCS Community Grant - Further to Item 8), LE will put together an application at the end of May/ early June 2016. (*Action LE*)
 - 15) CWA Risk Assessments for Volunteers Days will be looked into and prepared by RF. (*Action RF*)
 - 16) Sculptures in Cormonachan Woodlands - It was agreed at the meeting that SG should be allowed to turn the large Sitka spruce tree marked with a 'T' at the south west corner of the Squirrel Trail into a Totem Pole as shown on the CWA Annual Management Agreement for 2016/2017. SG also advised that he would repair the 'Spider's Web' at the top of the path junction above Jan's Hideway. Volunteers are willing to assist him with the Totem Pole. (*Action SG*)
 - 17) The next Committee Meeting will be on Monday 16th May 2016 at 16.30 hrs at Cruach House, Carrick Castle.
 - 18) There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 18.40 hrs.