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## Minutes

A Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday, 22nd March 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), Sharon Hambly (SH), Jimmy Sim (JS) and Simon Garnett (SG).
- 2) Approval of the Minutes of the last Committee Meeting held on 9th February 2016 were approved and proposed by SH & seconded by LE and signed.
- 3) Chair's Report - SH agreed to become the Events Manager. LE (as a Director of Ardroy) had a meeting with Pelham Olive's (PO) assistant, Crispin Golding (CG) at Ardroy concerning their acquisition of the Carrick Farm Estate and their interest in education cooperation with the Ardroy Trust; LE raised in her CWA role that she hoped the Estate would be interested in supporting CWA in the future. CG said he would pass this on to PO. LE advised that she and DL attended another FCS 'Woods of our Own' meeting in Dalmally and had a good networking meeting particularly with Elaine Jamieson of FCS concerning future Community Grant applications and how to put forward CWA's proposals. We spoke to Craig Miller (CM) asking him what questions he had regarding our FCS Agreement to which he replied that he had questions but didn't wish to ask them there and that our case was being prepared as a template for others' future applications for agreements. The Volunteers Day on 19/02/2016 was cancelled due to bad weather however LE & DL went up to CW to check the ditches and cleared a few despite the weather. The last Volunteers Day was attended by four volunteers only (LE, DL, RF & SH) however they managed to complete all the tasks planned for the morning with the remaining

undergrowth removed in the Plantation area and all the paths cleared.

- 4) Treasurer's Report - RF advised that the bank balance was £666.54. There seemed to be a cheque of £10 for Gala Day not cashed yet; SH said that the LGCC said it had cashed the cheque? All payments had been made to LE for the FCS grant payments that had been made in advance by her. DL raised that £202.00 may soon be required for the CW Car Park Planning Permission application to LL&TNP. LE said CWA would have to order compost toilet bags. (*Action LE*)
- 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 reaching 298 views on the last Volunteers Day posting. He advised one new member had joined CWA since the last meeting and that there were now 36 CWA members and that 28 were Full Members, 4 were Associate Members, 3 were Child Members (free) and there was 1 Corporate Member. The eighth Members' Update would shortly be sent out to members by e-mail. A CWA outside/inside long banner sign (500 x 2000 mm) had been purchased at a cost of £44.26 and was on display at the meeting. DL advised there was an inventory of tools and equipment and that tools were kept in the locked locker in Jan's Hut & shed with other event equipment in their garage at Cruach House. DL attended the 'Make It Happen' Fund Raising Training course in Oban on 16/03/2016 and found it extremely useful with a contact made (Tamara Hedderwick, TH), Community Enabler at Greenspace Scotland that look after the Tesco's 'Bags of Help' grant scheme. TM advised that Ardentinney car park had won this grant last year and that with such a precedent set it would be worth us applying for this grant for our car park. Applications have to be made for £8K, £10k or £12k and be spent. Last application date is 3rd June 2016. At the same course, it was stressed the importance of keeping 'In-Kind' time sheet records as funders want to see that member volunteers were keen so time sheets were issued to the committee members. Records had already been kept for the year 2015/6 to 15th November 2015 and so further records would need to be sent to the Secretary as soon as possible after 31st March 2016 to complete the year's records. Roughly, the 'In-Kind' valuation to date is estimated at over £7,000 with time and donations made to CWA. One further point advised and suggested was that CWA should have a Mission Statement slogan summarising its objectives in just a few words - Suggestions required. (*Action DL & All*)
- 6) RF's e-mail was discussed of 16th February 2016. DL advised that he and SG had surveyed CW with regard to maintenance work to be done in 2016/7 and that Hazel was not to be included or touched until a woodlands survey had been prepared. LE said that

a FCS Community Grant application concerning what volunteers could do in certain areas of CW would have to be looked into. RF was concerned about the Hazel and it was pointed out that none would be cut this year and that Glue Fungus would be protected. SG was also wanting Lichens to be included in a survey. A crib sheet was to be prepared for 'Best Practice for Hazel Management'. This was followed by what could be included in the CWA Open Day and AGM on 12th June 2016. It was decided that displays would be better that day than training and so Spoon Making, Shaving Horse, & Bushcraft would be good displays and that Anna Wynne (AW), Kevin Smith (KS) and RF should be asked if they would be willing to give displays in the morning. It was also proposed to have a Treasure Hunt, Orienteering and Geocache with a Guided Walk also. Spoon making tools & leather apron would have to be purchased and orienteering equipment borrowed from Ardroy. DL & LE would provide two Geocache boxes with contents. (*Action SH, RF, SG, LE & DL*)

7) As David Roberson (FCS) was not in attendance at the meeting there was no further update on the progress of the Management Agreement. It is unlikely that the Management Agreement will be signed by 1st April 2016 as DR had hoped for. It was suggested that as the agreement has not yet been agreed or even a draft shown to us by FCS, that the land area be increased from the present area, south to Cormonachan Burn and old village? DR to be consulted as FCS had said in previous discussions that perhaps we may wish to enlarge the area. (*Action DL*)

8) Car park development - DL had sought advice from LL&TNP planning department and had received a reply that the project would be supported but would require planning permission. They said we would have to have advice from Argyll & Bute Council - Roads Dept. so DL requested this and had a positive response of support for the project subject to being able to meet their requirements that were given to us. DL & SG checked the requirements and we could meet all requirements. LE has spoken to Keith Campbell of Argyll Holidays and he said his brother, Alan Campbell (AC) would have to be spoken to regarding the site and what had previously been agreed with the Loch Goil Community Trust. LE to speak to AC on Wednesday 23/03/2016. Meeting to be arranged. DL & SG measured up the car park area and now require plans to be drawn up if the original plans are of insufficient size to accommodate 8 parking bays, including one disabled bay and the current minibus bay. SH said she would ask AW if she would be willing to do this for CWA. DL had also contacted Hy-Tex with regard to their product 'Grassmesh' as this surfacing would look good and be anti-slip once laid over levelled excavated ground. Cost is £396 per 2m x 20m roll plus £42 per 100 pegs per roll all including delivery. Once the land site has been agreed with AC,

planning permission can be applied for, quotations obtained and grant applied for. This would have to be done by 3rd June 2016 to have the chance of obtaining a grant for this year and work completed by the end of the year. (*Action LE & DL*)

- 9) The Paths for All Community Paths Grant for an interpretation sign will be applied for to have at the entrance to the CW in 2017. DL to get quotation and draft design together once the car park has been agreed. This grant is a match funding one and we are in a position to match fund.
  - 10) Discussion on a survey of CW including a Hazel woodlands survey of lichens to be dealt with by LE, SG & RF. (*Action LE, SG & RF*)
  - 11) C W Maintenance Plan for 2016 - DL & SG surveyed CW walking round the paths and a plan was prepared following this that was circulated to the committee at the meeting. Eighteen items were agreed and this will now be passed to DR (FCS) for approval although we do have approval for many of the items already on this list at present. LE has spoken to Gordon Grey-Stephens about a woodlands survey and she will follow this up in conjunction with RF & SG. (*Action DL, LE, RF & SG*)
  - 12) Future Volunteers Days - The next Volunteers Day is planned for Sunday 24th April 2016 from 10.00 to 13.00 hrs. The plan would be to erect 10 way marker posts around CW. DL will agree with DR (FCS) the positions for the posts. Postcrete will have to be purchased that is £4.68 per bag (B&Q for 5 bags or more). We will need to have a person in CW attending with 1st Aid certificate and to do a safety talk as always. (*Action DL*)
  - 13) Open Day & AGM on Sunday 12th June 2016 incorporating a display event and open Day, followed by a barbecue for lunch and ending with the first CWA AGM in the new marquee in CW - following discussions in item 6) above, full details to be provided at next committee meeting. Other possible events include Carrick Fayre however none of four e-mails to them have been responded to so it looks as though CWA attending is not wanted by them. Harvest Fayre in Lochgoilhead do want CWA to attend in September at a date to be advised. (*Action SH, RF, SG & DL*).
  - 14) CWA Risk Assessments for Volunteers Days was postponed due to lack of time - this will be discussed at the next meeting.
  - 15) Due to shortage of time, DL was only able to show some photo examples of sculptures currently in existence around the world as a basis of what can be done. This will be carried forward to the next meeting providing some suggestions and a plan to be put towards the committee.
  - 16) Training Days including a First Aid Course to be discussed at next meeting. (*Action LE*)
- There was no other business. The meeting closed at 18.50 hrs.